

## **Empire State Development News**

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## **ESDC BOARD APPROVES \$5.5 MILLION IN DOWNSTATE RESTORE NY GRANTS**

### **Funding to go towards revitalization in Orange, Rockland, and Ulster Counties**

Empire State Development Corporation's Board of Directors met in Buffalo today, where they authorized downstate grants for up to \$5.5 million under the Restore NY Communities Initiative Program for projects in Orange, Rockland, and Ulster Counties.

The Restore NY program revitalizes urban areas and stabilizes neighborhoods as a means to attract residents and businesses. The projects receiving these grants include the Kirkland Hotel in Kingston, the New York International Plaza in the town of New Windsor, and North Main Spring Street in the Village of Spring Valley.

In other action, the board issued \$560,000 in Aid to Localities grants to the following:

- \$230,000 - Jamaica Chamber of Commerce (Queens)
- \$150,000 - Business Outreach Center Network, Inc. (Queens)
- \$100,000 - The Chamber of Commerce in the Borough of Queens
- \$80,000 - Lower East Side District Management Association, Inc. (Manhattan)

The board also issued \$200,000 in Community Enhancement Facilities grants:

Eden II School for Autistic Children, Inc. -\$100,000 (Staten Island)

- This grant provides funding for various capital improvements and start-up expenses required to make the school building appropriate for use as a pre-school for children with autism. The project consists of site improvements to the interior and exterior of the building; furniture and equipment purchases; and start up expenses such as painting, related to preparing the space for occupancy.

Seaford Union Free School District -\$100,000 (Nassau County)

- The project consists of the purchase and installation of enhanced technology for the four district schools. This will include state-of-the-art computers, smart boards, auto-cad, and broadcasting equipment.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held in May at a location to be announced closer to the date.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency, encompassing business, workforce and community development. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit [www.nylovesbiz.com](http://www.nylovesbiz.com).

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