

# NYS County Infrastructure Grant FAQ for County Expression of Interest

Empire State Development full grant information available at <https://esd.ny.gov/county-infrastructure-grant-program>

**Expressions of Interest form due to the County by noon (EST) on Weds., January 29, 2025**

## **IMPORTANT:**

- **A 50% funding match from the applicant is required**
- **Project must be ready to begin construction within 1 year of award**

## **Award Amount**

Up to \$1 million, but note that grant is reimbursement based and requires a 50% funding match (e.g. \$1M match for a \$1M award) AND a 1% admin. fee (so \$10,000 if a \$1M award)

## **Eligible Projects and Uses of Funds**

Tompkins County is eligible to submit one application to Empire State Development for an infrastructure project which supports at least 10 new housing units.

### **1) Eligible uses of funds include:**

- a) Construction, expansion, and/or rehabilitation of infrastructure to support at least 10 new housing units;
- b) Extension or reconstruction of road, water, sewer, or utilities;
- c) Design or engineering costs related to construction (limited to 20% of total project cost);
- d) Acquisition of machinery and equipment related to infrastructure projects;
- e) Placemaking and beautification project costs;
- f) Site preparation, demolition, acquisition of real property related to the infrastructure project; and
- g) Other capital uses as determined by Empire State Development (ESD)

### **2) Ineligible projects and/or costs:**

- a) Any direct costs related to construction of buildings intended for private ownership;
- b) Routine maintenance and upkeep costs;
- c) The creation of revolving loan fund programs;
- d) Religious institution projects;
- e) Operating, marketing, or other non-capital costs;
- f) Wages for municipal employees;
- g) Costs incurred prior to the award of a Program grant; and,
- h) Other costs or expenditures deemed ineligible by ESD

## **Empire State Development's Project Selection Criteria:**

- 1) Alignment with the local Regional Economic Development Council goals and development priorities;
- 2) Amount of leveraged funding sources, including demonstration that at least 50 percent of non-Program (meaning non-ESD) funds are utilized;
- 3) Demonstrated local government, elected official, and/or community support;
- 4) Project readiness. All projects must be ready to commence within one year of award; and,
- 5) Project focus. Eligible projects may focus on: construction, expansion, and/or rehabilitation of municipal, utility, or other public property and/or ancillary infrastructure to support such developments, which may include related capital equipment, maintenance, repair, or extension of roads, water and sewer access, and utility access.