



**Empire State  
Development**

# County Infrastructure Grant Program

Round 1 Program Information

12/19/2024

# Program Features

\$50M allocated by the FY2025 Budget.

Support for county-led smaller-scale infrastructure projects across the state.

Enhanced award for projects supporting housing.

The Application must be submitted by the County.  
(Excluding Kings, Queens, Richmond, Bronx, and New York)

# Grant Amount Eligibility

Does not directly support the creation of at least 10 new housing units are eligible for an award up to \$500,000.

Directly supports the creation of at least 10 new housing units are eligible for an award up to \$1,000,000.

\*Only one application and one grant are permitted per county, each round.

\*\*Any unspent funds will be redeployed in future rounds, at the discretion of ESD.

# Eligible Projects

Small and moderate-scale infrastructure projects identified by the County that will:

Directly or indirectly support economic development

Contribute to placemaking

Encourage tourism

Support the creation of housing

# Eligible Uses of Funds

Construction, expansion, and/or rehabilitation of infrastructure to support such development

Extension or reconstruction of road, water, sewer, or utilities

Design or engineering costs related to construction (limited to 20% of total project cost)

Acquisition of machinery and equipment related to infrastructure projects

Site preparation, demolition, acquisition of real property

Placemaking and beautification projects.

Other capital uses as determined by ESD

# Housing Specific Proposals

Assistance for infrastructure projects that support the creation of housing, not the construction of housing itself.

Projects proposing 10 or more units of housing will need to provide a credible plan.

This Plan should include:

- A notice of specific locations.
- A letter of intent from a credible developer.
- A memo that clearly demonstrates how the goals will be achieved.

# Ineligible Projects/Costs

- ANY DIRECT COSTS RELATED TO CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS INTENDED FOR PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.
- ROUTINE MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP COSTS.
- THE CREATION OF REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAMS.
- RELIGIOUS INSTITUTION PROJECTS.
- OPERATING, MARKETING, OR OTHER NON-CAPITAL COSTS.
- WAGES FOR MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES.
- COSTS INCURRED PRIOR TO THE AWARD OF A PROGRAM GRANT.

# Project Review Criteria

- Alignment with the local Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) goals and development priorities.
- Amount of leveraged funding sources, including demonstration that at least 50% of non-Program funds are utilized.
- Demonstrated local government, elected official, and/or community support.
- Demonstrates project readiness: All projects must be ready to commence within one year of award.
- Eligible project focus: All applicants must demonstrate how the proposed project directly or indirectly contributes to economic development, encourages tourism, supports the creation of housing, and/or contributes to placemaking.



# Submission Requirements

## Document Requirements

- Project proposal;
- Letter of support from the chief executive and/or legislative resolution of the local municipality that maintains land use control over the proposed project site;
- Project budget and description of all associated funding sources;
- Third-party cost estimates; and,
- Letter of matching fund commitment(s).

## Application Requirements

- Concise project description
- Project location
- Evidence of Site Control
- Schedule of Measurable Milestones
- Financial information
  - Organizational chart
  - List of
    - Owners
    - Affiliates
    - Related parties
    - Beneficiaries

# County Infrastructure Program

<https://esd.ny.gov/county-infrastructure-grant-program>

[Countygrants@esd.ny.gov](mailto:Countygrants@esd.ny.gov)

**Kristi Schwebke**  
Program Director

**Stephanie Kedzior**  
Project Manager

