



NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION COALITION OF NEW YORK STATE

2022 Legislative Advocacy Agenda

Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Programs (N/RPPs):

The N/RPPs are well-established and effective frontline non-profits that provide assistance to low- and moderate-income communities with demonstrated unmet housing needs. Funding for the N/RPPs helps to finance a large range of preservation and revitalization activities. The N/RPPs are the local housing assistance providers, driving economic growth and expanding affordable housing options in their communities.

N/RPP ensures that community-based housing agencies have a stable source of operating support to deliver a broad-based program of housing and community renewal. Without NPP funding, the community based nonprofit Neighborhood Preservation Companies have diminished capacity to answer the housing needs in the distressed communities that they serve. These non-profits are often the last line of support between living in a home, or living in a shelter or on the street.

 *For the 2022 NYS Budget, we request the Neighborhood Preservation Program be funded at \$14.5 Million.*

Neighborhood Preservation Coalition (NPC):

The mission of the NPC is to unify, educate, empower, and strengthen community organizations in their provision of affordable housing and community revitalization activities.

The NPC is partially funded with a contract from New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR). The NPC provides geographic service area certification/data gathering & analysis, executive director and NPC board trainings, direct technical assistance, professional development, peer to peer networking sessions to name just a few of the vital services provided. For over the past decade our contract with HCR has been stagnant at \$150,000.

 *We respectfully request an increase to \$250,000 to enable us to maintain and expand our vital services.*

Right to Counsel (Bills S06678, A07570):

This bill establishes the civil "Right to Counsel" for **all jurisdictions** within New York State. This would allow low-income tenants the right to have an attorney in eviction proceedings. At the present time, very few tenants without access to this protection are being represented by an attorney, while virtually all of the landlords are. This imbalance of power often leads to unnecessary evictions. Cost studies reveal that programs such as this pay for themselves.

 *We request the passage of this legislation to support equal rights for housing in all communities.*

Good Cause Eviction (Bills S03082, A05573):

This bill seeks to amend the real property law by setting standards for which eviction is acceptable and prohibit eviction without good cause. By setting standards in law, renters will be protected from unfair practices that seek to evict them through no fault of their own. Tenants who pay their rent on time and lease responsibly must be given this expanded protection.

 *We request the passage of this legislation to support and protect the right for housing in all communities.*