

**For Immediate Release**  
August 1, 2024

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## **Town of Rockland Announces Open Call for Projects for NY Forward Grant Application**

**Livingston Manor, NY** - The Town of Rockland has announced its intent to apply for the NY Forward, a statewide program aimed at revitalizing small downtown communities. If awarded, the town will secure \$4.5 million in funding for projects in Livingston Manor, the application's geographical focal area. The application steering committee, chaired by Town Supervisor Rob Eggleton, has identified infrastructure investment, mixed-use development, and public amenities as key elements of their bid to make Livingston Manor a more vibrant community with regional draw for commercial and tourism activities. Projects will be reviewed by the committee and the public for potential inclusion in the application.

The steering committee has launched a public survey to solicit feedback on the high-level goals and priorities for this application. Paper copies can be made available at Town Hall or residents can fill it out here: <https://forms.gle/uqgkCPEURwU9PK8z5>. The survey will remain open until August 13, 2024.

If you are interested in submitting a project for consideration, please review the eligibility criteria and submit using the Open Call for Projects Form available online. Please complete the following form and return to the Town Clerk Jennifer DeVantier ([water-sewer@townofrocklandny.com](mailto:water-sewer@townofrocklandny.com)) no later than August 26, 2024.

**Project Requirements:** Per NYS guidelines, projects identified in a NY Forward proposal must:

1. Be awarded to public, private, or non-profit organizations with the funding, capacity, and legal authority to implement the proposed development.
2. Must break ground within two years of receiving funding.
3. Must leverage additional funding sources and illustrate a path to full financing.
4. For projects greater than 5,000 sq. ft., must comply with NY Stretch Energy Code, obtain an Energy Start score of 90 or greater, or obtain a certification from a third-party organization (such as LEED).
5. Must be transformative for the downtown boundary area.
6. Must have site control and/or agreement from the lessor owning project target area.

**Eligible Projects:**

- **Public Improvement Projects:** including infrastructure, streetscape, sidewalks, transportation, recreational trails, wayfinding, upgraded parks and plazas, public art, green infrastructure, or other public amenities.
- **Rehabilitation of Existing Downtown Buildings:** Mixed-use, commercial, residential, non-profit, or public use with visible and functional impact on downtown. Projects should serve as anchor, catalytic, or transformative projects that will provide employment opportunities, housing, or community services.

- Parking: New construction or redevelopment must directly support further downtown development.
- Small Project Fund: A locally managed matching small project fund for façade enhancements or small-scale renovation projects.
- Wayfinding & Placemaking: Capital investment that enriches cultural, historical, or local identity

**Ineligible Activities:**

- Planning activities
- Operations and maintenance
- Pre-award costs
- Property acquisition
- Training or other programmatic expenses.

**Application Process**

August 1 – Survey Opens

**Mid-August – Letter of Intent Submitted**

August 13 – Survey Closes

August 26 – Call for Projects Closes

August 28 – Eligible Projects Posted for Committee & Public Review

September 2 – Steering Committee Review

September 5 – Public Meeting

September 9 – Projects Selected

Late September – Application Submitted

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