

Schenectady, New York Renewal Community

ID	Renewal Community Name	OLAS#	Population	Sq Miles	Poverty	Unemployment
46	Schenectady	NY0023	10,735	1	33	13

The Schenectady RC is composed of three census tracts in the center of the City.

Through its Course of Action, the Schenectady RC will focus on certain key strategies, the highlights of a few of which are as follows:

Reduction of Tax Rates and Fees. Actions that this RC has in place and/or will undertake to reduce tax rates and fees include:

- Reduction of tax rates applying within the RC: New York State law allows for the commercial areas of the RC to be designated as a New York Empire Zone (NYEZ). NYEZ designation provides several tax benefits, including sales tax exemptions; EZ wage tax credits; EZ Investment and Employment Incentive Credits; and Utility Rate Savings.

Improving Local Services: Actions that this RC has in place and/or will undertake to improve local services include:

- The establishment of a new holistic health center located near the RC designated area. Schenectady Family Health Services is spear-heading the development efforts.
- Expansion of Head Start classes through Schenectady Community Action Program, Inc. This includes day care for 3-4 year-olds and special assistance to teenage parents through the Sojourn House family crisis intervention program.
- The provision of pre-employment training to local youth through the Boys and Girls Club, as well as the provision of general job services through JOBS Etc.

Crime Reduction Strategies: Actions that this RC has in place and/or will undertake to reduce crime include:

- Community Policing Program: Zones where police officers patrol were redrawn to coincide with the eight distinct neighborhoods that exist in the City. Provides more foot patrols, more safety presentations, and both organizes and supports residents participating in the Neighborhood Watch program.
- Zero Tolerance: In the past has identified troubled neighborhoods, and conducted a multi-department coordinated effort to address simultaneously over a period of 1 week to three months a wide range of problems in the target neighborhood together. Since 1999, three areas within the RC designated area have been “swept.”