

How to Fund Public Infrastructure Projects

In the Unprecedented 2021 Grant Environment



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BEN SYDEN, AICP
VICE PRESIDENT, LABERGE GROUP



NICOLE ALLEN, AICP
PLANNING SERVICES MANAGER

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AGENDA

- Why are you here?
- The state of grants in New York State
- Prioritize Needs – Capital Improvement Planning
- Strategies for pursuing funding for **PRIORITY** projects
 - Design Fundable Projects (Fundable vs. Eligible)
 - Strong Supporting Documentation
 - Prove Funding Viability
 - Demonstrate Project Readiness
- Leverage Resources to Create a Funding Quilt
- Funding Quilts in Action

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WHY ARE YOU HERE?



STATEWIDE INFRASTRUCTURE CRISIS

- AGING
- DETERIORATING
- INSUFFICIENT

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WHY ARE YOU HERE?



WHY ARE WE HERE?

SHARING GRANTWRITING EXPERIENCE AND EXPERTISE

Laberge Group is a multi-disciplinary engineering and planning firm with a specialty in grant writing and development. Our engineers and development team collaborate to design IMPLEMENTABLE projects that not only serve the needs of the community, but also match the priorities of funding entities.

We have secured over
\$245 MILLION in funding for clients since 2000.

- Share proven strategies for EXPANDING your community's funding opportunities
- Provide insights gleaned from examples of New York State communities who've received funding
- How to turn a handout into a handshake

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UNPRECEDENTED FUNDING CHALLENGES

- Stagnant and/or Reduced Revenues
- Increased Costs
- Increased Competition for Grants
- Tax Cap

COVID COVID COVID

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STATE OF GRANTS IN NEW YORK STATE

- Rapidly changing grant environment
- Tracking changes closely
 - Surveillance of grant news
 - Conversations with state agencies



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STATE OF GRANTS IN NEW YORK STATE

- Rapid turnaround-times for application deadlines.
- Typical 12 week timeframes truncated to 6-8 weeks for grants already announced.
- Sources at State agencies indicate that tight turn-around times will follow the pattern of earlier grant releases.
- Every indication is that there WILL be a CFA round this year.
- All agencies foresee a need for funding and are gearing-up for the CFA period.

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STATE OF GRANTS IN NEW YORK STATE

- Ongoing surveillance of Federal relief bill
- \$1.9 trillion package under debate includes \$350 billion in aid for State and Local governments
- If approved, that would go a long way to addressing the \$15 billion NYS deficit (Between \$12.5 – \$15 billion already announced)
- Senate counter-proposal of \$618 billion does NOT include any allocation of funds for State and Local governments
- Potential for a NY austerity budget without Federal aid to States
- Watching closely

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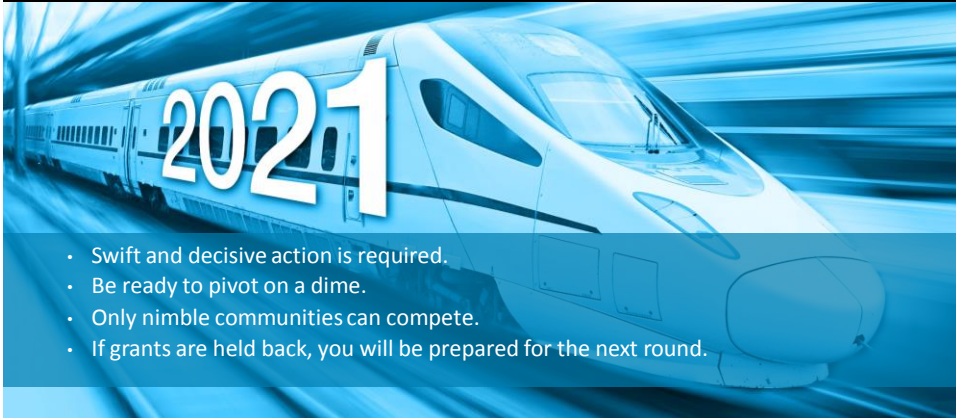


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STATE OF GRANTS IN NEW YORK STATE

FULL STEAM AHEAD



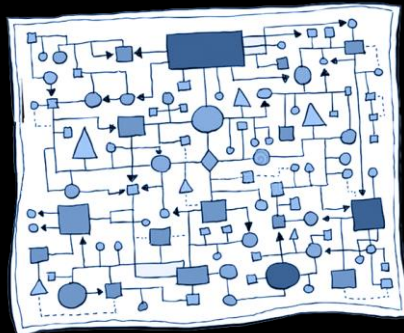
- Swift and decisive action is required.
- Be ready to pivot on a dime.
- Only nimble communities can compete.
- If grants are held back, you will be prepared for the next round.

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WHERE TO START – IT'S ALL IN THE PLANNING

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN ENABLES YOUR COMMUNITY TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE



WITHOUT AN ESTABLISHED PLAN,
YOU'LL BE PERFORMING TRIAGE –
JUMPING FROM FIRE TO FIRE

PROACTIVE

REACTIVE

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CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

WHAT DOES IT DO?

- ✓ Identification of Required Capital Expenditures Over Time
- ✓ Can Include Utilities, Buildings, Recreation, etc.
- ✓ Identifies Problems
- ✓ Formulates Path to Move Forward
- ✓ Documents Capital Cost
- ✓ Prioritizes Projects
- ✓ Identifies Outstanding Debt
- ✓ Incorporates Public Input
- ✓ Establishes Funding Strategies
- ✓ Should Include Implementation Plan
- ✓ Living Document

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PLANNING WITHOUT CAPITAL PLAN

GRANTS NEEDS ASSESSMENT AND ACTION PLAN

- ✓ Identify Problems
- ✓ Prioritize Projects
- ✓ Formulate Path to Move Forward
(engineering report - potential solutions)
- ✓ Document Capital Cost engineering
evaluation, rough estimates)
- ✓ Establish Funding Strategies
 - ✓ Design Fundable Projects
 - ✓ Provide Strong Supporting Documentation
 - ✓ Demonstrate Project Readiness
 - ✓ Create a Funding Quilt

Table 10: Capital Projects Action Items

Item	Item	Priority	Owner	Responsible	Status of Funding
1	Review EIR	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
2	Design and construct a crossing at grade at intersection of the railroad tracks to provide for emergency access to the EIR in the future.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
3	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with property owners' needs and interests.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
4	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
5	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
6	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
7	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
8	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
9	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed
10	Review the EIR/OTR plan to ensure that it is consistent with the needs of the City of New York.	High	City	City Engineer	Completed

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RESOURCES

IDENTIFY FUNDING STREAMS THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE
TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING YOUR PROJECTS



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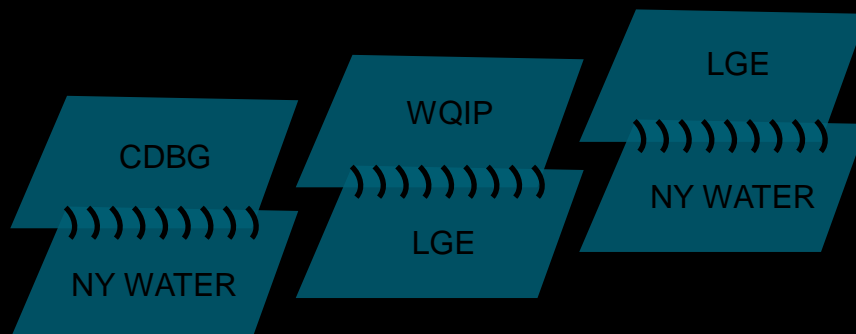


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CRAFTING A FUNDING QUILT

STITCH TOGETHER APPROPRIATE RESOURCES TO
CREATE A FUNDING QUILT FOR YOUR PROJECTS



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NYS Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

ADMINISTERED BY Office of Community Renewal (OCR)

FUNDING AVAILABLE Cities, Villages, Towns, and Counties \$1,000,000
Cities, Villages, Towns, and Counties with Co-Funding \$1,250,000

Note increased funding cap for “co-funded” projects with commitments from EFC, USDA-RD, DOS and other sources.

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR

Public Water Systems

- Water Source Development
- Storage
- Distribution

Public Sanitary Sewer Systems

- Collection
- Treatment

Storm Water Systems

- Flood Control
- Storm Water Drainage

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NY Water

ADMINISTERED BY New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and New York State Department of Health (DOH)

FUNDING AVAILABLE Clean Water (sewage treatment): For a project less than \$50 million, up to the lesser of \$5 million or 25% of eligible project costs
Drinking Water: up to the lesser of \$3 million or 60% of total net project costs

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR

Drinking Water

- Upgrade or Replace Infrastructure
- Address Noncompliance with Federal or State Health Standards
- Prevent Future Violations

Sewage Treatment Works

- Replacement or Repair of Infrastructure
- Compliance with Environmental and Public Health Laws and Regulations

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Clean Water State Revolving Fund Drinking Water State Revolving Fund

ADMINISTERED BY New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC)

FUNDING AVAILABLE Subsidized interest rate financing
Market rate financing
Hardship financing (as low as 0% for communities with demonstrated hardship)
Additional subsidization / principal forgiveness

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR

Drinking Water

- Water Source Development or Rehabilitation
- Treatment Facilities
- Storage Facilities
- Distribution
- Consolidation of Water Supply Services

Wastewater

- Construction or Restoration of Treatment Facilities

Stormwater Systems

- Construction or Restoration of Sewers
- Stormwater Management

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Water Quality Improvement Project Program (WQIP)

ADMINISTERED BY New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC)

FUNDING AVAILABLE Grants up to 75% of total project cost with 25% local share required for high priority Wastewater Treatment Improvement projects
Grants up to 40% of total project cost with 60% local share required for General Wastewater Infrastructure Improvement projects

FUNDING AVAILABLE FOR

Drinking Water

- Address Documented Water Quality Impairments
- Drinking Water Source Protection

Wastewater

- Treatment Improvement
- Infrastructure Improvement

Stormwater Systems

- Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s)

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ADDITIONAL AVAILABLE FUNDING

State and Municipal Facilities Program (SAM)

Administered by: Dormitory Authority of the State of NY (DASNY)

USDA Water & Environmental Programs (WEP)

Administered by: USDA Rural Development

Local Government Efficiency (LGe)

Administered by: New York Department of State (DOS)

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FUNDING INSIGHTS

- Demonstrate adequate funding and a *realistic* and *consistent* budget.
- Ensure that budget narratives match budget tables and that the budget presented is feasible.
- Identify each cost, the source of the funds, and the proposed use of funding.
- Ensure that funding amounts proposed are within eligible limits.
- Include program delivery, administration, and other costs.
- Secure commitment of other funds and supply commitment documentation. **Co-funding is KEY to project implementation.**

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DEMONSTRATE PROJECT READINESS

NOW, MORE THAN EVER

- ✓ Engineering Reports
- ✓ Environmental Reviews (SEQR)
- ✓ Financial Plans
- ✓ Bond Resolutions
- ✓ District Formation
- ✓ Comprehensive Plan
- ✓ Demonstrate Administrative Capacity
- ✓ Show Public Participation and Community Interest
 - Local Stakeholders, Community Groups, Citizen Committees
- ✓ Leverage Other Resources
 - Partners: Local, State, Federal, Not For Profit, Volunteer
- ✓ Demonstrate Adequate Funding and Realistic Budget
- ✓ Secure commitment of other funds

2021 UPDATE

Funding agencies have changed scoring and ranking criteria. Project readiness is now paramount. State agencies are prioritizing projects that will inject funds into the economy immediately.

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CO-FUNDING IN ACTION



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FUNDING QUILT IN ACTION – TOWN OF PLATTSBURGH

2008 PUMP STATION

DWSRF = \$2,400,000

2009 CUMBERLAND HEAD

USDA = \$5,625,000

2009 FUNCTIONAL CONSOLIDATION OF WATER DISTRICTS

LGE = \$396,000

2009 CUMBERLAND HEAD

USDA LOAN = \$6,875,000

2016 FLOURIDATION

DOH = \$24,140

2017 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NORTHERN BORDER = \$500,000

2018 WATER DISTRICT

NY WATER = \$3,000,000



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FUNDING QUILT IN ACTION – VILLAGE CORINTH

SEWER PROJECT COSTS - \$24 MILLION EST.

WALNUT, OAK, ASH, RAYMOND & WEST MECHANIC

Total Construction Cost = \$8 million

Sewer Costs = \$2.2 million

CDBG Grant = \$600,000

DASNY Grants = \$500,000

NY Water Grants = \$277,500

Remainder 0% for 30 years

PUMP STATION

Construction Cost = \$616,990.75

Engineering Cost = \$46,000.00

CDBG Grant = \$600,000

Remainder 0% for 30 years

WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Construction Cost = \$13.5 million

CDBG Grant = \$1,000,000

NY Water Grant = \$3.5 million

Remainder 0% for 30 years

FORCEMAIN AND TRUNK SEWER

Construction Cost = \$2.5 million

CDBG Grant = \$1,000,000

NY Water Grant \$266,000

Remainder 0% for 30 years

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Thank you!