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## **EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES THE GRAND OPENING OF CLAYTON YACHT HOUSE**

**Restore NY Grant Supports \$4 Million RiverWalk Project in Jefferson County**

*View Photos of the Clayton Yacht House [Here](#) and [Here](#)*

Empire State Development today announced the grand opening of Clayton Yacht House in Jefferson County. The new mixed-use structure has transformed a once vacant property into a vibrant four-story building featuring restaurant, retail and residential space.

“The Clayton Yacht House has revitalized the waterfront, bringing new business opportunity and residential housing options to the area,” **said Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky.** “ESD is proud to support the revitalization of Clayton’s riverfront district through Restore NY and look forward to businesses opening their doors and creating new jobs here in Jefferson County.”

Empire State Development supported the \$4 million RiverWalk project with a Restore NY grant of nearly \$1 million. The project included clearing the foundation of the site and constructing a nearly 18,000 square-foot, mixed-use building for retail, restaurant and living space. The development and construction of the property was led by Trillium Management and the Village of Clayton.

“This project is a great example of what can be accomplished when entities work together,” **said Clayton Mayor Norma Zimmer.** “The cooperation between the Village of Clayton, Clayton LDC and NYS Empire State Development is what made this project possible.”

In addition to the new Clayton Yacht House, the Restore NY grant supported the Clayton RiverWalk extension around the completed property for public use. The Clayton RiverWalk is a beautiful paved waterfront trail along the St. Lawrence River connecting

shops, restaurants and parks.

“Clayton is one of the jewels of the Thousand Islands, and of New York State,” **said Senator Patty Ritchie.** “Through this investment, we are improving the local community for residents and making the area more attractive to tourists, which in turn will help create jobs and strengthen the overall economy.”

**Assemblywoman Addie J. Russell said,** “The Clayton Yacht House is a great example of the positive steps we can take in economic development ventures when government works together with the private sector. This project is a boost to the riverfront in Clayton as well as the downtown. Projects that showcase the beauty of our region and our waterways simply make good sense in the North Country.”

**Executive Director of Clayton Local Development Corporation Kristi Dippel said,** “This project has been essential in the revitalization of the downtown area. What was a vacant lot is now a centerpiece of the community. We look forward to the new businesses and residents that will be occupying the building and calling Clayton home.”

**About Empire State Development:**

Empire State Development (ESD) is New York’s chief economic development agency ([www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov)). The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo’s Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of “I Love NY,” the State’s iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit [www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov](http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov) and [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov).

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