



Dear Stakeholder,

Below is my monthly grants message. If you know of someone who would find this email round-up useful, please forward this along and invite them to subscribe by emailing my office at [levenbergd@nyassembly.gov](mailto:levenbergd@nyassembly.gov).

If you are planning to apply for an opportunity that requires a letter of support from a state official, please feel free to contact my chief of staff, Victoria Cafarelli, at [cafarelliv@nyassembly.gov](mailto:cafarelliv@nyassembly.gov) with more details about your project.

Best,

Assemblywoman Dana Levenberg

### **New York SWIMS Webinar Today, March 7**

More details about the NY SWIMS initiative is available below in this blast, but I wanted to call attention to a webinar taking place today, March 7, from 4-5 PM in case you have not already seen it. See the attached flyer for more details and email [Kim.Briell@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Kim.Briell@parks.ny.gov) with your name, title and affiliation to register for the link.

## **Congratulations!**

The New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA) has recently awarded **\$529,500** to artists and arts organizations in Assembly District 95. Congratulations to the following recipients on their awards: **Be a Friend Project, Inc; Bethany Arts Community; Boscobel; Copland House; Daisy Jopling Foundation; Garrison Arts Center; Hudson Chorale; Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival; KinoSaito; Manitoga; the Paramount Theater; Philipstown Depot Theatre; Taconic Opera; and Westchester Collaborative Theater.**

The Governor also recently awarded \$1.8 million in grants to help communities along the Hudson River Estuary improve water quality, enhance environmental education and advance stewardship of natural resources. Congratulations to **Riverkeeper, Hudson Valley Stream**

Conservancy, the **Town of Cortlandt** and the **Village of Croton-on-Hudson** on their awards, which total more than **\$374,000** to support projects benefiting communities in AD95.

## NYSERDA's Inflation Reduction Act Guide for Municipalities & Not-for-Profits

Tax-exempt organizations can receive IRA tax credits as direct payments for eligible clean energy projects. [Click here to learn more in NYSERDA's new guide.](#)

### Deadlines Approaching Soon

**US DHS Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG):** These grants provide financial assistance directly to eligible fire departments, nonaffiliated EMS organizations and state fire training academies for training, equipment, facility upgrades, vehicles, and more. Applications are due **Friday, March 8**. [Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

**New York Presbyterian Mini-Grants:** New York Presbyterian offers mini-grants to small community-based organizations (CBOs), and invites CBOs whose programming supports health and wellness for communities in Westchester County to apply. Applications are due on **Friday, March 8**; click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

**ArtsWestchester Arts Alive:** The 2024 cycle of the Arts Alive grant program is open now. Arts Alive is designed to support community-based, grassroots organizations and local artists. In 2023, this grant awarded funding to over 160 projects throughout Westchester and Rockland including festivals, library events, and free arts programs for audiences of all ages. Of those funded projects, 65 were new, first-time applicants. Applications are due by **Thursday, March 14**. Interested parties may contact ArtsWestchester's Director of Grant Programs, Sue Abbott, at [sabbott@artswestchester.org](mailto:sabbott@artswestchester.org) with any questions.

**EPA Grants to Address Indoor Air Pollution in Schools:** As part of its [Grant Funding to Address Indoor Air Pollution at Schools Program](#), the EPA will award [\\$32 million to approximately 6 applicants](#) to help K-12 schools in low-income, disadvantaged, and Tribal communities develop and adopt comprehensive indoor air quality management plans to reduce indoor air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in schools. The deadline to apply for the competitive grants is **Tuesday, March 19**.

**Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants:** The Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Grants Program supports subgrant programs that enable the rehabilitation of historic properties and rehabilitate, protect, and foster economic development of rural communities. This program funds preservation projects for historic sites, including architectural and engineering services and physical building preservation through subgrants to communities determined rural by the US Bureau of the Census. [Click here to read more and apply.](#) Applications are due on **Tuesday, March 19**.

**Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC) Catalyst Program:** The Catalyst Program stimulates economic growth and partnerships that improve rural economic vitality across the four-state NBRC region (New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine). It supports a broad range of economic development initiatives that modernize and expand water and wastewater systems; revitalize transportation infrastructure; establish workforce development programs and facilities; grow outdoor recreation infrastructure and economies; and construct new childcare and healthcare facilities. The program will hold two funding rounds this year, with up to \$30 million in federal funding available in the spring round and up to \$20 million available in the fall round. [Click here to learn more about the program.](#) Pre-applications for the spring round are due on **Friday, March 22**; NBRC will use the pre-application to invite applicants to continue applications for funding.

**Restore NY Communities Initiative Round 8:** Applications are now open for Round 8 of the Restore New York grant program. The program, which is administered by Empire State Development, supports municipalities' efforts to demolish, rehabilitate and restore blighted structures and transform them into vibrant residential, commercial and mixed-use developments. [Click here to learn more about the program and access the application.](#) The Intent to Apply form is due on **Monday, March 25** and the full application is due on **Wednesday, May 22**.

## New York Statewide Investment In More Swimming (NY SWIMS) Request for Information

The Dormitory Authority State of the State of New York (DASNY), in consultation with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYS OPRHP), has released a Request for Information (RFI) to determine interest and solicit information from organizations that are interested in participating in the NY SWIMS initiative as the competitive grant program is developed. The goal of NY SWIMS is to expand access to safe swimming across the state. The FY2025 Executive Budget proposal includes \$150 million in capital funding for NY SWIMS grants. NY SWIMS grants will be made available to fund the design and construction, renovation, or assembly of swimming pools along with other related capital expenses, including but not limited to, site infrastructure, land acquisition, ancillary splash pads, diving boards and slides, bathrooms and changing rooms, concessions, and other features that create value for local communities.

This RFI is a formal, non-competitive informational inquiry that is being released to obtain market information, desire, and input on services provided in connection with the NY SWIMS program. Note that responding to an RFI is not a condition for future consideration as a grantee, and does not obligate DASNY or NYS OPRHP to favor RFI respondents in future grant competitions. The information collected through this RFI will inform subsequent procurements to advance the NY SWIMS grant program. It is anticipated that DASNY and NYS OPRHP will issue one or more Request(s) for Applications once funding is allocated in the FY2025 Enacted Budget.

Those interested in responding to this solicitation may access the RFI and related documents through [Explore Bid and RFP Opportunities | DASNY](#) on DASNY's website or on OPRHP's website at <https://parks.ny.gov/grants/>. Responses are due by **3 PM on Thursday, March 14.**

## Funding Available for School Bus Charging Infrastructure

NYSERDA is now accepting applications from school districts and school bus operators seeking help funding their electric school bus charging infrastructure. Funding is available on a first-come, first-served basis, and the level of funding provided is based on the number of electric buses a school district or bus operator has purchased or is currently purchasing. Amounts start at \$25,000 per bus to cover hardware, customer-side electrical site upgrades, installation costs, and battery storage. Districts designated as [priority districts](#) can receive an additional \$10,000 per bus. Priority districts are defined as high-need school districts by the New York State Education Department or those that serve [disadvantaged communities](#) as defined by the New York State Climate Justice Working Group.

As part of the process, applicants can receive up to an additional \$30,000 per bus if they choose the option to complete a Fleet Electrification Plan which provides a comprehensive evaluation of existing fleet operations, analysis of current site electrical capabilities, and will serve as an action plan for electrifying the applicant's entire fleet by 2035. [Click here to register and start an application.](#)

## U.S. DOT Safe Streets and Roads for All Grants

The USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) [Fiscal Year \(FY\) 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) is now open for applications. The SS4A program funds regional and local initiatives through grants to prevent deaths and serious injuries on our nation's roadways. The FY24 SS4A NOFO has multiple application deadlines depending on the grant type.

Planning and Demonstration Grant applicants have three deadlines:

- **Thursday, April 4, 2024, 5:00 PM**
- **Thursday, May 16, 2024, 5:00 PM**
- **Thursday, August 29, 2024, 5:00 PM**

Planning and Demonstration Grant applicants may apply during any of the three application rounds. Applications not received by the first or second deadline will be rolled over to the next application round. All applications must be received by **Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 5:00 PM ET.**

Implementation Grant applications must be submitted by **5:00 PM (ET) on Thursday, May 16, 2024.** Unsuccessful Implementation Grant applicants may apply for a Planning and

Demonstration Grant application in the final application round on August 29, 2024 by 5:00 PM ET.

For more information, please visit the [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) website](#) or [attend an upcoming webinar](#).

## ConnectALL Opportunities

Empire State Development's ConnectALL has opened the [New York State Broadband Challenge Portal](#) for residents, local governments, nonprofits, and Internet Service Providers to help fine tune which locations could be eligible for new broadband service grants. Through the Challenge Portal, participants can run speed tests, and then share the results to suggest eligibility. Internet Service Providers, government entities, and nonprofit organizations can use the Challenge Portal to register for the formal challenge process, which ConnectALL will launch on **March 19, 2024**. For more information on the challenge process, [visit the ConnectALL website](#).

Not-for-profit organizations that facilitate greater use of internet service by vulnerable populations are strongly encouraged to register as challengers to validate their connectivity data. Local governments and community organizations can direct members of their communities to submit public comments on their internet service using the Challenge Portal.

ConnectALL is also accepting applications for Phase 2 of its Municipal Infrastructure Program, which supports the development of open-access and publicly owned and/or controlled last mile fiber broadband infrastructure to deliver reliable high-speed internet service to homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions across the state. [Click here to learn more and access the application](#). Phase 2 applications are due on **Friday, April 19**.

Owners of affordable housing properties can also apply for the [Affordable Housing Connectivity Program](#), which provides no-cost broadband upgrades for eligible buildings, by completing a Building Conditions Self-Assessment survey. [Click here to access the survey](#).

## Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund Deadline Extended - Applications due April 24

The Mid-Hudson Momentum Fund focuses on mixed-use housing, transit-oriented development, and infrastructure projects in the Mid-Hudson region. This includes projects that 1) have garnered community support, 2) will result in increased affordable housing, 3) leverage non-State investment, 4) are financially sound, and 5) can begin quickly. Visit [esd.ny.gov/momentum](https://esd.ny.gov/momentum) for more information and to access the application. Applications for the next round of funding are now due by **4 PM on Wednesday, April 24**.

## Additional Opportunities

**EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG):** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has launched \$4.6 billion across two implementation grant competitions to fund state, local, and Tribal programs and policies that cut climate pollution, advance environmental justice, and deploy clean energy solutions across the country. These competitions will enable community-driven solutions to the climate crisis, helping to accelerate America's clean energy transition.

As part of its evaluation of applications, EPA will prioritize measures that achieve the greatest amount of GHG emissions reductions. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 30 to 115 grants ranging between \$2 million and \$500 million in the general competition. The deadline to apply to the general competition is **Tuesday, April 1**. EPA estimates that the implementation grants will be awarded in Fall 2024 for the general competition. [Click here to view the general competition Notice of Funding Opportunity and apply.](#) [Click here to sign up for notifications about the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program.](#)

**Hudson River Valley Greenway Planning & Trail Grants:** The [Hudson River Valley Greenway](#) helps Hudson Valley communities preserve unique scenic, natural, historic, cultural and recreational resources. The next round of Greenway Trail Grant applications are due through the Greenway's Online Grants Platform by **Thursday, May 23**. [Click here to learn more about available programs and apply.](#)

**Field Hall Foundation Grants:** The Field Hall Foundation is a private foundation whose primary mission is to improve the lives of older adults and their caregivers. They support programs and projects that directly impact low-income and vulnerable older adults and their caregivers in Dutchess, Putnam and Westchester Counties, NY. Priority is given to those that address their most basic needs. Congratulations to **Bethel Nursing Home** and **Support Connection**, two local organizations that were recently awarded Field Hall grants to support their programming. Field Hall Foundation is accepting letters of inquiry for their Fall cycle now through **Friday, May 31**. [Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

**Candrea Foundation Grant Program:** The Candrea Environmental Foundation is a New York state-based organization that provides seed money for local environmental education initiatives and projects that engage young people in environmental service. Awards of up to \$500 can be used for materials, printing costs, student and teacher travel, communication costs, and other project-related expenses. Grants are limited to Westchester and Putnam Counties. [Click here to learn more and apply.](#) Applications are due **Saturday, June 1**.

**Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) & Intermunicipal Grant (IMG) Funding:** The Environmental Facilities Corporation is now accepting applications for the next round of Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) & Intermunicipal Grant (IMG) funding. There is \$325 million available this round. Applications are due by **5 PM on Friday, June 14**. [Click here to learn more and apply.](#) Community Assistance Teams are ready to engage with any community that needs help with its water infrastructure.

## EPA Environmental Justice Community Change Grants

The EPA is providing a total \$2 billion for Environmental Justice Community Change Grants. Each award will be between \$10-20 million or \$1-3 million depending on the project. Applications are now open (learn more [here](#)) and will remain so until **Thursday, November 21**.

Who can apply:

- A partnership between at least two community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs).
- A partnership between a CBO and one or any combination of the following: a Federally-Recognized Tribe; a local government; or an institution of higher education.

Eligible activities:

- Climate resiliency & adaptation
- Mitigating climate & health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, & wildfire events
- Community-led air & other (including water & waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, & remediation
- Investments in low- & zero-emission & resilient technologies & related infrastructure
- Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions & other air pollutants
- Reducing indoor toxins & indoor air pollution
- Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in State & Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, & other public processes

**Additional Resources:**

[Community Change Grants FAQs](#) (PDF)

[Community Change Grants Informational Video \(English\)](#)

The Environmental Protection Network has created suggested 6-step application guides for Track I and Track II, with checklists, templates, and additional resources. They encourage all interested applicants and potential partners to begin by filling out their [Partner and Assistance Survey](#) so that you can use the responses (publicly available [here](#)) to find partners and share information.

## Brownfield Planning Grants: Transforming Eyesores Into Community Assets

The New York Department of State Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure's Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Program can help your community transform vacant and underutilized brownfield sites into vibrant community assets.

The BOA program supports:

- Community Planning, Outreach and Engagement
- Predevelopment activities, such as—market studies, planning and zoning and environmental assessments
- Redevelopment tax credits for developers
- Connections to other supportive funding opportunities at DOS and elsewhere

To start the process of redeveloping your brownfield sites, contact the New York Department of State Office of Planning, Development and Community Infrastructure by calling **(518) 486-2469** or e-mailing [Alexander.Yerou@dos.ny.gov](mailto:Alexander.Yerou@dos.ny.gov) for an initial consultation. To learn more about Brownfield planning and redevelopment, visit [dos.ny.gov/brownfield-redevelopment](https://dos.ny.gov/brownfield-redevelopment).

### Reminder re: NYS Grants Management Transition

As of January 16, New York State (NYS) has transitioned grants management activities that were performed in the Grants Gateway to the Statewide Financial System (SFS). SFS is the NYS government's accounting and financial management system used to manage contracts and payments. Grantees doing business with NYS will access SFS through the SFS Vendor Portal, which is available from the [SFS Public Website](#).

Training materials, including videos and step-by-step instructions for various topics on grants management-related tasks in SFS, are available within the SFS Vendor Portal. For questions or assistance using SFS, contact the SFS Help Desk at [helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov](mailto:helpdesk@sfs.ny.gov).

### Environmental Facilities Corporation Community Assistance Teams

New York State's Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) offers ongoing consultations to municipalities seeking to improve their water infrastructure. EFC's Community Assistance Teams evaluate community needs and connect municipalities to funding opportunities. [Click here for more information and to request a meeting](#).

### Grants Action News

Every month, Assembly Speaker Carl Heastie's office produces a newsletter, [Grants Action News](#), that contains a round-up of state, federal and private grants and scholarships along with details on how to access them. [Here](#) is a link to the March 2024 edition. This month, it contains opportunities for not-for-profits, municipal governments, health care systems and providers, organizations offering apprenticeships in information technology and the building & construction trades, institutions of higher education, school districts, museums, research laboratories, organizations with expertise in the management of sports programs for people with disabilities, public housing authorities, animal shelters and rescue groups, artists, and students. To get this newsletter sent directly to your inbox, email [grants@nyassembly.gov](mailto:grants@nyassembly.gov).



# New York SWIMS

Join us on March 7!

Governor Hochul proposed **\$150M in grants** to build new public swimming facilities across the state through NY SWIMS (New York Statewide Investment in More Swimming). Tell us how your community can benefit from this funding.

**WHO?** Local elected officials in NYS, NYCOM and NYSAC

**WHAT?** Virtual meeting about NY SWIMS with State Parks and DASNY

**WHEN?** Thursday, March 7  
4:00–5:00 p.m.



Governor Hochul is diving in to address water safety and is expanding access to safe swimming across New York State. **JOIN IN!**



- Learn about the Request for Information that is now live and waiting for your responses.
- Discuss pool projects (at any stage of development) for which you plan to seek grant funding.
- Stay connected for more information about the NY SWIMS grant program.

**RSVP** for registration to [Kim.Briell@parks.ny.gov](mailto:Kim.Briell@parks.ny.gov) with name, title, affiliation and email.

Outlook meeting invitations will be sent the morning of March 7 to registered participants.

**This is not a press event.**



Parks, Recreation  
and Historic  
Preservation

DASNY