



Sullivan County

Planning and Community Resources Committee

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

Meeting Agenda - Final

Chairman Matt McPhillips
Vice Chairman Terry Blosser-Bernardo
Committee Member Luis Alvarez
Committee Member Catherine Scott
Committee Member Joseph Perrello

Thursday, September 4, 2025

11:00 AM

Government Center

Call To Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Comments:

Reports:

1. Division of Community Resources
Monthly Report
September 2025

[ID-7718](#)

Attachments: [2025 PandCR September Report](#)

2. Division of Planning

[ID-7726](#)

Attachments: [August 2025](#)

[July 25 AG report](#)

[2024 Benchmarking Report](#)

[Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking – The White House](#)

[7.29 Memo from Attorney General Bondi_ Guidance for Recipients of](#)

[Federal Funding Regarding Unlawful Discrimination](#)

[grant management 101 \(2\)](#)

Discussion:

1. Hudson Valley Community Preservation Act

Public Comment

Resolutions:

1. To Authorize One (1) Public Hearing for The Sullivan County Office for the Aging [ID-7707](#)
Sponsors: Office for the Aging and Deoul
Attachments: [Public Notice Public Hearing 2025](#)
2. To authorize the County Manager to apply and accept a State Municipal Facilities Grant Award of \$125,000 for the design and construction of an access drive, parking area and hiking trails for Callicoon Riverside Park. [ID-7719](#)
3. To appoint members to the Sullivan County Land Bank Corporation. [ID-7722](#)
4. To direct the development and issuance of a Request for Proposals for a countywide groundwater study. [ID-7723](#)
5. To award funding through the 2025 Removal of Unsafe Structures (RUST) Program to two municipalities. [ID-7724](#)
6. Establishing a Sister Community Partnership Between Sullivan County, New York and Ternopil Region, Ukraine [ID-7735](#)

Adjourn



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

File #: ID-7718

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 1.

Division of Community Resources Monthly Report

September 2025

Office for the Aging (OFA) July 2025 Monthly Report

Monthly Accomplishments

OFA Director:

- Sullivan Volunteers Support Committee moving forward with recognition event planning.
- *Monthly Hoot* newsletter direct subscribers over 950.
- Presented at Sullivan Town Supervisor's meeting. Discussed collaboration between OFA and local townships.
- Conducted contract agency monitoring.
- Attended Alzheimer's Association Program Advisory Council meeting.
- 17 outreach events coordinated for Farmer's Market Coupon distribution.
- Case Managers and Aging Services Specialists provided 27 home visits for assessments, reassessments, application assistance and follow up visits.
- 16 applications for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program and Temporary Assistance were assisted with or completed by OFA staff.
- Presented at Professional Women's meeting.
- Presented at Monticello Seniors Club meeting.
- Presented at Fallsburg Seniors Club meeting.

Sullivan Volunteers:

- Coordinator attended tabling event at Wurtsboro Street Fair.
- Finalizing plans for volunteer appreciation luncheon.
- Finalizing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and Volunteer Handbook for new program.
- 5 new volunteers enrolled.
- Volunteers provided 65 rides for medical appointments.
- 1,301 hours volunteered in June with a value of \$50,062 according to IndependentSector.org.

Nutrition:

	Units:	Clients:	Contributions:
Homebound:	2,612	118	\$1,241.00
Congregate			
served at sites:	670	87	\$802.75
TOTALS:	3,282	205	\$2,089.25

- We ended our Spring Fitness program with Patricia Pelletier, Public Health Educator/RHN Coordinator at five of our Nutrition sites. Participating seniors were surveyed upon completion. The survey was helpful, it afforded a better understanding for individual modifications for the "Fall Prevention" programming we are planning. The plan is to provide for 6 weeks (Sept 22nd to Oct 31st), with similar timeframes and days.
- 2,000 Farmers Market Coupon booklets received early July, to date we have distributed 700+ coupon booklets to eligible individuals.
- Our Livingston Manor site was visited by Andrea Martell Registered Dietician and Nutrition Educator from Delaware County who presented a SNAP-Ed nutrition education workshop.

- Annual monitoring of our contract with Sullivan County Jail kitchen was performed on July 11th. Inspection of the kitchen facility and review of policy and procedures for the Home Delivered Meal program performed.

Transportation:

- 124 Sullivan County Transportation (SCT) medical trips
- 196 SCT shopping trips
- 65 Sullivan Volunteers medical trips
- 2 medical transports by OFA staff
- 60 Congregate Nutrition Site transportation

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) :

- 10 HEAP information assistance and/or Energy Assistance Program (EAP) letters

Legal referrals: 6 individuals/families received legal assistance through Rural Law Center of NY.

Caregiver Resource Center (CRC)

Information & Assistance calls:

June: 26

July: 51

JULY Workshops held:

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body

- July 9, 2025
- July 16, 2025

Legal & Financial Planning for Caregivers: What You Need to Know

- July 15, 2025

10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's and Dementia

- July 28

Upcoming:

Healthy Living for Your Brain and Body

AUGUST 28 @ 5pm – Liberty Public Library

FREE FIRST AID MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING- OPEN TO ANYONE

Sponsored by NY FARMNET and other organizations

Wednesday, SEPTEMBER 24, 8:30am-5pm at Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) Sullivan

SEE FLYER TO REGISTER (registration required)

The training includes a 30-minute lunch break and several short breaks throughout the day. Lunch and refreshments will be provided at no cost.

www.nyfarmnet.org/trainings-events or call 1-800-547-3276

SUPPORT GROUPS:

Caregiver Café' Support Group (in person):

1st Monday at 10am at CCE Sullivan

Held July 7; no August meeting, Sept. 15 (note date change)

Virtual Caregiver Support Group (zoom):

Scheduled 3rd Wednesday each month 6-7pm

Held July 16, next: August 20

Parkinson's Support group

3rd Wednesday each month April through November from 4-5:30 at CCE Sullivan

Held July 16, next: August 13

Caregiver Support Group for Families of Veterans

Held at Action Towards Independence (ATI) at 309 E. Broadway, Monticello

New dates and times for this meeting will be revised and announced soon.

EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS at CCE Sullivan:

Bone Builders (Osteoporosis prevention).

Next series weekly on **Thursdays from September 18 – November 20 from 11-12pm.**

Register on our events page at www.sullivanccce.org/events or call 845-292-6180 x 122 / or email: sullivanccrc@cornell.edu

Tai Chi for Arthritis & Falls Prevention – *Class is Full, but seniors can call to be added to a waiting list.*

Next series weekly on **Tuesdays from September 9 – October 28, from 10-11am.**

www.sullivanccce.org/events or call 845-292-6180 x 122 / or email: sullivanccrc@cornell.edu

Wellness Initiative for Senior Education (WISE)

We recently completed a 6-week educational series for a group of 8 seniors at Golden Park Apartments in Liberty.

Held June 26 to July 31.

Call for more information at 845-292-6180 x 122 / or email: sullivanccrc@cornell.edu to be put on our waiting list for future workshop series.

This is a 6-week evidence-based program with a different wellness topic each week to enhance awareness of senior health and well-being.

The WISE program is a collaboration between the Caregiver Resource Center and SALT at CCE Sullivan through Community & Economic Vitality, and is supported in part by grant funding from New York State, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

Alzheimer's Association workshop series: **The Empowered Caregiver** will be offered in person by the Caregiver Resource Center to interested community groups by request in the summer and fall 2025. Call us if your organization or community group would like a presentation, we will come to you!

Call for more information at 845-292-6180 x 122

The Empowering Caregiver Series is available as a series of workshops or individual topics:

Workshop topics in the series include:

- Building Foundations of Caregiving
- Supporting Independence
- Communicating Effectively
- Responding to dementia-related behaviors
- Exploring Care and support services.

NY Connects:

- 283 served

Health Insurance Information Counseling Assistance Program (HIICAP):

- 27 clients served in July.

Personal Emergency Response System (PERS):

- 24 clients currently receive PERS through OFA funding sources.

Expanded In Home Services for Elderly Program (EISEP):

Case files open as of 7/31/25	29
Casefiles closed	1
Waitlist	15
Hours Authorized for the month of July	1368.06
Actual hours provided in July	1,198.25

- Monitoring of 4 contract agencies
- Reduction of approved hours due to budgetary constraints, right sizing hours for individuals that were receiving additional hours to facilitate getting an aide to harder to reach areas.
- New contracted rate started July 1 to provide aides with \$24.00 per hour for EISEP cases which is aligned with increase due to minimum aide rate being implemented statewide.

Sullivan County Youth Bureau:

- Attended United Sullivan Partner Check-ins.
- Completed 2nd quarterly Youth Bureau newsletter.
- 29 contracts have been sent out to vendors for signature. 21 have been received back and sent up to County Attorney's office for review and signature. 3 contracts are still waiting for outstanding paperwork.
- Youth Bureau Facebook posts lead to 1,500 views, 322 reaches and 10 interactions in July. This is an increase of almost 73 views from last month, however, as of this morning, comparing it to July of 2024, we increased our views by 1,065. Views are how many times people looked at the post, reaches mean how many times it was shared and interactions are the amount of likes or reactions.

Community Assistance Center (CAC)

- ✓ Through our partnership with the Hudson Valley Food Bank, we average 20 food pantries who attend our monthly food distributions at the Transportation building.
- ✓ There are three (3) food distribution days per month.

- ✓ Support HV Food Bank monthly mobile pantry efforts in town of Freemont.
- ✓ Outreach is ongoing to determine needs of pantries.
- ✓ The team continues to provide referral and assistance to callers looking information and/or resources.
- ✓ The CAC has seen an increase in requests for emergency food assistance deliveries as well as connections to community resources.

Transportation

The work is underway to update the County's Coordinated Transportation Plan.

Sullivan County Transportation Department:

Month 2025	Veterans Medical Centers	Veterans In-County Medical	Senior Medicals	Shopping Buses	Seniors to Congregate Sites	Meals Delivered
January	40	31	101	160	32	467
February	37	20	89	132	26	497
March	41	35	121	177	53	618
April	48	32	123	182	60	641
May	39	16	116	187	41	583
June	39	26	137	190	44	604
July	49	25	122	195	48	631
August						
September						
October						
November						
December						

Move Sullivan Public Transit:

Move Sullivan 2025	Average Daily Ridership	Monthly Ridership	Monthly Paratransit
January	480 (21 days)	10,073	245
February	521 (18 days)	9,381	272
March	557 (21 days)	11,686	292
1st Quarter Totals		31,140	809
April	599 (22 days)	13,176	365
May	558 (21 days)	11,715	332
June	587 (21 days)	12,319	285
2nd Quarter Totals		37,210	982
July	636 (22 days)	13,994	329
August			

September			
3rd Quarter Totals			
October			
November			
December			
4th Quarter Totals			
Annual Totals			



Sullivan County
Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

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DIVISION OF PLANNING, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

ACTIVITY REPORT August 2025

CONTENTS

- I. Planning
- II. Sustainable Energy
- III. Parks, Recreation & Beautification
- IV. Grants
- V. Agriculture & Farmland Protection

I. PLANNING ACTIVITY

Land Use Planning & Technical Assistance:

GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW – 239 Referrals					
Date Received	Date Requested	Project Name	Action Type	Referral ID #	Legislator
7/30/25	8/12/25	Fraser Management LLC	Site Plan Review	MON25-09	Ward
7/30/25	8/4/25	Amendment of the Town of Liberty Zoning Law	Adoption / Amendment of Zoning Text	LIB25-09	B. McPhillips
8/7/25	9/5/25	Shimlow Multi-Family	Site Plan Review	BLO25-03	Salomone, Jr.
8/8/25	8/12/25	Ecology Organics LLC	Site Plan Review	MAM25-03	Rajsz
8/11/25	8/12/25	Gramercy Arms LLC Amended Subdivision	Subdivision review	MAM25-04	Rajsz
8/15/25	9/2/25	Keiser Redevelopment Plan	Site Plan review	ROC25-01	B. McPhillips
8/22/25	9/10/25	Polygon	Site Plan Review	FAL25-14	Ward

- Planning staff scheduled a series of trainings on a wide range of topics for municipal board members so they can get their required 4 hours of New York State Department of State Training. The Department of State came on August 28th to provide 3.5 hours of training. Upcoming trainings will include Delaware Engineering covering package plants for waste water treatment and a Pace University training that will offer credits for board members and continuing legal education credit hours for attorneys. Both the Delaware Engineering and Pace trainings are anticipated to take place later this fall. Staff continue to keep track of any future webinars from

the Department of Environmental Conservation. Additionally, staff continue to develop a curriculum for virtual Webinar Watch Parties to provide alternate forums for training while also encouraging engagement amongst attendees.

Land Use, Strategic and Comprehensive Planning

- **Comprehensive Planning**

- Planning staff submitted a grant application to the New York State Department of State through the Consolidated Funding Application to undertake a comprehensive plan for the County. The last comprehensive plan, Sullivan 2020, is from 2005. The effort was supported by Grants Administration.
- Planning staff assisted the Village of Bloomingburg on an application for a comprehensive plan and zoning rewrite. The Village's current plan is unavailable and likely no longer reflects the community's vision. The grant narratives for both applications will connect them to highlight the need for both and avoid creating competing applications.

- **Water Resources and Infrastructure**

- Planning consultant Delaware Engineering is making progress on the Countywide Infrastructure Assessment. Editing of the municipal content continues to be edited for consistency and content. The County level summary is expected shortly. Planning and consultant will work with Municipalities to ensure the work is accurate and useful.
- Planning and Delaware Engineering with the United States Water Alliance have developed a training program for system operators and municipal officials and relevant staff. Planning is working to secure a date and location as well as obtain continuing education credits for the operators.
- A separate scope of work was developed to obtain hydrogeologic expertise in relation to subsurface conditions throughout the County to assess the County's water resources. A resolution is being presented today to issue a Request for Proposals for these services, which will provide the County with a better sense of the cost of a countywide groundwater study.

- **Hazard Mitigation Plan**

- Planning staff and the consultant, Tetra Tech, have continued discussions with State representatives with regard to the use of the new MitigateNY version 2.0 platform to host the plan. As Sullivan County will be the first County to update its plan in the new platform, we have been fortunate to have considerable access to state resources (staff and consultants) to assist in this process.
- Tetra Tech has begun gathering a large amount of data that will be necessary for the update. We are hoping to limit the amount of work that is placed on our

municipalities, as we understand they have limited time and resources, by providing pre-populated worksheets for them to review and fill in the blanks.

- Outreach is expected to begin towards the end of the third quarter. Notification of jurisdictional meetings and meetings of the steering committee will be provided.

Recreation, Quality of Life & Tourism-based Economic Development

• Sullivan O&W Rail Trail

- Grading was initiated, and paused due to the existence of an area of mud. Soil borings were completed and analyzed. It was determined no design changes were needed to ensure structural integrity in consideration of the substrate. The grading has resumed and Sullivan Paving should be able to start work after Labor Day.
- The use and occupancy agreement between New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the Town of Liberty for the Parkville extension is tied with the acquisition process for multiple parcels related to the rerouting of Route 17. The design is complete. The Town declared lead agency for State Environmental Quality Review and wetland survey will be extended to include the whole parcel.
- The Town of Rockland submitted a General Municipal Law 239 review referral for a sake business that would help connect the trail from Rotary Park to the main street. Engineering work is progressing for the adjacent section of trail following a positive response at their public meeting.
- Staff continue to work with the Open Space Institute to help municipalities acquire rights of way to the trail.
- Staff continue to participate in quarterly meetings of the O&W Rail Trail Alliance as well as regular meetings with the engineering firm and partner municipalities.
- The Alliance's BowWO&W dog walking event was held on August 21st at the Dog Patch Park entrance to the trail in Fallsburg. Eighteen dogs posed for photos to be the pin up puppy for next year's event. Voting is underway on the O&W Facebook account.
- The next event is HOWL, a haunted history hike on October 24th at the Hurleyville section of the trail.

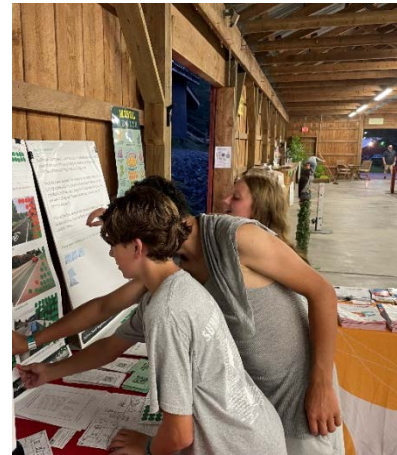


Community Development & Revitalization

• Housing Fund

- As the Legislature has moved forward with the adoption of the framework for a rental rehabilitation and new rental construction program, work has begun to identify potential members of a selection advisory committee, which the Legislature will have to appoint prior to release of the program.

- A full “Notice of Funding Opportunity” is being developed. This document will serve as the notification to potential interested applicants of the availability of funding, as well as the requirements of the programs and any requirements that come with doing business with the County.
- The Legislature will still have to allocate funding to support the program, but this can happen simultaneously with the appointment of the committee members.
- **Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure Master Plan**
 - The plan will focus on
 - Connecting community centers through biking and walking,
 - Identifying safe routes to reduce vehicle trips, and
 - Helping disadvantaged residents overcome transportation barriers.
 - The steering committee is continuing to meet quarterly; and various stakeholder discussions and community outreach has been completed.
 - The community input survey launched on May 1st and Planning staff engaged the public at numerous community events and through social media. Events included the Callicoon Country Fair, Monticello Bagel Festival and the Little World’s Fair.
 - A page on the County website was created to keep people informed on the progress and highlight participation opportunities.



Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan

[Give Us Your Feedback](#)

[Track Our Progress](#)

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Quick Links

+

Planning, Community Development and Environmental Management

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Sullivan County Bike and Pedestrian Master Plan

Connecting people, places and nature

Plan Goals

The Sullivan County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan will focus on connecting residents and visitors to town and village centers through alternative transportation options, including walking, biking and public transit. Alternative transportation refers to travel modes that provide an option beyond motorized vehicles. A key component of this is active transportation, which includes human-powered forms of mobility such as walking, biking, and the use of scooters, skateboards, and electric mobility devices such as e-bikes. These options promote healthier lifestyles, environmental sustainability, and more equitable access to essential destinations.

Administration

- Continued providing significant support to the County's "Catskill Open Access Network" broadband deployment project/Municipal Infrastructure Program (MIP) Grant administration.
- Attended monthly Land Bank meeting.
- Met with Sustainable Bethel to discuss opportunities for collaboration, as well as what assistance the Town may be able to access as a result of recent County initiatives.
- Met with staff from Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Orange County Land Trust to discuss Sullivan County's participation in the Hudson Valley Community Protection Act.
- Met with representatives from NYSEDA to discuss potential community hosts for projects under the Clean Mobility Project initiative.
- Met with members of the Rural Economic Area Partnership (REAP) Board.
- Attended meeting of the Real Property Advisory Committee to participate in a discussion about a parcel of land containing portions of the Harlen Swamp Complex.

II. OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE ENERGY (OSE)

- The Public Service Commission has denied an application for CleanPath NY, a high voltage transmission line to be constructed underground along the Marcy South line, for designation as a Priority Transmission Project.
- OSE staff are following the development of Town Line solar, a utility scale solar and battery storage development in the Towns of Thompson and Forestburgh. The Department of Public Service has established a master matter number which allows staff to track the project through the state review process. We continue to meet with the Town of Thompson and the Town of Forestburgh to coordinate efforts for intervention on the project.
- Staff continue to work toward updating and compiling information for recertification as a Climate Smart Community.
- OSE staff have continued to review monthly utility statements, and to work with New York State Electric and Gas (NYSEG) and Department of Public Works (DPW) staff to resolve ongoing issues with meter readings and monthly billings. We have reached out to correct billing on several accounts and are currently working through a needed correction with regard to billings from the old Jail facility.
- OSE continues to document the County's progress toward reducing energy usage and greenhouse gas emissions while also identifying future clean energy project opportunities. A draft benchmarking report has been compiled for 2024 and is attached to this report.
- The hydroelectric generator at Goodyear Lake is back online and the County has begun to receive credits associated with the electric generation from this plant.

III. PARKS, RECREATION & BEAUTIFICATION

- Callicoon Park: New York State Historic Preservation Office has given a determination on the Cultural Resource Survey completed for the remainder of the park property. We are working with Fisher Associates to complete the required SEQR paperwork.
- Several presentations, which have been a success, were held at the D&H Canal Interpretive Center for the celebration of the 200th Anniversary of the D&H Canal ground breaking. The next upcoming events are History walks along the Canal with Kerron Barnes on September 28th and October 11th. All events are free.
- Park staff have begun building the approximate 3-miles of primitive trail on the West side of Lake Superior State Park. This phase I trail will begin at the Dam Area Park on Dr. Duggan Road and go to Pucky Huddle Road.
- There was a terrific turn out to the annual Commemoration of the Battle of Minisink on July 19, 2025 hosted by The Delaware Company.
- The parks have been busy this summer. The addition of the new canoes to the Lake Superior boat rental fleet has been a great success.
- Have been working with the Grants Department on the submittal of phase II of the NYS Snowmobile Trail Maintenance grant and the NY SWIMS grant.

IV. GRANTS ADMINISTRATION (DGA)

- **Activity/Technical Assistance**
 - **Resource Requests:** DGA received five (5) funding resource inquiries since the end of July. Requests included inquiries related to: home repair and renovation, environmental programming for youth, emergency funding for municipal buildings, not-for-profit utilization of the Statewide Financial System, and general grant information.
 - **Grant Mismanagement Memo:** In the interest of promoting strong grant-related internal controls, DGA routed a memo to Commissioners, Department Heads, and Elected Officials about how to avoid grant mismanagement (Memo is attached).
 - **Best Practices Trainings:** Eight (8) staff received introductory Grants Best Practices Training, and another training is scheduled for August 22nd.
 - **Grant Management 101:** A new internal training, Grants Management 101, has been developed and is under review by County stakeholders, including Audit, Purchasing, Management and Budget, and the County Attorney's Office. This training will be provided to County staff who completed the introduction to Grants Best Practices Training.
 - **Project Planning 101:** Proper project planning is the most critical step related to obtaining grant funding. In an effort to increase the County's capacity to receive grant funding, a Project Planning 101 training module has been developed and is under review.
 - **Federal Funding Advisories:** DGA staff have been closely following developments related to Federal funding:
 - Federal Memorandum: A United States (US) Attorney General Memorandum entitled "Guidance for Recipients of Federal Funding Regarding Unlawful Discrimination" was routed to Commissioners, Department Heads, and Elected Officials this month. Staff were advised to review their Federally-funded grant programs and contact the DGA with questions/concerns (Memorandum is attached).
 - Whitehouse Executive Order: Soon thereafter, the Whitehouse issued an Executive Order, "Improving Oversight of Federal Grantmaking." DGA staff is following this matter closely, staff will be attending a Grant Professionals Association informational webinar related to the issue, and routed a copy of the Executive Order to the County Attorney's Office for review (Executive Order is attached).
 - DGA staff continue to educate themselves related to Federal funding updates and impacts, and have enrolled in informational webinars through the Grant Professionals Association, including the following:
 - Federal Funding Update and Impacts
 - Reframing Federal Grant Narratives to Appeal to the New Administration
 - Federal Grants Key Updates and Developments in the New Administration
 - Fighting Fraud (and What Could Go Wrong)

- **Assistance Provided to County Divisions/Departments**

- *County Clerk*

- The County awaits notification of award or declination for the 2025-2026 Local Government Records Management Improvement (LGRMIF) grant in the amount of \$69,672. DGA staff is on standby to assist with a workplan modification for the 2024-2025 LGRMIF project.

- *Health and Human Services:*

- County Public Health was awarded \$13,400 for the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee Child Passenger Safety Seat program.
 - DASNY Dept. of Social Services Family Visitation Space Upgrade - \$125,000.00 – the funding has been fully approved and a Grant Disbursement Agreement is now fully executed, as such County staff may proceed w/ the project.

- *Information Technology Services (ITS):*

- DGA staff continue to participate in regular meetings and provide support as needed. Staff attended the Payment Processing webinar and noted stringent claiming guidelines, which must be adhered to in order to expedite the reimbursement process. Because this grant is Federally funded, the County should expect thorough fiscal review of all claim submissions and the potential for audit.

- *Planning:*

- New York State Office of Parks and Recreation and Historical Preservation (OPRHP) Snowmobile Grant-in-Aid Phase II application is being prepared for a September submission.
 - Working w/ Parks Director to seek funding for infrastructure work at Fort Delaware.
 - Dormitory Authority State of New York (DASNY) Callicoon Riverside Park - \$125,000.00 – all financial review material requested have been returned to DASNY staff. The State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) process has been initiated, as the County has prepared the request to act as lead agency, with information routed to respective parties. We await the final approval and Grant Disbursement Agreement from DASNY for execution prior to incurring any project costs.

- *Public Safety:*

- County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Support Grant/\$500,000: DGA staff facilitated the modification of the 2024 County Emergency Medical Services (CEMS) Support grant contract and working with County Management to execute the award agreement. Pending fully executed award agreement notification.
 - NY CARES UP: The County received notification that there is an additional \$52,750 in funding available for training initiatives, bringing the total contract value of the program to \$82,750.
 - County submitted for reimbursement for the following programs:
 - FY 22 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Program (DTPGP) in the amount of \$1,700
 - FY 23 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant Program (DTPGP) in the amount of \$5,165.87

- FY 24 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) in the amount of \$155,955
 - FY 24 State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) in the amount of \$4,253.61
- DASNY Broadband / Communication Tower – \$425,000.00 – awaiting information necessary for DASNY review. SEQRA and SHPO in process of being completed on Jeffersonville tower, which will allow for project cost estimates to be developed and subsequent completion of the financial review packet for return to DASNY staff for issuance of a Grant Disbursement Agreement for execution prior to incurring any project costs.
- *Public Works*
 - DGA staff is on standby to provide technical assistance with the New York State Empire State Development (ESD) 2024 County Infrastructure Grant Program (CIGP), funding Ground Power Unit acquisition and infrastructure / beautification efforts at the airport.

V. AGRICULTURE & FARMLAND PROTECTION

- Cornell Cooperative Extension August 2025 Agriculture report attached

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

Technical Assistance/Inquiries: 128 Soil/Hay Tests: 6 Farm Visits: 11

Technical Assistance was provided on land access, ag districts, farmland preservation, Catskills Kitchen (insurance, business structures, permitting & licensing), soil testing, accessing markets, pest and disease control, herbicide/fungicide control, grants and funding, weed identification, Asian jumping worm, native plants, soil testing, tree health – arborist recommendation, garden troubleshooting, tree identification, Japanese barberry, beech leaf disease, invasive species.

40 total Hours of Technical Assistance.

PAST WORKSHOPS

John's Edible Native Garden Tour July 16: 13 people attended. Toured the native edible garden and talked about growing conditions, plant requirements & care, benefits of planting low maintenance natives, preserving natural heritage and supporting wildlife and biodiversity.

Farmer Mixer at Winterton Farms - July 22nd: Attendees visited Winterton Farm, a lavender farm located in Wurtsboro and were able to network and learn farmer wellness strategies.

UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

- Community Preservation Act Workshop - August 6th from 6-8pm
- Berms and Swales: Techniques for Water Management at Unbroken Acres Farm - August 18th from 6-8pm
- Farmer Mixer at Gael Roots Farm - August 19 from 5-7pm
- Invasive Species Workshop: Walking Tour at the Hurleyville Rail Trail - August 27 from 5-6pm
- Farmer Mixer at Angry Orchard - September 8th from 5-7pm
- Soil Health & Management at Bobolink Farm - September 23rd from 5-7pm
- Turning Harvests into Profits: A Value Added Workshop for Farm & Food Businesses with Cornell Food Venture Center - October 1st from 3-5pm.
- Farmer Mixer at Finca Seremos Farm - October 6th from 5-7pm
- Farm Business Management Training Series - October 20th & 27th November 3rd & 10th.
- Pasture Management & Grazing Webinar - October 30th from 6-8pm



FARMLAND PRESERVATION:

Number of Municipal 239 Review's: 2

Ag Assessment, Ag Zoning & Ag District Technical Assistance: 15

2025 Ag District 30 Day Window: A final report has been created for NYS Department of Ag and Markets, with the Legislature set to vote on the resolution to approve the report in August.

County-Wide Farmland Preservation Project (and Report from Orange County Land Trust)

- We are in the processing of developing 3 more workshops for 2025
 - November 13th @ CCE - Farming Training #2: Passing the Torch: Farm Transfer Planning & Legal Pathways
 - December 3rd (Webinar) - Farming Training #3: Protecting Your Legacy: Conservation Easements for Farmers
 - December 8th (Webinar) - Municipal Workshop #3: Planning for Ag Success: Municipal Strategies for Farmland Preservation

In July, the Orange County Land Trust (OCLT), in collaboration with CCE Sullivan County, fielded multiple inquiries from farmers across Sullivan County following the announcement of our joint initiative to promote farmland preservation. OCLT engaged with producers in the Towns of Fallsburg, Delaware, and Bethel to explain the process for submitting their farms for consideration in the upcoming round of New York State Farmland Protection Implementation Grant (FPIG) funding. Farmers were guided through the use of our pre-application form to begin the submission process.

OCLT conducted site visits to 8 farms that may be strong candidates for FPIG consideration. These visits included discussions about past experiences with farmland easements and explored new possibilities for participation in the program. Additionally, we provided application materials to interested landowners and offered support in completing the necessary documentation for FPIG eligibility. To find the pre-application process and to learn more about farmland preservation efforts, visit www.sullivanccce.org/agriculture

To raise public awareness, OCLT participated in a radio interview with Radio Catskill, where they discussed the County's farmland preservation efforts. The segment also introduced the concept of a Community Preservation Fund, which—if enacted—could significantly enhance the competitiveness of Sullivan County municipalities in securing State and Federal grant funding. Listen to the interview here: <https://wjffradio.org/sullivan-county-eyes-community-preservation-act-to-protect-farmland-what-you-need-to-know/>

LAND ACCESS PROGRAM:

CCE Sullivan has received funding through the Farmland for a New Generation NY Direct Support Grant from American Farmland Trust. This grant will strengthen CCE Sullivan's role as a Regional Navigator, expanding outreach, education, and

technical assistance to support farmland access and transition across the County. The funding will help connect farmers with landowners, promote conservation easements, and provide individualized support for succession planning and land tenure. We will also utilize the New York Farmland Finder website—a statewide tool that helps match farmers seeking land with landowners looking to lease, sell, or transfer farmland—to facilitate secure and productive land connections. www.NyFarmlandFinder.org



Sullivan County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Benchmarking Report 2024

Benchmarking helps the County measure progress in improving energy efficiency, deploying renewable energy resources, reducing GHG emissions, and reducing energy costs in County facilities. For 2024, Sullivan County benchmarked 19 County owned buildings that are larger than 1,000 square feet and use energy to heat or cool at least 50% the occupied space, using the EPA’s Portfolio Manager benchmarking software. Unless otherwise noted, the County uses benchmarking data from 2016 as the baseline year against which year-to-year changes in energy use and GHG emissions are measured. For buildings that were constructed or acquired after 2016, the baseline year starts one full year after the date of the building’s full occupancy by the County.

Energy Performance

Sullivan County facilities that have undergone systematic energy efficiency retrofits guided by energy audits continue to perform well with respect to overall reduced energy consumption and operational efficiency. Increased energy use at the landfill correlates with the increased tonnage of municipal solid waste (MSW) delivered to the tipping floor of the facility. Propane use for landfill operations increased by 2,795 gallons and electric consumption increased by 698,075.4 kilowatt hours (kWh).

Emissions Performance

A review of the emissions performance of the county’s building portfolio for 2024 points out two powerful drivers of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in county building operations, the use (or non-use) of fossil fuels to heat our buildings, and sourcing the electricity used to power our buildings from renewable resources.

1. The elimination of #2 fuel oil to heat the Sullivan County International Airport Terminal due to its deconstruction to prepare for the construction of the new terminal and a significant reduction in fuel oil use at the District Attorney’s Office and the Callicoon Storm Station contributed to a decrease in GHG emissions of 33.03 metric tons CO₂e.
2. The hydroelectric station at Goodyear Lake in Cooperstown was offline during 2024 due to turbine repair. Had the system been operational, the renewable generation attributes which flow to the county would have avoided emissions of 1449.0 metric tons of CO₂e.

Additionally, the County owns two small photovoltaic arrays, a pole mount system at the Transportation Building in White Lake and the ground mount array at the Travis Building in Liberty. The electricity generated by these two arrays, and used onsite, avoided 29.98 metric tons of CO₂e. This is the equivalent of avoided emissions from 10.6 tons of municipal solid waste being recycled instead of landfilled.

The change-over from oil heating to air source heat pumps (ASHP) at the SC District Attorney’s offices was completed in November of 2024. 2025 will let us see the full effect of moving this building from #2 fuel oil for heating and chill water for cooling in GHG emission reduction.

Heating and Cooling Degree Days in 2024

Energy consumption and cost savings may vary year to year due to variations in the number of Cooling Degree Days (CDD) and Heating Degree Days (HDD). In 2024, there was no significant disparity of heating and cooling degree days.

Other factors that influence overall building performance

Benchmarking of County buildings demonstrates that energy and GHG data are complex and mutable. In addition to variance in the number of CDD and HDD, year-end fuel deliveries at individual facilities can skew the annual average, since Portfolio Manager automatically books fuel as “consumed” in the year it was delivered. When benchmarking includes efforts to account for the timing of fuel consumption as opposed to the date of delivery, a more accurate annual fuel consumption analysis is possible. For example, the documented consumption of fuel oil at the Government Center in Monticello was reduced by 1,309,799 kBtu (9,431 gallons) in 2023 due to more accurate accounting for timing of consumption based on size and date of deliveries. The County could address this problem further by installing meters at the three County facilities that receive large bulk purchases of fuel oil. This would also allow monthly readings of fuel consumption which would facilitate more granular data on weather normalized fuel consumption.

The 2024 data is shown in 3 tables that compare 2023 and 2024 data:

- Table 1: Energy Performance**
- Table 2: Emissions Performance**
- Table 3: Fuel Performance**

Energy Data Glossary

Btu: A British thermal unit (Btu) is a standard unit of energy, defined as the amount of heat needed to raise the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit. In tracking building energy use, the Btu provides a single unit of measure that allows us to analyze the efficiency of systems that use a variety of fuels.

Energy Star: ENERGY STAR is a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency voluntary program that helps businesses and individuals achieve superior energy efficiency. Energy Star building ratings are based upon 150 separate metrics such as each building’s size, location, the number of occupants, number of computers, and other characteristics, 1 being the worst, 100 being the most efficient.

EUI: Energy Use Intensity (EUI) expresses a building’s energy use as a function of its size and other characteristics. For most property types in Portfolio Manager, the EUI is expressed as energy per square foot per year. It is calculated by dividing the total energy consumed by the building in one year (measured in thousands of British thermal units or kBtu) by the total gross floor area of the building. In general, a low EUI signifies good energy performance. EUI can be calculated on site energy use or source energy use, as explained in the following glossary entries.

GHG (as measured in MTCO2e): There are a number of greenhouse gases (GHG), including carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide and ozone. CO2 equivalent or CO2e, is a unit of measure that allows us to express the impact of each different GHG in terms of the amount of CO2 that would create the same amount of warming. CO2e allows us to express a carbon footprint consisting of different GHGs as a single, consistent number.

Heating and Cooling Degree Days: Degree days measure the amount of heating or cooling necessary at a given property. Degree days are measured relative to a base of 65°F. Above 65°F, it is assumed that the building will need to have cooling, and below 65°F it is assumed that the building will need to have heating. **Heating Degree Days (HDD)** are calculated based upon the number of days a building would have to be heated by 1 degree to accommodate the heating requirement. For example, on a day on which the mean temperature is 55°F degrees, that day is worth 10 Heating Degree Days because it is 10 degrees below 65°F. HDD is calculated in this way for each day of the year and summed up to get the total annual HDD. **Cooling Degree Days (CDD)** are calculated based upon the number of days a building would have to be cooled by 1 degree to accommodate the cooling requirement. For example, on a day on which the mean temperature is 80°F degrees, that day is worth 15 Cooling Degree Days because it is 15 degrees above 65°F. CDD is calculated in this way for each day of the year and summed up to get the total annual CDD. [Mean temperature = (high temperature of a particular day + low temperature of that day) ÷ 2.]

Site Energy Use: Site Energy Use is the annual amount of all the energy a property consumes onsite, as reported on utility bills.

Site EUI: The Site Energy total for one year, as reflected in the building's energy bills, divided by the total square footage of the building, yields a number that represents Site Energy Use Intensity (Site EUI). Site EUI helps building managers understand how the energy use for an individual building changes over time.

Source Energy Use: Source Energy Use represents the total amount of raw fuel that is required to operate the building. It incorporates all production, transmission, delivery, storage, and transport losses for all fuel types. Source Energy Use is the basis for ENERGY STAR's rating system, which converts the consumption of each type of energy into a single common unit (kBtu) and expresses it as a score of 1-100, so that the energy performance of diverse buildings can be compared equitably.

Source EUI: The source energy use total for one year, divided by the total square footage of the building, yields a Source Energy Use Intensity (Source EUI) that provides the most comprehensive measure of a building's energy performance. By taking all energy use into account, the score provides a complete assessment of energy efficiency in a building.

Weather-normalized: Weather normalized metrics are adjusted to account for the actual weather in a given area, such as a hotter than usual summer or a colder than usual winter.

Table 1: Energy Performance 2024
Comparing Years Ending 12/23 with 12/24
Date Downloaded: 06/19/2025 10:56 AM EDT
Date Generated: 06/19/2025 10:55 AM EDT
Number of properties in report: 19
" Not Available" indicates that a fuel or technology is not utilized at a particular facility.

Property Name	Electricity Use - Grid Purchase Change (kBtu)	Electricity Use – Generated from Onsite Renewable Systems and Used Onsite Change (kBtu)	Propane Use Change (kBtu)	Fuel Oil #2 Use Change (kBtu)	Site EUI Change (kBtu/ft²)	Source EUI Change (kBtu/ft²)	National Median Site EUI Change (kBtu/ft²)	National Median Source EUI Change (kBtu/ft²)	Green Power - Onsite and Offsite Change (kWh)	Avoided Emissions - Onsite and Offsite Green Power Change (Metric Tons CO2e)
Sullivan County Government Center	163911.2	Not Available	Not Available	-1605906.3	-12.8	-10.3	-9.2	1.6	-1080851.8	-452.35
Emergency Services Training Facility	9700.3	Not Available	-134356.8	Not Available	-11.9	-10.4	-8.6	0	0	0
Transportation Facility	10543.1	4732.5	-84640	Not Available	-6.1	-4.5	1.4	5.3	1387	0.58
Sullivan County Courthouse	-6748.9	Not Available	Not Available	-56718	-2	-2.3	0	1.6	-447900	-187.45
Human Services Complex (Liberty)	12871	10444.1	20515.9	577488.8	3.6	3.7	1.1	0	-2335229	-1088.32
Barryville Maintenance Shops	-49132.2	Not Available	-6283.6	208932.1	5.8	2.5	3.7	0	0	0
Callicoon Storm Station	-109692.4	Not Available	Not Available	-15649.2	-19.4	-50.2	5.4	0	-20457.7	-8.56
DPW Maplewood Facility	1282.9	Not Available	991484	206034	25.2	25.4	8.4	0	0	0
Livingston Manor Storm Station	-13641.9	Not Available	Not Available	5382	-3.9	-15.5	1.8	0	-31675	-13.26
Sullivan County International Airport	-105371.7	Not Available	6716	-607569	-10.6	-13.6	-7.3	0	-103789.3	-43.44
Landfill	34283.7	Not Available	379481.6	Not Available	5.8	6.6	3	0	0	0
Rockland Transfer Station	4940.6	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	3	8.3	0	0	0	0
Ferndale Transfer Station	-5169.1	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	-0.7	-2	0	0	0	0
Highland Transfer Station	-7053.6	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	-1.8	-5.1	0	0	0	0
Mamakating Transfer Station	29640.1	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	5.8	16.4	0	0	0	0
D&H Linear Park Museum Interpretive Center	-120.5	Not Available	-17480	Not Available	-6.8	-7	-7.5	0	0	0
Hurleyville Cultural Center	-17513.7	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	-1.1	-3	0	0	0	0
Sullivan County Public Safety	83467.8	Not Available	-92368	Not Available	-0.1	0.9	-0.5	0	-1937206	-810.74
Sullivan County District Attorney	9454.6	Not Available	Not Available	-68310	-5.9	-4.2	-4.7	1.6	0	0

Table 2: Emissions Performance 2024

Date Downloaded: 06/19/2025 12:18 PM EDT

Date Generated: 06/19/2025 10:56 AM EDT

Number of properties in report: 19

Comparing Year Ending: 12/2023 with 12/2024

"Not Available" means that a fuel type or technology is not available at a facility.

Property Name	Total (Location-Based) GHG Emissions Change (Metric Tons CO2e)	Total (Location-Based) GHG Emissions Intensity Change (kgCO2e/ft²)	Direct GHG Emissions Change (Metric Tons CO2e)	Direct GHG Emissions Intensity Change (kgCO2e/ft²)	Indirect (Location-Based) GHG Emissions Change (Metric Tons CO2e)	Indirect (Location-Based) GHG Emissions Intensity Change (kgCO2e/ft²)	Avoided Emissions - Onsite and Offsite Green Power Change (Metric Tons CO2e)
Sullivan County Government Center	-113.16	-1	-119.16	-1.06	6	0.05	-452.35
Emergency Services Training Facility	-7.97	-0.76	-8.33	-0.79	0.35	0.04	0
Transportation Facility	-4.86	-0.43	-5.24	-0.46	0.39	0.03	0.58
Sullivan County Courthouse	-4.46	-0.14	-4.21	-0.13	-0.25	-0.01	-187.45
Human Services Complex (Liberty)	44.59	0.26	44.12	0.26	0.47	0	-1088.32
Barryville Maintenance Shops	13.32	0.5	15.11	0.57	-1.8	-0.07	0
Callicoon Storm Station - RT. 97	-5.18	-0.8	-1.16	-0.18	-4.02	-0.63	-8.56
DPW Maplewood Facility	76.76	1.61	76.71	1.61	0.05	0	0
Livingston Manor Storm Station	-0.1	-0.04	0.4	0.19	-0.5	-0.23	-13.26
Sullivan County International Airport	-46.77	-0.73	-42.9	-0.67	-3.86	-0.06	-43.44
Landfill	24.77	0.34	23.51	0.33	1.25	0.02	0
Rockland Transfer Station	0.18	0.11	0	0	0.18	0.11	0
Ferndale Transfer Station	-0.19	-0.03	0	0	-0.19	-0.03	0
Highland Transfer Station	-0.25	-0.07	0	0	-0.25	-0.07	0
Mamakating Transfer Station	1.08	0.22	0	0	1.08	0.22	0
D&H Linear Park Museum Interpretive Center	-1.09	-0.42	-1.09	-0.42	-0.01	0	0
Hurleyville Cultural Center	-0.64	-0.04	0	0	-0.64	-0.04	0
Sullivan County Public Safety	-2.66	-0.02	-5.72	-0.03	3.06	0.02	-810.74
Sullivan County District Attorney	-4.72	-0.47	-5.07	-0.51	0.35	0.03	0

Table3: Fuel Performance 2024
Comparing Year Ending 12/2023 with 12/31/2024

Date Downloaded: 06/18/2025 09:38 AM EDT

Date Generated: 06/18/2025 09:24 AM EDT

Number of properties in report: 19

"Not Available " means that a fuel source is not used at a particular facility

Property Name	Electricity Use - Grid Purchase Change (kWh)	Fuel Oil #2 Use Change (kBtu)	Propane Use Change (kBtu)	Site Energy Use Change (kBtu)	Fuel Oil (No. 2) Cost Change (\$)	Propane Cost Change (\$)	Electricity (Grid Purchase) Cost Change (\$)	Energy Cost Intensity Change (\$/ft²)	Energy Cost Change (\$)
Sullivan County Government Center	48039.7	-1605906.3	Not Available	-1441995.1	-44874.18	Not Available	19584.17	-0.22	-25290.01
Emergency Services Training Facility	2843	Not Available	-134356.8	-124656.6	Not Available	-2342.11	538.07	-0.17	-1804.04
Transportation Facility	3090	Not Available	-84640	-69364.4	Not Available	-926.48	849.27	-0.01	-32.21
Sullivan County Courthouse	-1978	-56718	Not Available	-63466.9	-2414.85	Not Available	8627.1	0.19	6212.25
Human Services Complex (Liberty)	3772.2	577488.8	20515.9	621319.7	166349.37	203.68	31240.95	1.14	197794.01
Barryville Maintenance Shops	-14399.8	208932.1	-6283.6	153516.3	2221.68	143.72	-938.93	0.06	1426.47
Callicoon Storm Station - RT. 97	-32149	-15649.2	Not Available	-125341.6	-479.74	Not Available	-1526.84	-0.32	-2006.58
DPW Maplewood Facility	376	206034	991484	1198800.9	3997.96	14464.87	4368.75	0.47	22831.58
Livingston Manor Storm Station	-3998.2	5382	Not Available	-8259.9	-211.76	Not Available	-229.52	-0.21	-441.28
Sullivan County International Airport	-30882.7	-654745	6716	-682478.5	Not Available	298.81	-117172.45	-2.02	-130043.44
Landfill	10048	Not Available	379481.6	413765.2	Not Available	6195.37	2003.35	0.11	8198.93
Rockland Transfer Station	1448	Not Available	Not Available	4940.6	Not Available	Not Available	-78.22	-0.05	-78.22
Ferndale Transfer Station	-1515	Not Available	Not Available	-5169.1	Not Available	Not Available	276.06	0.03	276.06
Highland Transfer Station	-2067.3	Not Available	Not Available	-7053.6	Not Available	Not Available	-223.39	-0.06	-223.39
Mamakating Transfer Station	8687	Not Available	Not Available	29640.1	Not Available	Not Available	2735.03	0.54	2735.03
D&H Linear Park Museum Interpretive Center	-35.3	Not Available	-17480	-17600.5	Not Available	-253.66	177.71	-0.03	-75.95
Hurleyville Cultural Center	-5133	Not Available	Not Available	-17513.7	Not Available	Not Available	3568.35	0.222	3568.35
Sullivan County Public Safety	24463	Not Available	-92368	-8900.2	Not Available	4719.19	39382.43	0.28	44101.62
Sullivan County District Attorney	2771	-68310	Not Available	-58855.3	-1569.42	Not Available	1760.81	0.02	191.39

PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

IMPROVING OVERSIGHT OF FEDERAL GRANTMAKING

Executive Orders

August 7, 2025

By the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, and to improve the process of Federal grantmaking while ending offensive waste of tax dollars, it is hereby ordered:

Section 1. Purpose. Every tax dollar the Government spends should improve American lives or advance American interests. This often does not happen. Federal grants have funded drag shows in Ecuador, trained doctoral candidates in critical race theory, and developed transgender-sexual-education programs. In 2024, one study claimed that more than one-quarter of new National Science Foundation (NSF) grants went to diversity, equity, and inclusion and other far-left initiatives. These NSF grants included those to educators that promoted Marxism, class warfare propaganda, and other anti-American ideologies in the classroom, masked as rigorous and thoughtful investigation.

The harm imposed by problematic Federal grants does not stop at propagating absurd ideologies. An unsafe lab in Wuhan, China — likely the source of the COVID-19 pandemic — engaged in gain-of-function research funded by the National Institutes of Health. The NSF gave millions to develop AI-powered social media censorship tools — a direct assault on free speech. Taxpayer-funded grants have also gone to non-governmental organizations that provided free services to illegal immigrants, worsening the border crisis and compromising our safety, and to organizations that actively worked against American interests abroad. Even for projects receiving Federal funds that serve an ostensibly beneficial purpose, the Government has paid insufficient attention to their efficacy. For example, a significant proportion of the results of federally funded scientific research projects cannot be reproduced by external researchers. Even at Harvard and Stanford, once considered among America's most prestigious universities, senior researchers have resigned following accusations of data falsification. A substantial portion of many Federal grants for university-led research goes not to scientific project applicants or groundbreaking research, but to university facilities and administrative costs.

The grant review process itself also undermines the interests of American taxpayers. Writing effective grant applications is notoriously complex, and grant applicants that can afford legal and technical experts are more likely to receive funds — which can then further support these non-mission functions. In addition, there is insufficient interagency coordination and review by relevant subject matter experts to reduce duplication. As a result, the best proposals do not always receive funding, and there is too much unfocused research of marginal social utility.

In short, there is a strong need to strengthen oversight and coordination of, and to streamline, agency grantmaking to address these problems, prevent them from recurring, and ensure

greater accountability for use of public funds more broadly. The Government holds tax revenue in trust for the American people, and agencies should treat it accordingly.

Sec. 2. Definitions. For purposes of this order:

(a) The term “agency” has the meaning given to it in section 551 of title 5, United States Code, except that such term includes only agencies that have the statutory authority to award, offer, or manage Federal grants and does not include the Executive Office of the President or any components thereof.

(b) The term “agency head” means the highest-ranking official or officials of an agency, such as the Secretary, Administrator, Chairman, Director, Commissioners, or Board of Directors, unless otherwise specified in this order.

(c) The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

(d) The term “discretionary award” or “discretionary grant” means a grant that is a “discretionary award” as that term is defined in 2 CFR 200.1. It does not include programs where legislation establishes an entitlement to the funds on the part of the recipient, such as block grants; those awarded based on a statutory formula; or disaster recovery grants.

(e) The term “funding opportunity announcement” means a “notice of funding opportunity” as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, as it pertains to a discretionary award.

(f) The term “grant” means any “grant agreement or grant” as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, “cooperative agreement” as defined in 2 CFR 200.1, or similar award of financial assistance, including foreign assistance awards.

(g) The term “regulation” means an agency statement of general or particular applicability and future effect designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe law or policy or describing the procedure or practice requirements of an agency, including, without limitation, regulations, interpretative rules, and statements of policy.

(h) The term “senior appointee” means an individual appointed by the President, a non-career member of the Senior Executive Service, or an employee encumbering a Senior Level, Scientific and Professional, or Grade 15 position in Schedule C of the excepted service.

Sec. 3. Strengthening Accountability for Agency Grantmaking. (a) Each agency head shall promptly designate a senior appointee who shall be responsible for creating a process to review new funding opportunity announcements and to review discretionary grants to ensure that they are consistent with agency priorities and the national interest. For the avoidance of doubt, this process shall not guarantee any particular level of review or consideration to funding applicants except as consistent with applicable law. As consistent with applicable law, this review process shall incorporate, at a minimum:

- (i) review and approval of agency funding opportunity announcements by one or more senior appointees or their designees;
- (ii) continuation of existing coordination with OMB;
- (iii) to the extent appropriate to the subject matter of the announcements, review by designated subject-matter experts as identified by the agency head or the agency head’s designee;
- (iv) review of funding opportunity announcements and related forms to ensure that they include only such requirements as are necessary for an adequate evaluation of the application and are written in plain language with a goal of minimizing the need for legal or technical expertise in drafting an application;
- (v) interagency coordination to determine whether the subject matter of a particular funding opportunity announcement has already been addressed by another agency announcement and, if so, whether one of the announcements should be modified or withdrawn to promote consistency and eliminate redundancy;

(vi) for scientific research discretionary grants, review by at least one subject matter expert in the field of the application, who may be a member of the grant review panel, the program officer, or an outside expert; and

(vii) pre-issuance review of discretionary awards to ensure that the awards are consistent with applicable law, agency priorities, and the national interest, which shall involve in-person or virtual discussion of applications by grant review panels or program offices with a senior appointee or that appointee's designee.

(b) Agency heads shall designate one or more senior appointees to review discretionary awards on an annual basis for consistency with agency priorities and substantial progress.

Such review shall include an accountability mechanism for officials responsible for selection and granting of the awards.

(c) Until such time as the process specified in subsection (a) of this section is in place, agencies shall not issue any new funding opportunity announcements without prior approval from the senior appointee designated under subsection (a) of this section, except as required by law.

Sec. 4. Considerations for Discretionary Awards. (a) Senior appointees and their designees shall not ministerially ratify or routinely defer to the recommendations of others in reviewing funding opportunity announcements or discretionary awards, but shall instead use their independent judgment.

(b) In reviewing and approving funding opportunity announcements and discretionary awards, as well as in designing the review process described in section 3(a) of this order, senior appointees and their designees shall, as relevant and to the extent consistent with applicable law, apply the following principles, including in any scoring rubrics used to assess grant proposals:

- (i) Discretionary awards must, where applicable, demonstrably advance the President's policy priorities.
- (ii) Discretionary awards shall not be used to fund, promote, encourage, subsidize, or facilitate:
 - (A) racial preferences or other forms of racial discrimination by the grant recipient, including activities where race or intentional proxies for race will be used as a selection criterion for employment or program participation;
 - (B) denial by the grant recipient of the sex binary in humans or the notion that sex is a chosen or mutable characteristic;
 - (C) illegal immigration; or
 - (D) any other initiatives that compromise public safety or promote anti-American values.
- (iii) All else being equal, preference for discretionary awards should be given to institutions with lower indirect cost rates.
- (iv) Discretionary grants should be given to a broad range of recipients rather than to a select group of repeat players. Research grants should be awarded to a mix of recipients likely to produce immediately demonstrable results and recipients with the potential for potentially longer-term, breakthrough results, in a manner consistent with the funding opportunity announcement.
- (v) Applicants should commit to complying with administration policies, procedures, and guidance respecting Gold Standard Science.
- (vi) Discretionary awards should include clear benchmarks for measuring success and progress towards relevant goals and, as relevant for awards pertaining to scientific research, a commitment to achieving Gold Standard Science.
- (vii) To the extent institutional affiliation is considered in making discretionary awards, agencies should prioritize an institution's commitment to rigorous, reproducible scholarship

over its historical reputation or perceived prestige. As to science grants, agencies should prioritize institutions that have demonstrated success in implementing Gold Standard Science.

(c) Nothing in this order shall be construed to discourage or prevent the use of peer review methods to evaluate proposals for discretionary awards or otherwise inform agency decision making, provided that peer review recommendations remain advisory and are not ministerially ratified, routinely deferred to, or otherwise treated as de facto binding by senior appointees or their designees. Further, nothing in this order shall be construed to create any rights to any particular level of review or consideration for any funding applicant except as consistent with applicable law.

Sec. 5. Revisions to the Uniform Guidance. (a) The Director shall revise the Uniform Guidance and other relevant guidance to streamline application requirements and to further clarify and require all discretionary grants to permit termination for convenience, including when the award no longer advances agency priorities or the national interest, but subject to appropriate exceptions, including agreements entered into in furtherance of international trade agreements or those awarded by the Department of Commerce under title XCIX of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law 116-283), the CHIPS Act of 2022 (Public Law 117-167), or division F of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

(b) The Director shall further revise the Uniform Guidance and other relevant guidance to appropriately limit the use of discretionary grant funds for costs related to facilities and administration.

Sec. 6. Implementation and Termination Clauses. (a) Within 30 days of the date of this order, each agency head shall review the agency's standard grant terms and conditions and submit a report to the Director detailing:

(i) whether the agency's standard terms and conditions for discretionary awards permit termination for convenience and include the termination provisions described in 2 CFR 200.340(a), including the provisions that an award may be terminated by the agency "if an award no longer effectuates the program goals or agency priorities" or, in the case of a partial termination by the recipient, if the agency "determines that the remaining portion of the Federal award will not accomplish the purposes for which the Federal award was made";

(ii) whether the agency's standard terms and conditions for discretionary foreign assistance awards permit termination based on the national interest; and

(iii) the approximate number of active discretionary awards at the agency, as well as the approximate percentage of funding obligated under those awards that contains termination provisions allowing for termination under the circumstances described in subsection (i) of this section.

(b) Each agency head shall, to the maximum extent permitted by law and consistent with relevant Executive Orders or other Presidential directives, take steps to revise the terms and conditions of existing discretionary grants to permit immediate termination for convenience, or clarify that such termination is permitted, including if the award no longer advances agency priorities or the national interest. Each agency head shall ensure that such terms are included in all future discretionary grants and likewise shall take steps to revise all applicable regulations binding on or incorporated in discretionary grant terms and conditions to require such terms. Agency heads shall take action to incorporate these new terms and conditions into all future amendments to grant awards.

(c) To the extent practicable and consistent with applicable law, agency heads shall insert in future discretionary grant agreements terms and conditions that:

(i) prohibit recipients from directly drawing down general grant funds for specific projects without the affirmative authorization of the agency; and

(ii) require grantees to provide written explanations or support, with specificity, for requests for each drawdown.

Sec. 7. General Provisions. (a) Nothing in this order shall be construed to impair or otherwise affect:

(i) the authority granted by law to an executive department or agency, or the head thereof; or

(ii) the functions of the Director of the Office of Management and Budget relating to budgetary, administrative, or legislative proposals.

(b) This order shall be implemented consistent with applicable law and subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) This order is not intended to, and does not, create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

(d) If any provision of this order, or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the remainder of this order and the application of its provisions to any other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

(e) The costs for publication of this order shall be borne by the Office of Management and Budget.

DONALD J. TRUMP

THE WHITE HOUSE,

August 7, 2025.

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Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D. C. 20530

July 29, 2025

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL FEDERAL AGENCIES

FROM:

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JD", is written over the words "THE ATTORNEY GENERAL".

SUBJECT:

GUIDANCE FOR RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL FUNDING
REGARDING UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION

I. INTRODUCTION

One of our Nation's bedrock principles is that all Americans must be treated equally. Not only is discrimination based on protected characteristics illegal under federal law, but it is also dangerous, demeaning, and immoral. Yet in recent years, the federal government has turned a blind eye toward, or even encouraged, various discriminatory practices, seemingly because of their purportedly benign labels, objectives, or intentions. No longer. Going forward, the federal government will not stand by while recipients of federal funds engage in discrimination.

This guidance clarifies the application of federal antidiscrimination laws to programs or initiatives that may involve discriminatory practices, including those labeled as Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ("DEI") programs.¹ Entities receiving federal funds, like all other entities subject to federal antidiscrimination laws, must ensure that their programs and activities comply with federal law and do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or other protected characteristics—no matter the program's labels, objectives, or intentions. In furtherance of that requirement, this guidance identifies "Best Practices" as non-binding suggestions to help entities comply with federal antidiscrimination laws and avoid legal pitfalls; these are not mandatory requirements but rather practical recommendations to minimize the risk of violations.

Entities that receive federal financial assistance or that are otherwise subject to federal anti-discrimination laws, including educational institutions, state and local governments, and public and private employers, should review this guidance carefully to ensure all programs comply with their legal obligations.

¹ DEI programs go by other names as well, such as Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility ("DEIA") and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging ("DEIB").

II. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This guidance emphasizes the significant legal risks of initiatives that involve discrimination based on protected characteristics and provides non-binding best practices to help entities avoid the risk of violations. Key points include:

- **Statutory nondiscrimination requirements:** Federal law prohibits discrimination based on protected characteristics like race, sex, color, national origin, or religion.
- **Legal pitfalls of DEI Programs:** The use of terms such as “DEI,” “Equity,” or other euphemistic terms does not excuse unlawful discrimination or absolve parties from scrutiny regarding potential violations.
- **Prohibition on Protected Characteristics as Criteria:** Using race, sex, or other protected characteristics for employment, program participation, resource allocation, or other similar activities, opportunities, or benefits, is unlawful, except in rare cases where such discrimination satisfies the relevant level of judicial scrutiny.
- **Importance of Sex-Separated Intimate Spaces and Athletic Competitions:** Compelling employees to share intimate spaces with the opposite sex or allowing men to compete in women’s athletic competitions would typically be unlawful.
- **Unlawful Proxy Discrimination:** Facially neutral criteria (e.g., “cultural competence,” “lived experience,” geographic targeting) that function as proxies for protected characteristics violate federal law if designed or applied with the intention of advantaging or disadvantaging individuals based on protected characteristics.
- **Scrutiny of Third-Party Funding:** Recipients of federal funds should ensure federal funds do not support third-party programs that discriminate.
- **Protection Against Retaliation:** Individuals who object to or refuse to participate in discriminatory programs, trainings, or policies are protected from adverse actions like termination or exclusion based on that individual’s opposition to those practices.²

III. KEY FEDERAL ANTIDISCRIMINATION PROVISIONS AND LAW

Federal antidiscrimination laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics, including race, color, religion, sex, and national origin. The U.S. Supreme Court has consistently held that policies or practices based upon protected characteristics are subject to

² Unlawful retaliation occurs when a federally funded entity takes adverse actions against employees, participants, or beneficiaries because they engage in protected activities related to opposing DEI practices they reasonably believe violate federal antidiscrimination laws.

rigorous judicial scrutiny. Race-based classifications are subject to strict scrutiny, requiring a compelling governmental interest and narrowly tailored means to achieve that interest.³ Sex-based classifications are subject to heightened scrutiny, requiring an exceedingly persuasive justification and substantial relation to an important governmental objective.⁴ Discrimination based on other protected characteristics, such as religion, is also evaluated under analogous standards.⁵ Entities receiving federal funds must comply with applicable civil rights laws, including:

- **Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964:** Prohibits discrimination based on race, color, or national origin in any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. This includes most educational institutions, healthcare providers, and state and local government agencies.
- **Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964:** Prohibits employment discrimination based on, or motivated by, race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, in any terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, including hiring, promotion, demotion, termination, compensation, job transfers, training, or access to employment privileges and benefits.
- **Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972:** Prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance. Title IX protections extend beyond athletics and include addressing sexual harassment, sex-based harassment, admissions policies, and equal access to resources and programs.

³ See, e.g., *Students for Fair Admissions, Inc. v. Harvard*, 600 U.S. 181, 214 (2023) (holding racial classifications by public institutions are subject to strict scrutiny and racial classifications by private institutions can serve as basis for revoking funding under Title VI); *Ricci v. DeStefano*, 557 U.S. 557, 579 (2009) (“[E]xpress, race-based decision-making violates Title VII’s command that employers cannot take adverse employment actions because of an individual’s race.”); see also *Vitolo v. Guzman*, 999 F.3d 353, 361 (6th Cir. 2021) (holding grant program with race and sex preferences is unlawful under Equal Protection Clause).

⁴ See, e.g., *United States v. Virginia*, 518 U.S. 515, 531 (1996).

⁵ See, e.g., *Espinoza v. Montana Dep’t of Revenue*, 591 U.S. 464, 479 (2020) (“The Free Exercise Clause, which applies to the States under the Fourteenth Amendment, protects religious observers against unequal treatment and against laws that impose special disabilities on the basis of religious status [S]trict scrutiny applies . . . because Montana’s no-aid provision discriminates based on religious status”); *Shapiro v. Thompson*, 394 U.S. 618, 631 (1969) (holding discriminating against individual for exercising fundamental constitutional rights is subject to heightened scrutiny), *overruled on other grounds by Edelman v. Jordan*, 415 U.S. 651 (1974); see also *Church of Lukumi Babalu Aye, Inc. v. City of Hialeah*, 508 U.S. 520, 540 (1993) (relying on Equal Protection principles in holding intentional discrimination against exercise of religion is subject to strict scrutiny).

- **Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment:** Prohibits States from denying any person the equal protection of the laws, relevant in the context of discrimination claims involving state or local government actions.

IV. UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATORY POLICIES AND PRACTICES

The following is a non-exhaustive list of unlawful practices that could result in revocation of grant funding. Federal funding recipients may also be liable for discrimination if they knowingly fund the unlawful practices of contractors, grantees, and other third parties.

A. Granting Preferential Treatment Based on Protected Characteristics

1. What Constitutes Unlawful Preferential Treatment?

Preferential treatment occurs when a federally funded entity provides opportunities, benefits, or advantages to individuals or groups based on protected characteristics in a way that disadvantages other qualified persons, including such practices portrayed as “preferential” to certain groups. Such practices violate federal law unless they meet very narrow exceptions.

2. Examples of Unlawful Practices

Race-Based Scholarships or Programs: A university’s DEI program establishes a scholarship fund exclusively for students of a specific racial group (e.g., “Black Student Excellence Scholarship”) and excludes otherwise qualified applicants of other races, even if they meet academic or financial need criteria. This extends to any race-exclusive opportunities, such as internships, mentorship programs, or leadership initiatives that reserve spots for specific racial groups, regardless of intent to promote diversity. Such race-exclusive programs violate federal civil rights law by discriminating against individuals based solely on their race or treating people differently based on a protected characteristic without meeting the strict legal standards required for race-conscious programs.

Preferential Hiring or Promotion Practices: A federally funded entity’s DEI policy prioritizes candidates from “underrepresented groups” for admission, hiring, or promotion, bypassing qualified candidates who do not belong to those groups, where the preferred “underrepresented groups” are determined on the basis of a protected characteristic like race.

Access to Facilities or Resources Based on Race or Ethnicity: A university’s DEI initiative designates a “safe space” or lounge exclusively for students of a specific racial or ethnic group.

B. Prohibited Use of Proxies for Protected Characteristics

1. What Constitutes Unlawful Proxies?

Unlawful proxies occur when a federally funded entity intentionally uses ostensibly neutral criteria that function as substitutes for explicit consideration of race, sex, or other protected characteristics. While these criteria may appear facially neutral, they become legally problematic under any of the following circumstances:

- They are selected because they correlate with, replicate, or are used as substitutes for protected characteristics.
- They are implemented with the intent to advantage or disadvantage individuals based on protected characteristics.

2. Examples of Potentially Unlawful Proxies

“Cultural Competence” Requirements: A federally funded university requires job applicants to demonstrate “cultural competence,” “lived experience,” or “cross-cultural skills” in ways that effectively evaluate candidates’ racial or ethnic backgrounds rather than objective qualifications. This includes selection criteria that advantage candidates who have experiences the employer associates with certain racial groups. For instance, requiring faculty candidates to describe how their “cultural background informs their teaching” may function as a proxy if used to evaluate candidates based on race or ethnicity.

Geographic or Institutional Targeting: A federally funded organization implements recruitment strategies targeting specific geographic areas, institutions, or organizations chosen primarily because of their racial or ethnic composition rather than other legitimate factors.

“Overcoming Obstacles” Narratives or “Diversity Statements”: A federally funded program requires applicants to describe “obstacles they have overcome” or submit a “diversity statement” in a manner that advantages those who discuss experiences intrinsically tied to protected characteristics, using the narrative as a proxy for advantaging that protected characteristic in providing benefits.

C. Segregation Based on Protected Characteristics

1. What Constitutes Unlawful Segregation?

Segregation based on protected characteristics occurs when a federally funded entity organizes programs, activities, or resources—such as training sessions—in a way that separates or restricts access based on race, sex, or other protected characteristics. Such practices generally violate federal law by creating unequal treatment or reinforcing stereotypes, regardless of the stated goal (e.g., promoting inclusion or addressing historical inequities). Exceptions are narrow

and include only cases where federal law expressly permits race-based remedies for specific, documented acts of past discrimination by the institution itself, or in specialized contexts such as correctional facilities where courts have recognized compelling institutional interests.

While compelled segregation is generally impermissible, failing to maintain sex-separated athletic competitions and intimate spaces can also violate federal law. Federally funded institutions that allow males, including those self-identifying as “women,” to access single-sex spaces designed for females—such as bathrooms, showers, locker rooms, or dormitories—undermine the privacy, safety, and equal opportunity of women and girls. Likewise, permitting males to compete in women’s athletic events almost invariably denies women equal opportunity by eroding competitive fairness. These policies risk creating a hostile environment under Title VII, particularly where they compromise women’s privacy, safety, or professional standing, and can violate Title IX by denying women access to the full scope of sex-based protections in education. To ensure compliance with federal law and to safeguard the rights of women and girls, organizations should affirm sex-based boundaries rooted in biological differences.

2. Examples of Unlawful Practices

Race-Based Training Sessions: A federally funded university hosts a DEI training program that requires participants to separate into race-based groups (e.g., “Black Faculty Caucus” or “White Ally Group”) for discussions, prohibiting individuals of other races from participating in specific sessions. In contrast, a “Faculty Academic Support Network” open to all faculty interested in promoting student success avoids reliance on protected characteristics and complies with federal law.

Segregation in Facilities or Resources: A college receiving federal funds designates a “BIPOC-only study lounge,” facially discouraging access by students of other races. Even if access is technically open to all, the identity-based focus creates a perception of segregation and may foster a hostile environment. This extends to any resource allocation—such as study spaces, computer labs, or event venues—that segregates access based on protected characteristics, even if intended to create “safe spaces.” This does not apply to facilities that are single-sex based on biological sex to protect privacy or safety, such as restrooms, showers, locker rooms, or lodging.

Implicit Segregation Through Program Eligibility: A federally funded community organization hosts a DEI-focused workshop series that requires participants to identify with a specific racial or ethnic group (e.g., “for underrepresented minorities only”) or mandates sex-specific eligibility, effectively excluding others who meet objective program criteria. Use of Protected Characteristics in Candidate Selection

3. What Constitutes Unlawful Use of Protected Characteristics?

Unlawful use of protected characteristics occurs when a federally funded entity or program considers race, sex, or any other protected trait as a basis for selecting candidates for employment

(e.g., hiring, promotions), contracts (e.g., vendor agreements), or program participation (e.g., internships, admissions, scholarships, training). This includes policies that explicitly mandate representation of specific groups in candidate pools or implicitly prioritize protected characteristics through selection criteria, such as “diverse slate” requirements, diversity decision-making panels, or diversity-focused evaluations. It also includes requirements that contracting entities utilize a specific level of working hours from individuals of certain protected characteristics to complete the contract. Such practices violate federal law by creating unequal treatment or disadvantaging otherwise qualified candidates, regardless of any intent to advance diversity goals.

4. Examples of Unlawful Practices

Race-Based “Diverse Slate” Policies in Hiring: A federally funded research institute adopts a policy requiring that all interview slates for faculty positions include a minimum number of candidates from specific racial groups (e.g., at least two “underrepresented minority” candidates), rejecting otherwise qualified candidates who do not meet this racial criterion. This extends to any policy that sets racial benchmarks or mandates demographic representation in candidate pools, such as requiring a certain percentage of finalists to be from “diverse” backgrounds.

Sex-Based Selection for Contracts: A federally funded state agency implements a DEI policy that prioritizes awarding contracts to women-owned businesses, automatically advancing female vendors or minority-owned businesses over equally or more qualified businesses without preferred group status. This includes any contract selection process that uses sex or race as a tiebreaker or primary criterion, such as policies favoring “minority- or women-owned” businesses without satisfying the appropriate level of judicial scrutiny.

Race- or Sex-Based Program Participation: A federally funded university’s internship program requires that 50% of selected participants be from “underrepresented racial groups” or female students, rejecting equally or more qualified applicants who do not meet these demographic criteria. This extends to any program—such as scholarships, fellowships, or leadership initiatives—that uses race, sex, or any other protected characteristic as a selection criterion, even if framed as addressing underrepresentation.

D. Training Programs That Promote Discrimination or Hostile Environments

1. What Constitutes Unlawful DEI Training Programs?

Unlawful DEI training programs are those that—through their content, structure, or implementation—stereotype, exclude, or disadvantage individuals based on protected characteristics or create a hostile environment. This includes training that:

- Excludes or penalizes individuals based on protected characteristics.

- Creates an objectively hostile environment through severe or pervasive use of presentations, videos, and other workplace training materials that single out, demean, or stereotype individuals based on protected characteristics.

2. Examples of Unlawful Practices

Trainings That Promote Discrimination Based on Protected Characteristics: A federally funded school district requires teachers to complete a DEI training that includes statements stereotyping individuals based on protected characteristics—such as “all white people are inherently privileged,” “toxic masculinity,” etc. Such trainings may violate Title VI or Title VII if they create a hostile environment or impose penalties for dissent in ways that result in discriminatory treatment.⁶

E. Recommendations on Best Practices

Ensure Inclusive Access: All workplace programs, activities, and resources should be open to all qualified individuals, regardless of race, sex, or other protected characteristics. Avoid organizing groups or sessions that exclude participants based on protected traits. Some sex separation is necessary where biological differences implicate privacy, safety, or athletic opportunity.

Focus on Skills and Qualifications: Base selection decisions on specific, measurable skills and qualifications directly related to job performance or program participation. For example, rather than asking about “cultural competence,” assess specific skills such as language proficiency or relevant educational credentials. Criteria like socioeconomic status, first-generation status, or geographic diversity must not be used if selected to prioritize individuals based on racial, sex-based, or other protected characteristics.

Prohibit Demographic-Driven Criteria: Discontinue any program or policy designed to achieve discriminatory outcomes, even those using facially neutral means. Intent to influence demographic representation risks violating federal law. For example, a scholarship program must not target “underserved geographic areas” or “first-generation students” if the criteria are chosen to increase participation by specific racial or sex-based groups. Instead, use universally applicable criteria, such as academic merit or financial hardship, applied without regard to protected characteristics or demographic goals.

Document Legitimate Rationales: If using criteria in hiring, promotions, or selecting contracts that might correlate with protected characteristics, document clear, legitimate rationales unrelated to race, sex, or other protected characteristics. Ensure these rationales are consistently applied and are demonstrably related to legitimate, nondiscriminatory institutional objectives.

Scrutinize Neutral Criteria for Proxy Effects: Before implementing facially neutral criteria, rigorously evaluate and document whether they are proxies for race, sex, or other protected

⁶ Federal law allows for workplace harassment trainings that are focused on preventing unlawful workplace discrimination and that do not single out particular groups as inherently racist or sexist.

characteristics. For instance, a program targeting “low-income students” must be applied uniformly without targeting areas or populations to achieve racial or sex-based outcomes.

Eliminate Diversity Quotas: Focus solely on nondiscriminatory performance metrics, such as program participation rates or academic outcomes, without reference to race, sex, or other protected traits. And discontinue policies that mandate representation of specific racial, sex-based, or other protected groups in candidate pools, hiring panels, or final selections. For example, replace a policy requiring “at least one minority candidate per slate” with a process that evaluates all applicants based on merit.

Avoid Exclusionary Training Programs: Ensure trainings are open to all qualified participants, regardless of protected characteristics. Avoid segregating participants into groups based on race, sex, or other protected characteristics. Trainings should not require participants to affirm specific ideological positions or “confess” to personal biases or privileges based on a protected characteristic.

Include Nondiscrimination Clauses in Contracts to Third Parties and Monitor Compliance: Incorporate explicit nondiscrimination clauses in grant agreements, contracts, or partnership agreements, requiring third parties to comply with federal law, and specify that federal funds cannot be used for programs that discriminate based on protected characteristics. Monitor third parties that receive federal funds to ensure ongoing compliance, including reviewing program materials, participant feedback, and outcomes to identify potential discriminatory practices. Terminate funding for noncompliant programs.

Establish Clear Anti-Retaliation Procedures and Create Safe Reporting Mechanisms: Implement and communicate policies that prohibit retaliation against individuals who engage in protected activities, such as raising concerns, filing complaints, or refusing to participate in potentially discriminatory programs. Include these policies in employee handbooks, student codes of conduct, and program guidelines. Provide confidential, accessible channels for individuals to report concerns about unlawful practices.

V. CONCLUSION

Entities are urged to review all programs, policies, and partnerships to ensure compliance with federal law, and discontinue any practices that discriminate on the basis of a protected status. The recommended best practices provided in this guidance are non-binding suggestions to assist entities in avoiding legal pitfalls and upholding equal opportunity for all. By prioritizing nondiscrimination, entities can mitigate the legal, financial, and reputational risks associated with unlawful DEI practices and fulfill their civil rights obligations.



GRANT MANAGEMENT 101

Department of Grants Administration



Advisory

Note that this Grant Management 101 slide presentation and corresponding guidance documents are *internal* to Sullivan County and may not be shared with outside entities without permission. Individuals representing entities outside of Sullivan County Government may contact the Department of Grants Administration, who can refer them to appropriate grant-management resources.

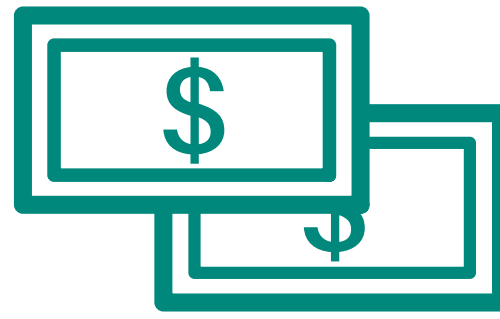
Client: A report is due next week

**Me: Great, send me the data for the outcomes
you worked toward**

Client: We didn't track that

Me:





Department of Grants Administration

Our Role & Responsibilities

- *Facilitate access to external discretionary funding for divisions, departments, agencies and other units of the Sullivan County government*
- *Improve the administration of existing funding/grant resources*

In other words...we help bring the money in, but we also serve as one of the County's several internal controls for proper fiscal management.

We...

- *Engage in research & make recommendations*
- *Provide technical assistance*
- *Maintain files on every grant program we track*
- *Carry out high-level monitoring*

A REVIEW OF...

THE GRANT CYCLE





What are some grant management challenges you have faced?

WHAT IS “GRANT MANAGEMENT?”

A technical definition:

Achieving ongoing compliance with all requirements using an approach that has strong internal controls.



BLAH
BLAH!!
BLAH

**What does that
mean in plain
language?**

ONCE YOUR GRANT IS AWARDED...

The focus shifts to:

- **Getting the project done.**
- **Managing risks throughout the project.**

What Grant Management involves:

- Following procurement protocols.
- Doing what you *said* you were going to do on application.
- Spending the money in the way in which you *proposed*. *
- Spending the money in the way that it is *allowable*. **
- Keeping meticulous bookkeeping for reporting.
- Having systems in place for program data reporting.
- Tracking funding and program outcomes/data. This may include time and effort.
- Staying in touch with your funding agency.

**The County can't “switch things up” midstream without first obtaining permission and instructions from the funding agency.*

***Be mindful of Uniform Guidance (Federal) and State and other grant-related guidelines.*

Why should good Grant Management be a priority?

Grant contracts and award agreements are *binding*!



- Failure to hold up to our side of the agreement can result in:
- Funding being clawed back.
- Inability to receive funding in the future.
- Legal action (liquidated, treble damages, law suits).

Therefore... Any staff involved in:

- Implementing the workplan
- Submitting reports
- Submitting claims



Awards for Whistleblowers: Qui Tam Provision
If a qui tam lawsuit is successful in recovering funds lost due to fraud, the whistleblower can receive a portion of the recovered amount, typically ranging from 15% to 30%. This incentivizes people with knowledge of fraud to come forward.

...should be *very familiar* with the grant's program guidelines and fully executed contract/award agreement.

MANAGING RISKS

PREVENTING WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

Grant Fraud

The use of grant funding for a purpose other than intended.

- *Charging for costs which have not been incurred or are not attributable to a grant*
- *Failure to maintain accurate time and effort documentation*
- *Securing unjustified sole source procurement*
- *Charging personal expenses as business expenses against a grant*
- *Charging for inflated labor costs or hours against a grant*
- *Allowing conflicts of interest **

** A conflict of interest in the context of grants arises when an individual or organization involved in the grant process (e.g., recipient, subrecipient, reviewer) has personal, professional, or financial interests that could potentially compromise or bias their judgment and objectivity related to the grant.*

Grants Best
Practices Guide
page 5

Grant Waste

**Failure to receive a grant's full value due to poor planning
& lack of controls leading to wasted resources.**

- *Poor financial or administrative management of grants*
- *Improper grant payments*
- *Buying overpriced office equipment from a favored vendor*
- *Buying unnecessary equipment for personal use or gain*
- *Lack of controls in the payment process*

Grant Abuse

Behaving improperly, unreasonably, or misusing one's position or authority.

- *Writing technical specification or contract terms to favor a specific contractor*
- *Utilizing County resources (staff, time, equipment, supplies) to apply for “pet project” grants as a favor to entities outside the County and/or not in alignment with a department's service area or the County's mission or strategic plan*

Examples of Grant Mismanagement

- *Not obtaining authorizing resolutions as required*
- *Failure to obtain cost estimates properly or to follow procurement guidelines*
- *Failure to provide confirmation that additional funding sources are secured (large projects)*
- *Loose/inaccurate records/receipts for time and effort/expenditures*
- *Making purchases against a grant/allocation prior to the contract/award agreement being fully executed*
- *Failure to complete workplans, adhere to grant requirements, or complete reporting accurately and on time*
- *Unresponsiveness to funding agency requests for information and/or project updates or modifications*
- *Failure to reassign project to qualified personnel if project manager leaves his/her position*



5 Ways to manage risk during a grant project:

1. Review Financial Controls
2. Evaluate Readiness
3. Assess Compliance Framework
4. Monitor Subrecipient/Contractor Risks
5. Document and Communicate

From “Checklist for Comprehensive Risk Management,” MyFedTrainer.com

1

Review Financial Controls

Make sure all financial procedures are current and effective.

- Confer with your Division/Department OMB/fiscal staff to go over the grant's budget and fiscal and reporting requirements.
- If the funding agency offers any webinars or info conferences...*attend!* Include the members of your internal team.
- Purchasing will need to know what the procurement requirements are. (Don't wait until the last minute!)
- Make sure project managers understand what expenditures are *allowable*.
- Confirm what fiscal documentation is required for claims/reporting and set up a system to maintain the records.
- Make sure all contracts/award agreements are fully executed and route copies to Audit and Purchasing prior to incurring expenses.
- Find out from OMB staff if a Project Account Code is needed.
- Copy the Treasurer's Office on all submitted claims.

2

Evaluate Operational Readiness

Confirm your team and resources are aligned to meet your project's objectives.

- Review your organizational structure and assess for any capacity issues.
- Make sure staff is assigned to manage the implementation of the workplan, data collection, fiscal management, and reporting.
- Ensure that staff is properly trained related to grants best practices, the grant program guidelines, and any software platforms utilized for management/reporting purposes.
- Establish open lines of communication between County stakeholders (ex. Purchasing, Audit, Grants Department, County Attorney) and external stakeholders (funding agency program reps.)
- Prepare for any related impacts to the County budget. Check reimbursement schedules, and make sure any and all necessary authorizing resolutions are enacted.

3

Assess Compliance Framework

Ensure you're adhering to all regulatory and grant-specific requirements.

- Make sure members of your grant project team are familiar with the program guidelines and contract/award agreement requirements.
- Be cognizant of procurement requirements. For example, New York State has MWBE and SDVOB requirements which must be adhered to for State grants.
- Constantly monitor your program's timeline and progress, assess risks, and communicate concerns with the funding agency rep.
- Pay close attention to contract amendments and make sure the originating resolution still stands.
- Confer with the Department of Grants Administration and respond to requests for information.

4

Monitor Subrecipient Risks

Verify that your subrecipients/subcontractors are compliant with grant requirements.

- Subrecipients and/or subcontractors are typically subject to a grant's regulatory guidelines.
- This typically includes procurement and corporate compliance regulations.
- Ensure that the subrecipient/subcontractor obtain copies of program and regulatory guidelines and acknowledge receipt and intention to comply.
- This is typically done via an MOU or contract. Confer with County Attorney about what will be necessary.
- Ensure that subrecipient/subcontractor understand what documentation will be required for fiscal and program monitoring.
- Monitor subrecipient/subcontractor activity.
- Keep lines of communication open.

What's the difference between a subrecipient and subcontractor?

Simple 4-question test From MyFed Trainer:

- Do they carry out a program objective of the federal award?
o That's likely a subrecipient.
- Do they provide goods or services to support your organization's work?
o That's more like a contractor.
- Do they help determine eligibility, performance, or program outcomes?
o That points to a subrecipient relationship.
- Do they operate in a competitive environment, offering similar services to others?
o That usually describes a contractor.



Caution - Look at the full scope & confer with County Attorney to make a determination.
For additional guidance, read “What’s in a Name? 5 Tips to Spot Subrecipients”
by Rachel Werner, MPA, GPC, PMP, MyFedTrainer

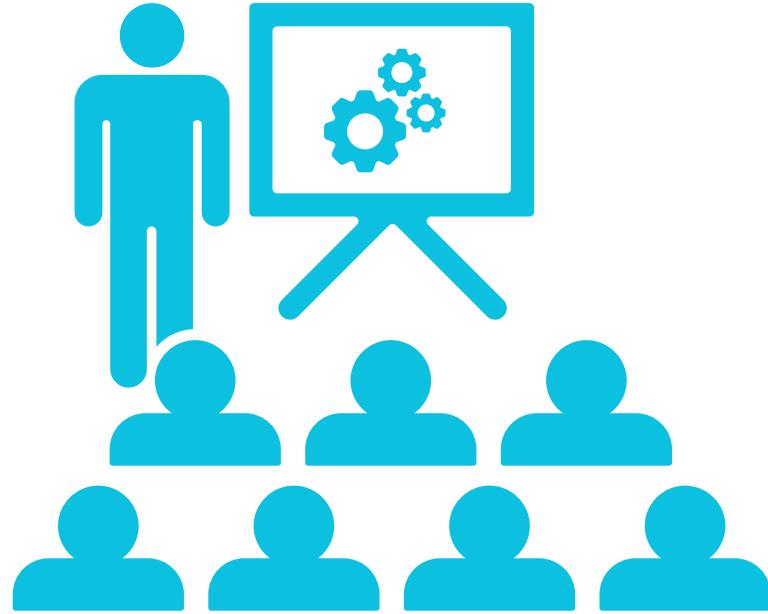
5

Document and Communicate

Keep detailed records and
maintain open communication with all stakeholders.

- Keep all grant-related records tightly organized, labeled, and in file folders where items are easy to locate.
- Keep a paper trail of critical communications with program reps and stakeholders.
- Maintain copies of cost estimates, invoices, receipts of payment, disbursements, time and effort records, and related correspondence.
- We highly recommend using a file organization structure recommended by OMB staff. See Grants Best Practices Guide p. 15





1) Develop a thorough grant management plan

- *Segregation of duties*
- *Financial tracking*
- *Compliance*
- *Reporting*
- *Time and Effort*
- *Maintain tight files*



KEEPING THOSE FILES IN CHECK

It may seem obvious, but when schedules become overwhelmed, having a tried and true organizational system saves time and effort in the long run. Here are some practical "pro tips" shared by Departments who have successfully managed to wrangle the complexities of grant management.

LABELING YOUR GRANT FILE

Labeling the grant file will help you maintain organization, access information easily, and assist others in locating information in your absence.

Your format should include:

- Funding Year (based on NOFA)
- Grant Title and Granting Agency/Organization
- Project/Program Title

Examples:

2019 NFWF Highland River Access
2023 GTSC Child Passenger Seat Safety Program
2023 OPRHP Snowmobile Grant-in-Aid Program

WHAT TO KEEP IN THE GRANT FILE

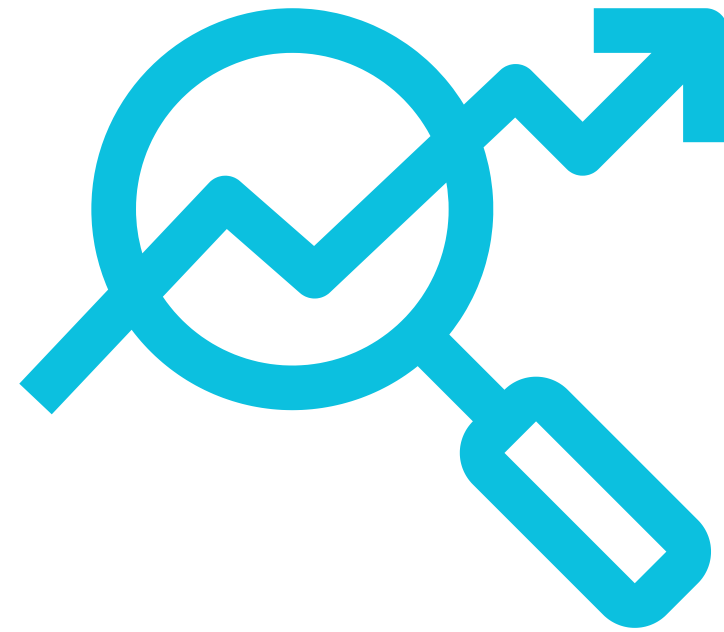
- Copy of fully executed GCAF
- Copy of Official Authorizing Resolution(s)
- NOFA and Funding Agency Guidelines
- Submitted Application/Supporting Documents
- Fully Executed Memorandums of Understanding
- Official Notification of Award/Declination
- Fully Executed Award Agreement/Contract(s)
- Project Account Code Information
- Fully Executed Amended Award Agreements/Contracts
- Additional Resolution(s)
- Monitoring and Compliance Documents
- Claims/Disbursement Requests

SAMPLE DIGITAL GRANT FOLDER TEMPLATE

Name	Date modified	Type
Application	7/3/2023 10:42 AM	File folder
Award Notifications	7/3/2023 10:42 AM	File folder
Blank Forms	7/3/2023 10:39 AM	File folder
Closeout	7/3/2023 10:40 AM	File folder
Correspondence	7/3/2023 10:41 AM	File folder
Disbursement Requests	7/3/2023 10:40 AM	File folder
Environmental Review	7/3/2023 10:45 AM	File folder
Executed Contracts	7/3/2023 10:41 AM	File folder
GCAF and Resolutions	7/3/2023 10:42 AM	File folder
Monitoring and Compliance	7/3/2023 10:40 AM	File folder
NOFA	7/3/2023 10:40 AM	File folder
Program Guidelines	7/3/2023 10:41 AM	File folder
Reporting	7/3/2023 10:41 AM	File folder



Grants Best Practices
Guide page 15



2) Establish monitoring framework

- *Establish internal deadlines for reporting*
- *Create tracking calendar*
- *Develop a tracking system (ex. Excel spreadsheet)*



3) Confer with stakeholders early and often

- *“First Stop” - Department of Grants Administration*
- *Budgetary Impacts - Division of Management and Budget/County Manager*
- *Procurement - Purchasing*
- *Claims - Management and Budget*
- *Attestations/Contracts - County Attorney*



4) Engage in frequent and transparent communications

- *Hold touchpoint meetings with your team/management*
- *Report on progress*
- *Assess risks*
- *Make sure stakeholders have copies of relevant documents (Audit & Purchasing, Grants Administration)*



Questions?

Contact:

Department of Grants Administration

845-807-0468



THANK YOU



Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

100 North Street
Monticello, NY 12701

File #: ID-7707

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 1.

Narrative of Resolution:

To Authorize One (1) Public Hearing for The Sullivan County Office for the Aging

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution:

Are funds already budgeted? Yes

If 'Yes,' specify appropriation code(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

If 'No,' specify proposed source of funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TO AUTHORIZE ONE (1) PUBLIC HEARING FOR SULLIVAN COUNTY OFFICE FOR THE
AGING**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Office for the Aging is preparing a County Annual Plan for services to the 60+ population of the County, provided through the Older Americans Act and the New York State Community Services for the Elderly Program; and

WHEREAS, State and Federal guidelines require that a public hearing be held concerning this plan so that all interested parties can be heard;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that one public hearing is scheduled as follows, and that a notice of said public hearing be published in the official newspapers of the County:

Sullivan County Airport

75 County Road 183, Swan Lake, NY 12783

October 15, 2025

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM



Mountains of Opportunities

Office for the Aging

SULLIVAN COUNTY GOVERNMENT CENTER

100 North Street, P O Box 5012

Monticello, New York 12701

Tel: 845-807-0241

Fax: 845-807-0260

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Each year the Sullivan County Office for the Aging is required to submit to the New York State Office for the Aging an Area Plan outlining the actions to be taken in the next year in the Older Americans Act Programs and Community Services for the Elderly Programs administered by our office. We are now preparing the Area Plan for State Fiscal Year 2026, beginning April 1, 2026 and ending March 31, 2027.

In accordance with Federal and State guidelines, one Public Hearing will be held so that all interested parties can be heard:

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Sullivan County Airport

75 County Road 183, Swan Lake, NY 12783

Following the Public Hearing, all comments will be reviewed by the Advisory Committee and staff of the Sullivan County Office for the Aging, thus permitting recommendations pertinent to the Plan to be incorporated into the Final Area Plan.

Lise-Anne Deoul, Director

Sullivan County Office for the Aging

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7719

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 2.

Narrative of Resolution:

To authorize the County Manager to apply and accept a State Municipal Facilities Grant Award of \$125,000 for the design and construction of an access drive, parking area and hiking trails for Callicoon Riverside Park.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: N/A

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

If 'Yes,' specify appropriation code(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

If 'No,' specify proposed source of funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY MANAGER TO APPLY AND ACCEPT A STATE MUNICIPAL FACILITIES ("SAM") GRANT AWARD OF \$125,000.00 FROM THE DORMITORY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK AND UTILIZE THIS FUNDING TOWARDS THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF AN ACCESS DRIVE, PARKING AREA AND HIKING TRAILS FOR CALLICOON RIVERSIDE PARK

WHEREAS, the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY) provides funds to support development of a fixed asset or assets; and

WHEREAS, in the Summer of 2022 the County acquired the 38-acre parcel in the Town of Delaware located along the Delaware River (the "Parcel") with the intention of developing this parcel as a passive outdoor recreational asset and incorporate it into the inventory of park facilities; and

WHEREAS, these funds will be available through the State and Municipal Facilities (SAM) program, under which DASNY is administering the program; and

WHEREAS, the County of Sullivan have been deemed eligible to submit the required documentation, and application for SAM funding in the amount of \$125,000.00; and

WHEREAS, these funds will provide towards the design and construction of an access drive, parking area and hiking trails at the proposed park site.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Manager, Chairperson of the County Legislature, and / or their authorized representative (*as required by the funding source*) to execute any and all necessary documents to submit the SAM application for funding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Manager, and / or Chairperson of the County Legislature (*as required by the funding source*) to apply for and accept the award, and enter into an award agreement or contract to administer the funding secured, in such form as the County Attorney shall approve; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that should the SAM funding be terminated, the County shall not be obligated to continue any action undertaken by the use of this funding.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7722

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 3.

Narrative of Resolution:

To appoint members to the Sullivan County Land Bank Corporation.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: N/A

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

If 'Yes,' specify appropriation code(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

If 'No,' specify proposed source of funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE
TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE SULLIVAN COUNTY LAND BANK CORPORATION**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. 286-16, the Sullivan County Legislature authorized the formation of the Sullivan County Land Bank Corporation (SCLBC) and appointed nine (9) directors to serve a term of two (2) years from the date of incorporation unless appointed by virtue of a director's elected public office in which case it shall run concurrently with the term of office, whichever is less; and

WHEREAS, the SCLBC currently has a vacancy on its Board of Directors due to the resignation of a board member; and

WHEREAS, the vacancy was advertised and resumes accepted by the Sullivan County Legislative Clerk; and

WHEREAS; the SCLB board has recommended that Tonja McKerrell be appointed to the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature has the authority to appoint members of the SCLBC Board pursuant to Article 16 of New York State's Non-Profit Corporation Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby appoints Tanja McKerrell to the Sullivan Count Land Bank Corporation Board of Directors Board, for a term ending February 2027.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7723

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 4.

Narrative of Resolution:

To direct the development and issuance of a Request for Proposals for a countywide groundwater study.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: N/A

Are funds already budgeted? Choose an item.

If 'Yes,' specify appropriation code(s): Click or tap here to enter text.

If 'No,' specify proposed source of funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES
COMMITTEE DIRECTING THE DEVELOPMENT AND ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR A COUNTYWIDE GROUNDWATER STUDY**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature recognizes the importance of managing its natural resources in a sustainable manner; and

WHEREAS, the availability of clean water is critical for the health of our residents and visitors, the continued success of a thriving tourism sector, and long-term success of an increasingly diversified economy; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County ("County") wishes to make relevant, up-to-date, and accurate data available to its local governments and other organizations to aid in the decision-making process as it pertains to groundwater usage and quality; and

WHEREAS, the development of a countywide groundwater study would provide critical insight into subsurface conditions throughout the county and thus better equip local decision makers to safeguard Sullivan County's groundwater resources.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature hereby directs that a Request for Proposals (RFP) be developed and issued to secure hydrogeologic expertise in relation to subsurface conditions throughout the county for the purpose of creating a countywide groundwater study.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7724

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 5.

Narrative of Resolution:

To award funding through the 2025 Removal of Unsafe Structures (RUS_t) Program to two municipalities.

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$50,000

Are funds already budgeted? Yes

If 'Yes,' specify appropriation code(s): A-8020-90-47-4752

If 'No,' specify proposed source of funds: Click or tap here to enter text.

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

**RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE PLANNING AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES
COMMITTEE TO AWARD FUNDING THROUGH THE REMOVE UNSAFE STRUCTURES (RUS_t)
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Division of Planning and Community Development has historically administered several small funding programs that advance County goals for community and economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Sullivan County Legislature ("Legislature") adopted the 2025 Remove Unsafe Structures (RUS_t) Program, as it recognizes the needs of the County and fully supports efforts to encourage economic development, community safety, and a healthier living environment throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, applications have been received from two municipalities requesting a total of \$50,000 to provide financial assistance with the removal of unsafe and hazardous structures in their communities; and

WHEREAS, Sullivan County Planning is in receipt of these applications and has deemed both applications to be complete in accordance with the guidelines adopted by the Sullivan County Legislature.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature approves and awards funding through the Remove Unsafe Structures (RUS_t) Program as follows:

Town of Highland	\$25,000.00
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Town of Rockland	\$25,000.00
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Sullivan County Legislature authorizes the County Manager to enter into contracts with these award recipients for the administration of this funding, said contracts to be in a form approved by the County Attorney.

Sullivan County

Legislative Memorandum

File #: ID-7735

Agenda Date: 9/4/2025

Agenda #: 6.

Narrative of Resolution:

Establishing a Sister Community Partnership Between Sullivan County, New York and Ternopil Region, Ukraine

If Resolution requires expenditure of County Funds, provide the following information:

Amount to be authorized by Resolution: \$0

Specify Compliance with Procurement Procedures:

<p>РЕЗОЛЮЦІЯ ПРО ВСТАНОВЛЕННЯ ПАРТНЕРСТВА МІЖ ГРОМАДАМИ-ПОБРАТНИКАМИ ОКРУГУ САЛЛІВАН, НЬЮ-ЙОРК, ТА ТЕРНОПІЛЬСЬКОЮ ОБЛАСТЮ, УКРАЇНА ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що 24 лютого 2022 року збройні сили Російської Федерації розпочали неспровокований та незаконний напад на суверенну, демократичну державу Україну; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що напади Російської Федерації призвели до руйнівної гуманітарної кризи для українського цивільного населення; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що Україна є самобутньою культурою з довгою, багатою та гордою історією, яка згідно зі Статутом ООН має невідчужуване право на самовизначення та безпеку; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що як Сполучені Штати, так і Україна є спадкоємцями давньої боротьби за незалежність; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що Тернопільська область та округ Салліван поділяють спільні цінності справедливого, мирного, вільного світу; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що Тернопільська обласна рада та округ Салліван зобов'язуються працювати над взаємовигідними обмінами, які зміцнять наше суспільство, культуру та економіку; та ВРАХОВУЮЧИ, що Cities4Cities.eu відіграла важливу роль у сприянні міжнародним муніципальним партнерствам, що підтверджується підписанням історичної</p>	<p>RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY DISTRICT 9 LEGISLATOR TERRY BERNARDO, LEGISLATIVE CHAIR NADIA RAJSZ, MAJORITY LEADER MATT MCPHILLIPS, DISTRICT 5 LEGISLATOR CATHERINE SCOTT, DISTRICT 6 LEGISLATOR LUIS A. ALVAREZ AND MINORITY LEADER NICHOLAS SALOMONE ESTABLISHING A SISTER COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SULLIVAN COUNTY, NEW YORK AND TERNOPII REGION, UKRAINE WHEREAS, on February 24th, 2022, the armed forces of the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked and illegal invasion of the sovereign, democratic nation of Ukraine; and WHEREAS, the attacks by the Russian Federation have resulted in a devastating humanitarian crisis for Ukrainian civilians; and WHEREAS, Ukraine is a distinct culture with a long, rich, and proud history, which, under the United Nations Charter, has an inalienable right to self-determination and security; and WHEREAS, both the United States and Ukraine are heirs to an ancestral struggle for independence; and WHEREAS, the Ternopil Region and Sullivan County share the common values of a just, peaceful, free world; and WHEREAS, the Ternopil Regional Council and Sullivan County pledge to work toward mutually beneficial exchanges that will strengthen our society, culture, and economy; and WHEREAS, On April 25, 2025, Ulster County (New York State) and the Chernivtsi</p>
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угоди про партнерство між округом Ольстер, Нью-Йорк, та Чернівецькою обласною радою України 25 квітня 2025 року, що стало першим офіційним партнерством між США та Україною, встановленим через мережу Cities4Cities; та, **ВРАХОВУЮЧИ**, що Український Народний Союз під керівництвом Президента/Головного Виконавчого Директора Романа Гірняка протягом понад 130 років сприяє розвитку українсько-американських культурних та гуманітарних зв'язків і підтримує це партнерство як важливий крок до зміцнення українсько-американських відносин, підтримки гуманітарних потреб та сприяння культурному, економічному та освітньому обміну; та **ВРАХОВУЮЧИ**, що Board NY під керівництвом керуючого партнера Олексія Белецького представляє динамічну бізнес-спільноту українських засновників та підприємців, які працюють у 8 країнах з понад 1,700 учасниками, створюючи можливості для розвитку бізнесу, партнерства та обміну знаннями, та підтримує це партнерство як засіб зміцнення українсько-американської економічної та підприємницької співпраці; та, **ВРАХОВУЮЧИ**, що це партнерство зосереджуватиметься на спільних ініціативах, включаючи: обмін муніципальним досвідом у сферах справ ветеранів, служб психічного здоров'я, безпеки громад та шкіл, антикризового управління; освітні та культурні зв'язки між школами, університетами, неприбутковими організаціями та бізнесом; надання надлишкового обладнання та припасів для надзвичайних ситуацій; та сприяння волонтерським можливостям для громадян, які шукають значущі способи внеску в українські гуманітарні зусилля; **ОТЖЕ, ВИРІШЕНО**, що Тернопільська обласна рада, Тернопільська область, Україна, та округ Салліван, штат Нью-Йорк, Сполучені Штати Америки, взаємно оголошують один одного містами-побратимами; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що

County (New York State) and the Chernivtsi Regional Council of Ukraine signed a historic partnership agreement during a virtual ceremony. This marks the first official U.S.-Ukraine partnership established through the Cities4Cities <<https://cities4cities.eu/>> network. **WHEREAS**, the Ukrainian National Association, under the leadership of President/Chief Executive Officer Roman Hirniak, has been instrumental in fostering Ukrainian-American cultural and humanitarian ties for over 130 years and strongly supports this partnership as a vital step toward strengthening Ukrainian-American relations, supporting humanitarian needs, and promoting cultural, economic, and educational exchange; and **WHEREAS**, Board NY, under the leadership of Managing Partner Alexey Beletsky, represents a vibrant business community of Ukrainian founders and entrepreneurs operating across 8 countries with over 1,700 participants, creating opportunities for business growth, partnerships, and knowledge exchange, and supports this partnership as a means to strengthen Ukrainian-American economic and entrepreneurial collaboration; and, **WHEREAS**, this partnership shall focus on collaborative initiatives including: municipal knowledge sharing in areas such as Veterans Affairs, mental health services, community and school safety, and crisis management; educational and cultural connections between schools, universities, non-profit organizations, and businesses; sharing of surplus emergency management equipment and supplies; and facilitating volunteer opportunities for citizens seeking meaningful ways to contribute to Ukrainian humanitarian efforts; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ternopil Regional Council, Ternopil Region, Ukraine, and County of Sullivan, New York State, United States of America, mutually declare one another a Sister Community; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the

Тернопільська обласна рада в Україні та уряд округу Салліван у Сполучених Штатах Америки сприятимуть зустрічам та обміну ідеями між громадянами обох регіонів; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що обидва партнери докладатимуть усіх зусиль для сприяння миру та міжнародному взаєморозумінню; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що обидва партнери підтримують встановлення позитивних та продуктивних обмінів між місцевими організаціями, установами та приватними громадянами; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що обидві сторони прагнуть співпрацювати та обмінюватися досвідом щодо муніципальних, економічних та культурних питань, а також сприяти розвитку співпраці між муніципальними установами, організаціями та закладами; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що економічний розвиток обох сторін виражатиметься через взаємовигідні співпраці та програми; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що спірні питання, пов'язані з впровадженням цього партнерства, вирішуватимуться шляхом двосторонніх консультацій; та **ДОДАТКОВО ВИРІШЕНО**, що ця угода про партнерство виконується англійською та українською мовами. Голова Тернопільської обласної ради _____ [Ім'я] ДАТА: _____
Голова Законодавчих зборів округу Салліван _____
Надія РАЙС ДАТА: _____

Ternopil Regional Council in Ukraine and the Sullivan County Government in the United States of America shall aim to facilitate meetings and exchange of ideas between citizens of both regions; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that both partners will make every effort to promote peace and international understanding; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that both partners support the establishment of positive and productive exchanges between local organizations, institutions, and private citizens; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that both parties seek to cooperate and exchange experience regarding municipal, economic, and cultural issues, as well as to promote the development of cooperation among municipal institutions, organizations, and establishments; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the economic development of both parties shall be expressed through mutually beneficial collaborations and programs; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that disputed issues related to the implementation of this partnership will be resolved through bilateral consultations; and **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this partnership agreement is executed in both English and Ukrainian languages. Chair of the Ternopil Regional Council _____ [Name] DATE: _____
Chairman of the Sullivan County Legislature _____
Nadia RAJSZ DATE: _____