

Empire State Development News

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EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT BOARD APPROVES \$5 MILLION IN GRANTS

Empire State Development Corporation's Board of Directors met today in New York City and approved grants totaling \$5 million. Leveraging \$22 million in private investment, these grants will preserve 513 jobs and create 214 new jobs across New York State.

Two Restore New York Community Initiative grants, which revitalize urban areas and stabilize neighborhoods as a means to attract residents and businesses, were authorized by the ESD Board. These grants, totaling nearly \$3 million, are made to municipalities across the State, including:

The Village of Dansville – \$2.5 million (Livingston County)

The Village received a \$2.5 million grant to be used toward the renovation of a vacant and dilapidated castle that needs to be brought back to productive uses. The "Castle on the Hill" had been a tourist attraction. Total project cost is \$7.2 million.

The Town of Union – \$471,568 (Broome County)

This project involves the demolition of an abandoned manufacturing building in an area of Johnson City that is currently being revitalized as an arts/theater district. Prior interest has been shown in an adjacent building for manufacturing; however, the targeted facility has detracted from the feasibility of moving forward. The building is also a public safety concern. Total project cost is \$635,245.

The following businesses were awarded Capital Projects Fund Grants:

Tops Markets, LLC – \$1.2 million (Williamsville, Erie County)

The company owns and operates over 67 retail supermarkets in central and western New York State, Pennsylvania and Northeastern Ohio and franchises an additional five stores employing more than 9,700 people. It has been awarded a \$1.2 million Jobs Now Grant to be used for a portion of the cost of information technology infrastructure and the acquisition and installation of new machinery and equipment. As a result, this \$5.45 million project will retain 145 jobs, which were at risk of being relocated to Pennsylvania, and transfer 140 high-paying Pennsylvania jobs to New York State. Furthermore, the relocation of purchasing functions would result in a significant increase of "Made in New York" products purchased by Tops.

Marquardt Switches, Inc. – \$150,000 (Cazenovia, Madison County)

The company is a leading supplier of switch products for the power tool industry. It has been awarded a grant to assist with a \$7.7 million expansion project, including the purchase and installation of machinery and equipment. The project will result in the retention of 267 jobs and the creation of 24 new jobs.

The following entities were awarded Global Export Market Services (GEMS) grants, totaling \$163,000:

- The Erie County Industrial Development Agency (Buffalo, Erie County) was awarded \$50,000 to help continue ECIDA's ongoing marketing initiatives that have assisted the participating

companies' ability to compete internationally and achieve regional economic objectives. Total project cost is \$120,000.

- The New York City Industrial & Technology Assistance Corporation (New York, New York County) was awarded \$39,000 to be directed toward ITAC's global export technical assistance program resulting in business development and job creation opportunities in New York State. Total project cost is \$151,600.
- Stampcrete International, Ltd. (Liverpool, Onondaga County) was awarded \$25,000 to expand international sales and work with ESD's foreign offices to capture market and regulatory information and establish an international distributor network. Total project cost is \$165,000.
- PharmaNova, Inc. (Victor, Ontario County) was awarded \$25,000 for a portion of the costs associated with international market development expenditures. Total project cost is \$71,000.
- The Center for Economic Growth (Albany, Albany County) was awarded \$24,000 toward CEG's participation in an international trade show with the intention of marketing New York State. Total project cost is \$74,000.

The following businesses were awarded Industrial Effectiveness Program (IEF) grants, totaling \$191,800:

- Ascension Industries, Inc. (North Tonawanda, Niagara County) was awarded \$50,000 to increase productivity and improve its operational efficiencies throughout the organization. Total project cost is \$275,975.
- LMC Power Systems, Inc. (Dansville, Livingston County) was awarded \$40,000 to be used toward the design of a new plant layout, development of modernized manufacturing processes and selection and implementation of a new business system. Total project cost is \$139,222.
- OptiPro Systems, Inc. (Ontario, Wayne County) was awarded \$40,000 to be used toward the implementation of a Material Requirements Planning (MRP) system to manage manufacturing processes and develop a strategic plan. Total project cost is \$119,454.
- Precipart Corporation (Farmingdale, Suffolk County) was awarded \$36,800 to be used toward maintaining and managing its growth potential. Total project cost is \$292,900.
- Micron Industries, Inc. (Rochester, Monroe County) was awarded \$25,000 to be used toward the creation of a business strategy, development of a comprehensive marketing plan that is compatible with the company's new business strategy, and implementation of a quality management system. Total project cost is \$76,250.

The following businesses were awarded Economic Development Fund (EDF) Grants, totaling \$275,000:

- Active Motif, Inc. (Lake Placid, Essex County) was awarded \$75,000 to be used towards renovations and infrastructure improvements. The \$2.1 million project will retain six jobs and create 10 new jobs.
- IPAC, Inc. (Amherst, Erie County) was awarded \$100,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of building renovations associated with a relocation and expansion of its Western New York facilities. The \$2 million project will retain 38 jobs and create five new jobs.
- Syron Industries, Inc. (Syracuse, Onondaga County) was awarded \$100,000 to be used for a portion of machinery and equipment purchase and installation costs. The \$549,248 project will retain 57 jobs and create 35 new jobs.

[Queens West Development General Project Plan](#)

Minor modifications were granted to the GPP for Queens West Development. This includes the transfer of approximately 7,000 square feet of retail space to Parcels 2 and 4, allowing for a more active street life along Center Boulevard and on 5th Street. It also includes the transfer of approximately 51,000 square feet of residential floor area from Parcel 1 to Parcel 3.

[The Jacob K. Javits Convention Center Renovation and Expansion Civic Project \(New York, New York County\)](#)

The Board adopted Civil Project findings, adopted the General Project Plan and determined there would be no significant effect on the environment related to this project. The \$463 million project is designed to respond to the immediate needs of the convention and trade show industry and improve the existing building conditions. The 100,000 square foot expansion will contain 40,000 net square feet of exhibition space.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will tentatively be held on Wednesday, April 15 at a location to be announced closer to the time of the event.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit www.nylovesbiz.com.

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