

# Grant Applications... Preparing for Success

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*Engineers • Environmental Scientists • Planners • Landscape Architects*



# Where Do I Start?



- Are there longstanding problems in your community?
- Do you have a comprehensive plan?
- Older studies sitting on a shelf?
- Preliminary Designs/Conceptual Plans/Cost Estimates?





# Where do I Start?



- If you answered no to one or more questions on the previous slide, then there's work to do.





# Where Can I Find Grant Information?



- County Planning Departments
- Regional Planning Councils
- Regional Transportation Councils
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Cornell Cooperative Extension
- State Associations like NYSAC, NYCOM, NY Association of Towns



# What Do Grants Fund?





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- Water, sewer and drainage infrastructure; downtown revitalization; housing rehabilitation; water quality improvements; parks and trails; historic preservation; open space acquisition; brownfields restoration; waterfront revitalization; local government shared services/consolidations; economic development; planning and pre-application preparation activities; ADA compliance

*Success with grant funded  
projects is not about luck...*

*it is about*

***Identifying Priorities,  
Focusing Efforts, and  
Taking Deliberate Action.***





# Preparing for a Grant



- Start early – at least a year or more in advance
- Make sure the project is consistent with local/regional plans
- Line up public support as soon as possible



# Preparing for a Grant

- Consult your Regional Economic Development Council early in the process
- Find a champion for your project



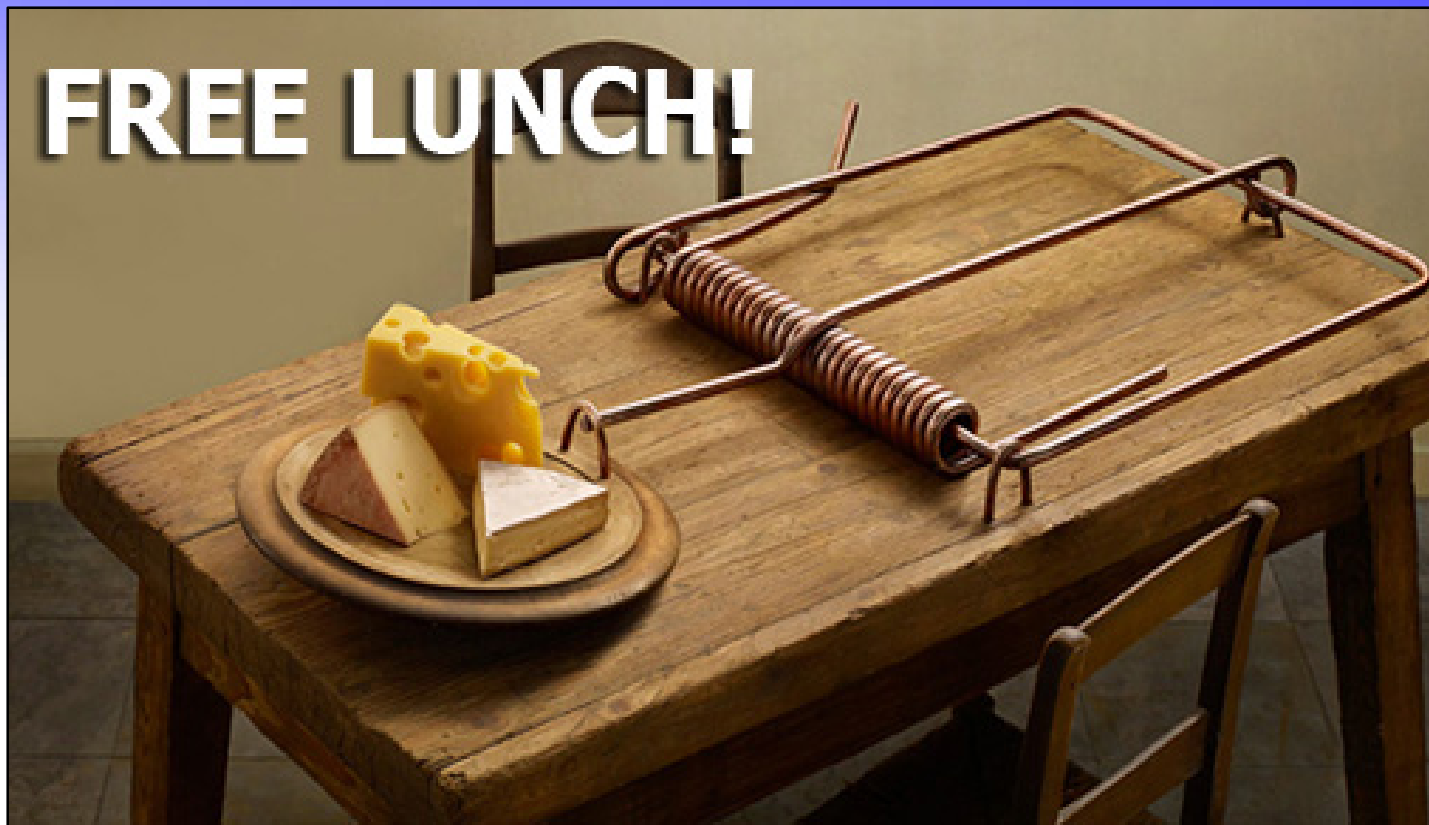
# Invest in your project

Get as close to “shovel ready” as possible





Because there's no such thing as a  
free lunch





# Upfront Costs



- **Application Preparation**
  - Preparation Costs
    - Allocation of Resources
  - Prepare In-house or hire a Consultant?





# Upfront Costs



- Identify the required “match” – (cash, in-kind or both)
- Complete required Preliminary Estimates and Studies
- Secure letters of support







# If the Grant is Awarded...



- Reporting compliance
- Reimbursement Procedures
- Project Scheduling
- Environmental Review(s)
- Procurement requirements
- MWBE/EEO Compliance



**NEVER START WORK  
UNTIL A CONTRACT  
WITH THE GRANTING  
AGENCY IS SIGNED,  
UNLESS THEY  
INDICATE OTHERWISE!**



# 2017 NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) Process



- Simplified online application process
- 23 grant programs available through 12 state agencies
- \$800 million in competitive funding available statewide
- Apply for multiple grants in the same funding round
- ***2017 applications due July 28th***



# 2017 CFA Participating Agencies



- NYS DEC
- NYS Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation
- NYS Council on the Arts
- Empire State Development Corporation
- NYS Department of Labor
- NYSERDA
- Environmental Facilities Corporation
- NYS Homes and Community Renewal
- NYS Department of State
- NYS Canal Corp
- NY Power Authority
- NYS Ag and Markets



# Where Do I Find CFA Information?

<https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>

At the bottom of the page you will find the following links:

## Links

- [Available CFA Resources](#)
- [Regional Council Guidebook](#)
- [CFA Application Manual](#)
- [Program Application Questions](#)
- [2017 CFA Workshop](#)

*Detailed descriptions of all grant programs*

*Status of all Regions' project implementation*

*Instructions for completing the CFA Application*

*List of all required questions for each CFA program*

*Schedule/signup for CFA Informational Workshops*



# CDBG Planning Grants (to help you get ready for construction grants)



- Maximum grant \$50,000
- 95% grant; 5% local cash match
- Funds community needs assessments or preliminary engineering reports
- Purpose is to prepare communities for future funding opportunities to address identified needs



# DEC Wastewater Engineering Planning Grant Program



- \$3 million available statewide
- Primary goal to advance water quality projects to construction for needy communities
- Prepare engineering reports or conduct planning activities to evaluate water quality issues, examine alternatives and propose a capital improvement project





# DEC Wastewater Engineering Planning Grant Program



- \$30,000 grant – municipalities with population of 50,000 or less
- \$50,000 grant – municipalities with a population greater than 50,000
- \$100,000 grant – no population restrictions. Can be used only for wastewater inflow and infiltration studies
- **\$20% local match required**

# Local Waterfront Revitalization Program

\$15.2 million available statewide

- 75% grants – 25% local match
- Develop LWRP Plans
- Update LWRPs to mitigate future physical climate risks
- Watershed management plans



- ***\$10 million to be awarded to densely populated areas with physical deterioration, decay, neglect or disinvestment, where substantial portion of population is low income with few recreational opportunities***

# NYS Environmental Protection Fund Planning Grants

**For project specific planning such  
as designs and specifications or  
structural assessments for:**

- Parks projects (playgrounds, courts, ice rinks, community gardens, and facilities for swimming, boating, picnicking, camping, fishing, trails)
- Historic preservation projects (activities that lead to the acquisition, protection, preservation or restoration/rehabilitation of historic properties, such as historic structures reports)



# NYS Environmental Protection Fund



- \$20 million available statewide
- Acquisition, planning, development and improvement of parks, historic properties, and heritage areas in New York State
- Municipalities, non-profits and public authorities are eligible to apply
- Applicant must have an ownership interest in the property to be improved
- Strict easements are applied to insure property remains parkland in perpetuity



# NYS Environmental Protection Fund



- 50% local match
- 25% match when poverty rate equals or exceeds 10%
- Maximum grant - \$500,000





# Green Innovation Grant Program



- \$15 million available statewide
- Manage rain where it falls
- Innovative streetscape designs
- No grant limit (\$10,000 to \$1 million+)
- 10% local match







# Green Innovation Grant Program Eligible Activities



- Permeable pavement (porous asphalt or pavers)
- Bioretention (raingardens, bioswales)
- Green roofs and Green walls
- Stormwater street trees/ urban forestry programs
- Construct/restore wetlands, floodplains or riparian buffers
- Stream daylighting
- Downspout disconnection
- Rain barrels/Cisterns



# Water Quality Improvement Program



**\$87 million available statewide**

## Wastewater Treatment Improvement Projects

- Effluent Disinfection – max grant \$1 million – 15% local match
- Combined Sewer Overflow – max grant \$5 million – 15% local match
- TMDL Implementation – max grant \$1 million – 15% local match
- Inadequate on-site septic systems – max grant \$1 million – 15% local match
- General wastewater improvements – max grant \$2.5 million – 60% local match
- ***ALL applicants MUST submit an engineering report with each grant application***





# Water Quality Improvement Program



## Non-agricultural non-point source priorities:

- Decentralized wastewater treatment
- Green Infrastructure Practices/Stormwater Retrofits
- Great Lakes Nature Based Shoreline Projects
- Streambank Stabilization/Restoration/Riparian Buffers
- In Waterbody Nutrient Controls
- Beach Restoration
- Salt Storage Facilities



# NYS CDBG Small Cities Program



- Eligible applicants are *non-entitlement* cities, towns, villages of 50,000 persons or less and Counties with 200,000 person or less
- Eligible activities include Public Infrastructure, Public Facilities, Microenterprise Programs, Community Planning



# NYS CDBG Small Cities Program Funding Limits



## Public Infrastructure

Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages

Joint Applicants

With NYS Co-Funding

## Maximum Grant

\$750,000

\$900,000

\$1,000,000

## Public Facilities

Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages

## Maximum Grant

\$300,000

## Microenterprise

Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages

## Maximum Grant

\$200,000

## Planning

Counties, Towns, Cities, Villages

## Maximum Grant\*

\$50,000

\*requires 10 percent local match



# B&L CFA Awards



• NYS Local Government Efficiency Program	\$1,892,545
• DEC Wastewater Infrastructure Planning	\$998,840
• Green Innovation Grant Program	\$3,249,400
• DEC Water Quality Improvement Program	\$4,311,375
• DEC Climate Smart Communities	\$1,327,000
• NYS Canal Program	\$247,400
• NYS Empire State Development Grants	\$5,000,000
• CDBG Public Infrastructure/ Facilities Grants	\$5,145,000
• CDBG Planning Grant Program	\$71,060
• CDBG Microenterprise Program	\$200,000
• NYS OPRHP Parks Program	\$515,700
• NYS Local Waterfront Revitalization Program	\$542,500





# B&L CFA Total Client Awards



**NYS CFA GRAND TOTAL**

**\$23,501,820**



# QUESTIONS?

