

FF. Jamestown Renaissance Corporation – Renaissance Square Construction (W554)
September 14, 2010

Grantee: Jamestown Renaissance Corporation (the “JRC”)

ESD Investment: A grant of up to \$100,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of construction of Renaissance Square.

Project Location: City of Jamestown, Chautauqua County

NYS Empire Zone (or equivalent): N/A

Project Completion: December 2010

Grantee Contact: Jason Stronz, Director of Urban Design Plan
19 West Third Street
Jamestown, NY 14701
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Project Team: Project Management Jim Seymour
Affirmative Action Helen Daniels
Environmental Soo Kang

Project Description:

Background

Organized in 2006, the Jamestown Renaissance Corporation is a not-for-profit organization created to support the implementation of the City of Jamestown’s Urban Design Plan (the “Plan”). The fundamental initiatives outlined in the Plan are the following: 1) transform the Chadakoin riverfront into a regional waterfront destination; 2) strengthen the downtown core through new development, street scrape improvements and programming; and 3) adopt design guidelines for new development to ensure the compatibility with the City of Jamestown’s (the “City”) character and architectural heritage.

The JRC, in partnership with Buffamante, Whipple and Buttafara, P.C., the Krog Corporation, the Gebbie Foundation, the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, the City, and the State of New York, has embarked on a two-phase, public-private collaboration to build an innovative mixed-use public space area called Renaissance Square. The Renaissance Square project supports the Plan’s key objectives and will redefine the City’s west entrance as a gateway to the downtown and riverfront areas.

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The Project

The first phase of the project included design, site plan review, land acquisition, and first stages of construction, including landscaping, brick pavers and a stage, and was completed in 2009. The second phase includes installing additional brick pavers and creating terraces and crosswalks for access to other downtown features. The JRC is managing the project, and construction work is being performed by Bloomquist’s Landscaping of Jamestown. The project will be completed by December 2010.

Upon completion of the project, the Grantee will furnish a final report describing the impact and effectiveness of the project.

Financing Uses	Amount	Financing Sources	Amount	Percent
Construction	\$105,780	ESD Grant	\$100,000	87%
Design and Project Management	9,016	Grantee Equity	14,796	13%
Total Project Costs	\$114,796	Total Project Financing	\$114,796	100%

Environmental Review:

Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, and its implementing regulations (6 NYCRR Part 617), and in connection with the approval of funding for the Jamestown-Restore-West End Site project, the Directors made a Determination of No Significant Effect on the Environment at their meeting of July 19, 2007. This determination addressed all aspects of the proposed project. Therefore, no further environmental review is required in connection with this action.

Statutory Basis – Community Enhancement Facilities Assistance Program:

The project was authorized by the 1997-1998 New York State budget and Chapter 432, Laws of 1997 and Chapter 55, Laws of 2002, and reappropriated in the 2010-2011 New York State budget.

Disclosure and Accountability Certifications:

The Grantee has provided ESDC with the required Disclosure and Accountability Certifications. Grantee’s certifications indicate that Grantee has no conflict of interest or good standing violations and, therefore, staff recommends that the Corporation authorize the grant to the Grantee as described in these materials.