



**Canal  
Corporation**

# **NYS CANALWAY GRANT PROGRAM**

## **2021 Application Guidance**

**May 3, 2021**

# 2021 Application Guidance

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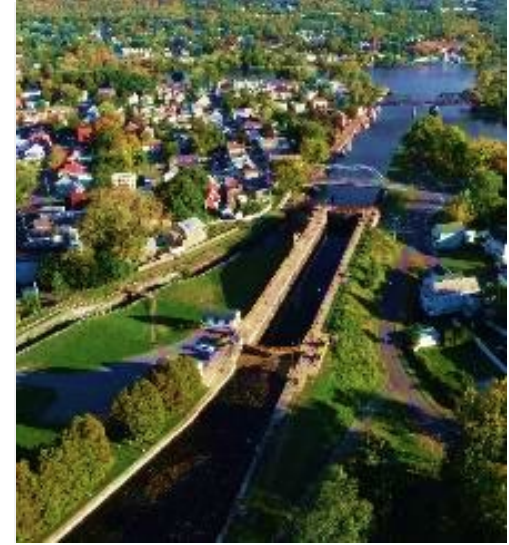
# Program Description

- The Canalway Grants Program includes up to **\$1 million in competitive grants** available to eligible municipalities and non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations for canal-related capital projects along the New York State Canal.
- Funding can be used to:
  - expand public access,
  - increase recreational use,
  - improve services for water and trail users,
  - enhance connections between the canal and trail,
  - enhance visitor services,
  - adapt and celebrate historic infrastructure,
  - and stimulate private investment along the canal.



# Funding Priorities

Priority in the 2021 round will be given to projects that align with the **Reimagine the Canals** goals:



- Promoting resiliency against environmental challenges
- Economic development to promote active recreation, tourism, and revitalization in canalside communities
- Enhancing connectivity between the Empire State Trail, the canal waterway, and canal waterfronts
- Celebrating the canal system as a 21st century waterway for future generations

# Program Requirements

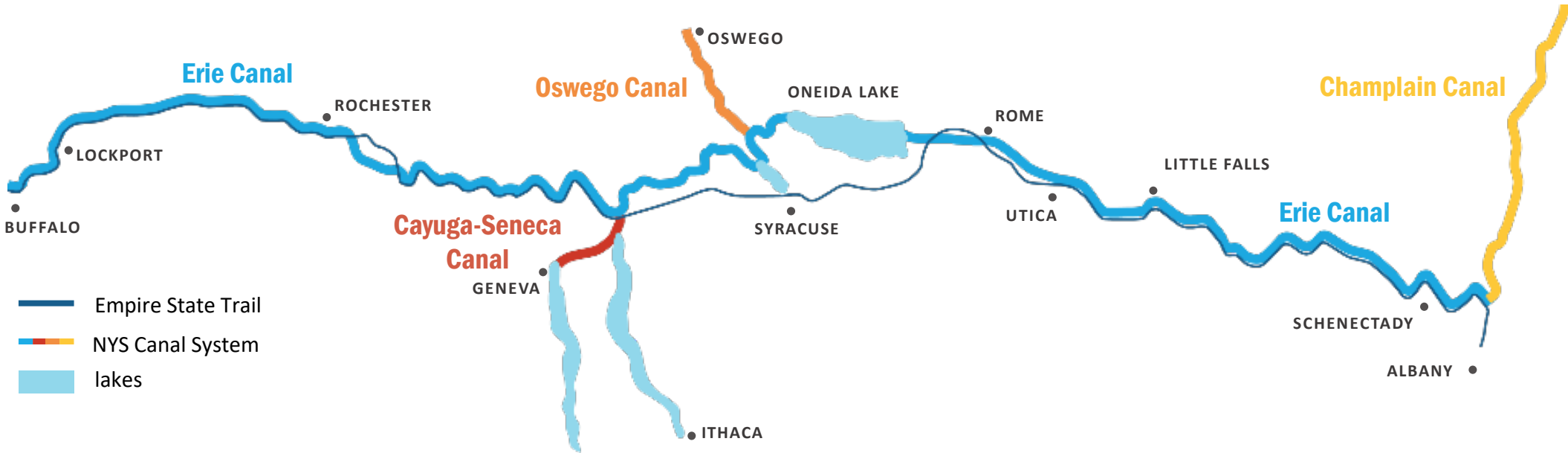
**Projects must meet the following requirements to be eligible for selection:**

- grants must be for capital improvements
- 50% Match
- \$25,000 minimum grant
- \$150,000 maximum grant
- administration and pre-development costs shall not exceed 10% of the grant award amount
- Grants provided on a reimbursement basis only



# Project Locations

Projects must be located along one of the four canals of the NYS Canal System or the Empire State Trail (Canalway Trail segments).



# Selection Criteria

Priority in the 2021 round will be given to projects that demonstrate:



## Alignment with regional and statewide initiatives, such as:

- Regional Economic Development Council plans
- Reimagine the Canals Task Force
- Empire State Trail program



## Public and stakeholder support:

- Is widespread support from residents and other canal stakeholders demonstrated in the application?



## Financial viability:

- Are the project costs reasonable and clearly defined both in the budget sheet and in the supporting documents?
- Is viable and accessible match funding clearly demonstrated in the grant budget?



## Innovation/effectiveness:

- Will the project draw new visitors to the canal and/or encourage multi-day stays?
- Are the project goals consistent with the principles of universal design/social inclusion?
- Does the project protect or enhance historic and/or natural resources of the Canal System?



## Implementation:

- Does the proposal reflect a reasonable and achievable timeframe for completion?
- Does the proposal incorporate a reasonable and achievable plan for the long-term operation and maintenance of the project?

# Past Awardees

The following projects have been supported by the NYS Canalway Grant Program in recent years (2013-2019)



Stillwater riverside trail community linkage project



Niskayuna Aqueduct Park access improvement project



Fulton canal corridor multi-use trail



Lakeland Park canal enhancement and walkway



Fayetteville canal landing play area, kayak launch



Brockport competitive rowing improvements



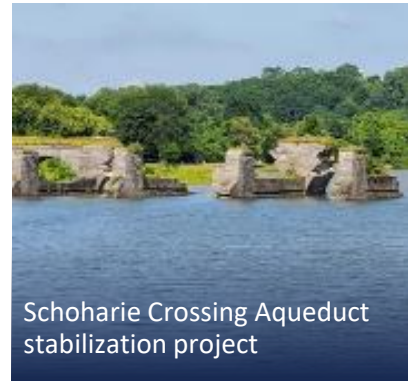
Palmyra canal trail improvements



Fairport Canal Gateway project



Orleans County canal trail bikeshare program



Schoharie Crossing Aqueduct stabilization project



# Precedents for Canal System Projects

**Economic development to promote active recreation, tourism, and revitalization in canalside communities**



Innovative events and programming



Creative tourism destinations

# Precedents for Canal System Projects

Enhancing connectivity between the Empire State Trail, the canal waterway, and canal waterfronts



# Precedents for Canal System Projects

**Celebrating the canal system as a 21st century waterway for future generations**



Iconic lighting of historic structures



Canalside public art

# Contact Information

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**NYS Canal Corporation:**

[www.canals.ny.gov](http://www.canals.ny.gov)

**Canalway Grant Program**

<http://www.canals.ny.gov/community/grant.html>

