

Arts and Jobs Go Together

March 30, 2016



Arts and Jobs Go Together with IDA Help

The Carpet Mills Arts District is the latest addition to the City's rebirth as a center of arts-related businesses. Located along the former Alexander Smith Carpet Mills complex on Nepperhan Avenue, the new arts district joins the already growing arts and gallery scene in the Yonkers Downtown waterfront.

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Carpet Mills to Arts District

For most of the twentieth century if you bought a carpet, chances are it was made in the massive Smith carpet mills of Yonkers. But in 1954 the looms went silent and the buildings emptied out. Now they are filling up again. Their high ceilings, large floorplates, and attractive rents are tailor made for any business that needs lots of room. That includes artists and crafts producers who want studios, showrooms and storage.



Just one building, YoHo Artist studios, exemplifies the new district. It houses more than 60 studios as well as other creative industries such as piano makers/refinishers, antique dealers, set designers, and furniture refinishers.

Now the City Council has rezoned the buildings to allow retail along with the production facilities, opening the possibility of restaurants and shops as a natural adjunct to the artists and craft persons that already share the properties.

The Yonkers IDA has assisted in the sale of two of the buildings in the District, 470 and 460 Nepperhan Avenue, providing incentives for developer Louis Geljaj's CCNA group with a \$16.5 million project to take over the tax delinquent properties and renovate them.

[Learn More About the Carpet Mills Arts District](#)

Don't Forget Yonkers Arts Weekend Is Coming

[Click here for Arts Weekend Information](#)

YIDA Job Count is over 1,500 since beginning of 2015

YIDA incentives are providing hundreds of jobs for residents of Yonkers and surrounding areas. More than 500 permanent jobs are being created or preserved, and another 1005 construction jobs created, as a result of development deals closed by the YIDA in 2015.

2016 is continuing the trend, with nearly 500 jobs created or preserved, and nearly 1,400 construction jobs underway or to be created, this year. Among this year's projects already underway are the FedEx and Cintas distribution centers, the new Lowe's store underway at Ridge Hill, and the downtown high rise residential tower to be constructed by RXR.

All told the YIDA gave assistance to projects amounting to \$736 million in investment since January of 2016.

With most of 2016 still to unfold, the amount of jobs and investment is bound to grow substantially before the year ends.

Yonkers continues to move forward with the help of the YIDA.

The Yonkers IDA -- Creating Business. Creating Jobs.



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