



**Office of Planning
and Development**

Consolidated Funding Application 2024-2025

Environmental Protection Fund Smart Growth Community Planning and Zoning Grant Program

An Office of the New York State Department of State

Smart Growth Program

The Smart Growth Program offers municipalities the opportunity to plan and zone for their community by addressing all aspects of Smart Growth.



What is Smart Growth?

An Approach

“*Smart Growth*” is an approach to community planning that integrates what are known as the “3 Es”—**Economy**, **Equity**, and **Environment**, with an emerging fourth E—**Energy**

Based on

Smart Growth Principles

Economy

- ✓ Mix of Land-Uses
- ✓ Range of Housing Opportunities and Choices
- ✓ Infill Development
- ✓ Density
- ✓ Walkable/Bikeable Neighborhood Design
- ✓ Well-Planned Public Spaces
- ✓ Placemaking

Environment

- ✓ Resiliency
- ✓ Climate Change
- ✓ Protection of Natural Resources
- ✓ Green Infrastructure

Equity

- ✓ Collaborative Decision Making
- ✓ Social Diversity and Integration
- ✓ Variety of Mobility Choices

Energy

- ✓ Clean Energy Generation/Building Decarbonization

Eligible Applicants

- Villages, Towns, Cities or Counties
- Counties, Regional Planning entities or Not-for-Profits
 - with the consent and acting on behalf of one or more municipalities



Eligible Project Types



New or updated
Comprehensive Plans for a
town, village, or city



New or updated
Comprehensive Plans for an
entire county



New or updated Zoning
Regulations for a town, village,
or city



A zoning amendment which
implements an adopted Area
Plan or Comprehensive Plan



New or updated Area Plans for
part of a town, village, or city

Overview of Planning Activities

The **Comprehensive Plan** is a high-level guiding document that sets a vision for a **community**. **Area Plans** supplement the comp plan by providing direction for development in specific areas. **Together**, they inform the development of **zoning ordinances**, but do not establish zoning.

Key Partners in Planning

- ✓ Local Government
- ✓ Boards and Committees
- ✓ Community members
- ✓ Neighboring municipalities
- ✓ State agencies
- ✓ Federal Agencies

Comprehensive Plan

- ✓ Developed by community, with input from the public
- ✓ Sets a vision for a community's future
- ✓ Approved by Local Gov't
- ✓ Guides zoning regulations, local decision making, and community development

Area Plan

- ✓ Developed by community, with input from the public
- ✓ Provides supplemental guidance for the comp plan in a specific area
- ✓ Reviewed and approved by Local Gov't

Zoning Ordinance

- ✓ Developed by community, with input from the public
- ✓ Organizes and regulates how land is used
- ✓ Approved by Local Gov't
- ✓ Zoning ordinances **MUST** be consistent with an adopted comprehensive plan

Comprehensive Planning

What does our community look like?



Where We Are

Where We Want to Go



What do we want our community to look like in 10-20 years

What can we do to achieve our community's vision?



How to Get There

What can we do to implement our comprehensive plan?

Putting Things Together



Benefits of Comprehensive Planning

- Proactive approach to planning
- Based on a shared vision
- Attracts resources



Area Planning

In-depth analysis of a specific area



Community creates vision for the area's future



Current conditions are analyzed



Framework for future growth and investment is created



Zoning Ordinances

- Regulates land use
- Promotes predictable development
- Protects public health and safety
- Creates a strong foundation for future growth



Eligible Activities

- Preparing the Plan and/or zoning ordinance;
- Holding and facilitating community forums and public outreach;
- Coordinating with other governmental entities;
- SEQR and environmental review; and
- Project management



Award Limitations

- There is a minimum State assistance request of \$75,000
- There is no maximum award value
 - Required to submit a clear and justified budget
- Award may not exceed 90% of the total eligible cost of the project.
- Applicant must provide the remaining 10%.

Eligible costs:

- Personal Services – including direct salaries, wages, and fringe benefits of grantee employees for activities related to project work (project management and grant administration).
- Non-Personal Services –including consultant/contractual services for direct project related costs, project management, and limited grant administration; project related supplies and materials; necessary travel; and other goods and services required to complete the project.

Ineligible Costs:

- Indirect or overhead costs
- Salaries and other expenses of elected officials
- Costs incurred outside of the contract term
- Costs that are not adequately justified or that do not directly support the project

Evaluation Criteria

Demonstration of Need and Indicators of Economic Distress (up to 10 points)



Demonstration of Smart Growth Commitment (up to 6 points)



Public Engagement and Commitment (up to 14 points)



Integration of Smart Growth Principles (up to 36 points)



Scope of Work (up to 18 points)



Time Frame/Readiness (up to 6 points)



Local Capacity (up to 6 points)



Evaluation of Budget and Cost (up to 24 points)

Request for Applications (RFA# 24-OPDSG-5)

<https://dos.ny.gov/funding-bid-opportunities>

Questions must be submitted in writing to:

Email: opd@dos.ny.gov with subject line “24-OPDSG-5 RFA Questions”

or

New York State Department of State
Office of Planning and Development
99 Washington Avenue, Suite 1010
Albany, New York 12231

Responses will be posted at <https://dos.ny.gov/funding-bid-opportunities>

To apply or access related CFA materials:
<http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov>