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## [Land Use and Local Government Advisory Panel – Thursday, September 24, 2020](#)

On Thursday, September 24, the Land Use and Local Government Advisory Panel met for its inaugural meeting. The chair outlined the main objectives of the Panel. In addition to sector-specific recommendations, the Panel is uniquely responsible for providing cross-sectoral proposals on climate resilience and adaptation. The Panel also received an overview of the state of the sector. Paul Beyer (NYS DOS) highlighted various smart growth, zoning tools, and land use planning considerations to reduce reliance on cars and vehicle miles travelled, while NYSERDA's Brad Tito showcased current state programs like [Climate Smart Communities](#), [Clean Energy Communities](#), and [NYPA's Five Cities Energy Master Plans](#) which are supporting local governments and communities leading the way in climate action.

Capacity building, streamlining state programs and funding, promoting conservation and urban forests for climate resilience, securing local economic development, comprehensive master planning, rural transportation, and garnering local government input through a possible working group, were among the key areas discussed. These topics will shape the Panel's workplan. The Panel was tasked to consider avenues to collect public comments and promote transparency and is scheduled to re-convene in the first week of October 2020. Presentations and notes from past Advisory Panels and Working Groups meetings can be found [here](#).