Volume 2, February 2024

# **Legislative News**

# 2025 Executive Budget Proposal Cuts NPP Funding by Nearly \$5 Million

Governor Hochul's recent proposal to cut NPP funding by \$4.8 million as part of the 2025 NYS Executive Budget is a cause for concern.

This decision, revealed in last week's budget package, could reduce existing NPP funds from \$17.63 million to \$12.83 million, representing a significant 30% reduction for every NPC.

This is unacceptable, requiring immediate action. We cannot afford to be passive. It's time to speak up! Drawing strength from our past successes, let's unite and work with State legislators to ensure the NYS 2025 Budget secures the essential funding.

Your participation in Advocacy Day is key to turning the tide. Dive into the information provided on the following pages and register urgently to attend. Last year, we had over 100 passionate housing leaders making their voices heard in a powerful rally and lobby visits — let's surpass that this time.

EDUCATION, LABOR AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE ARTICLE VII LEGISLATION
Section N on page 75

READ BILL

EDUCATION, LABOR AND FAMILY ASSISTANCE MEMO (Summary)

Page 17

**READ MEMO** 

# 2024 Joint Legislative Budget Hearing Schedule

The <u>scheduled hearings</u> commenced on January 23 and will conclude on February 14. The respective state agency or department heads will begin testimony each day, followed by witnesses who have requested to testify on that area of the budget.

The **Housing Hearing** is scheduled to begin at NOON on the 14th. Watch online on the <u>Senate</u> or <u>Assembly</u> website, or **if you're attending Advocacy Day, watch in person.** The hearing is at the top of the steps from the Well area in Hearing Room B.

# Message from Board President Cassandra Perry



Dear Colleagues,

As President of the Board of Directors for The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS, I implore each of you to join us on Advocacy Day.

On February 14th, your voice becomes a force for change. It's imperative that legislators hear directly from constituents like you. By representing your NPC's district and sharing your experiences, you provide invaluable insight into the real-life impact of our program.

Every person who attends Advocacy Day adds weight to our collective voice. Each additional attendee

(continued on page 3)

# FEBRUARY

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## **NPC Lobbying Webinars**

Hosted by NPC Executive Director Mark Streb in preparation for Advocacy Day.

More information on page 4.

February 6 @ 11:00 am

February 7 @ 1:00 pm

February 12 @ noon

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**NPC Advocacy Day** 

See pages 3-4 for more details.

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#### NPP Mid-Year Report Due

Due on or before Friday, February 16, 2024.

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## Washington's Birthday

Also known as President's Day. Federal Holiday

# A message from Mark Streb

# HCR NPP Mid-Year Report Deadline Approaches Next Week

**Dear Housing Leaders** 

Friday, February 16th will be here before you know it. As we approach the crucial deadline for Mid-Year Reports, I would like to emphasize the significance of completing and submitting these documents on time.

Your prompt action is essential, as the final disbursement, is contingent upon the successful submission and approval of both the Mid-Year Report and your organization's most recent audit.

#### Here are the key details you need to keep in mind:

Deadline: Friday, February 16, 2024

**Submission Platform: CDOL (Community Development Online)** 

#### **Required Documents:**

- 1. Mid-Year Report (completed and digitally signed)
- 2. Your organization's most recent audit or financial statements (refer to the report for specific requirements)
- 3. Second disbursement request

You can access the 2023-24 NPP Mid-Year Report and second disbursement request form on the NPP/RPP Website in the "Forms and Documents" section under "Reporting Forms" [NPP Website].

#### A few reminders to ensure a smooth submission process:

- Please use Adobe Acrobat Reader (or Adobe Pro, if available) for completing the Mid-Year Report.
- 2. Utilize the "fill and sign" tool in Adobe to digitally sign the report on the last page (do not use "secure sign" or DocuSign).
- 3. Upload all necessary documents to CDOL using your assigned 2023 SHARS ID.

We understand that this process may be complex, and to support you through it, the Coalition is here for all Neighborhood Preservation Companies (NPCs). If you require any assistance, feel free to contact Eileen McCashion at emccashion@npcnys.org.

Your timely cooperation is crucial for your organization's continued participation in the program. Let's work together to ensure a smooth and efficient submission process.

## President's Message (continued from page 1)

represents not just themselves but also the countless individuals and families across New York State who are affected by housing insecurity.

Legislators pay attention to numbers, and the more people we have advocating for affordable housing, the greater our impact will be. Your participation can help tip the scales in our favor and secure the resources needed to ensure we have adequate funding.

Just a few weeks ago, Governor
Hochul's Executive Budget proposed a
worrying \$4.8 million reduction from
the current year's allocation. We cannot
stand idly by as this lifeline for our
communities is jeopardized.

Advocacy isn't just about speaking up; it's about influencing outcomes.
Your participation on Advocacy Day can sway the decisions of lawmakers, ensuring the value and services that the NPP brings to New York communities remains a priority in budget negotiations.

We must advocate fiercely for a 4% increase over last year's approved funding, totaling \$18.34 million.

Our success last year, which resulted in a historic increase in NPP funding, demonstrates the power of collective action. Let's seize that power once again.

Bring your passion, your stories, and your unwavering commitment to positive change. Together, we will make our voices heard. Together, we will work towards ensuring that every New Yorker has access to safe, affordable housing. Together, we can make a difference.

Warm regards, Cassandra G. Perry

# PLAN & Register Today!





When: Wednesday, February 14th

Location:

Legislative Office Building (LOB)

Corner of State Street & South Swan, Albany, NY 12207

Place: Well of the Legislative Office Building

**10:30 a.m.** Check in and pick up individualized packets

11:30-12 p.m. Kick-off Rally

**12 noon** NPCs attend appointments with elected representative(s)

Committo playing a vital role in advocating for NPP funding within the 2024-25 New York State Budget!

# PREPARE & Attend Advocacy Day

# Make an Appointment to meet with your Legislator(s) as soon as possible

NPCs are responsible for setting up their own legislative meetings. Pop-in greetings are acceptable. But, you'll likely not be able to meet with legislator(s) if you choose to do so.

SENATE & ASSEMBLY DISTRICT LOOKU by NPC Name

Attend a Webinar or read the Advocacy Guide to learn more about your NPC and your legislative district(s).

### Register for a Webinar

Learn valuable insights for every stage of the process, from identifying your State Legislator(s), crafting your message, to navigating meetings with your legislators.

Mark Streb, Executive Director of the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, invites you to sign up now for a Zoom Lobby Training Session.

Sessions cover the same information and run approximately one hour. Information covered is outlined in the NEW 2024 Advocacy Guide.

#### **Webinar Dates & Times**

February 6 @ 11:00 am
February 7 @ 1:00 pm
February 12 @ noon

Click on the day and time to register for the session you wish to attend.



Above: Sample pages from the newly designed **2024** Advocacy Guide. Our **Lobbying Webinars** use this format for the webinar framework.

# **Introducing the 2024 Advocacy Guide**

This comprehensive resource was designed to equip you with all necessary tools and knowledge in a single, user-friendly format. From registering for Advocacy Day to mastering the intricacies of contacting your legislators and effectively advocating for your organization, this guide covers it all.

Discover the importance of understanding whether your NPC has more than one Senator and Assemblymember within its footprint, and why this knowledge is crucial in amplifying your advocacy efforts.

- Register for Advocacy Day and Enroll in Webinars
- → Built-in links to NPC Staff Email
- → Access Supplementary PDF Materials on The Coalition and NPCs

Prior to attending a Lobby Training Webinar, you may find it useful to download this Advocacy Guide:

- Use it for note-taking during your session. Print in black/white or color with a standard lettersize format.
- Share this invaluable resource with your colleagues to foster collective readiness.
- Retain it for future reference, ensuring continuous support in your advocacy endeavors.

# LINKS2Partners

Click on oval buttons
to visit Websites >

#### **NPP PROGRAMS**

- Funding Round Materials
- Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Manual
- Forms and Documents
- Annual Reports
- Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning
- Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Company Directory



 NYS Neighborhood & Rural Preservation Programs
 2023 Annual Report



**DOWNLOAD** 

#### NACEDA WEBSITE

National Alliance of Community Economic Development Association. NACEDA's

#### **NLIHC WEBSITE**

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC)

## **Neighborhood Preservation Coalition 2024 Board of Directors**

Listed by the ten regions of the NPP

#### **LONG ISLAND**

#### **Sondra Cochran**

Wyandanch Community Development Corp.

#### Pilar Moya-Mancera

Housing Help, Inc.



#### **MANHATTAN**

#### **Yvonne Stennett**

Community League of the Heights (CLOTH)

#### **Theresa Rivera**

Lower East Side Coalition Housing Development, Inc.



#### **BROOKLYN, STATEN ISLAND**

#### **Tonya Ores**

Board Vice President, Downstate

NHS Brooklyn Community Development
Corporation, Inc.

#### Robin Redmond

Flatbush Development Corporation



#### **QUEENS**

Joseph G. Barden

Margert Community Corp.

#### Yoselin A. Genao Estrella

Neighborhood Housing Services of Queens CDC, Inc.



#### **BRONX**

#### **Derrick Lovett**

MBD Community Housing Corp.

#### **Cassandra Perry**

**Board President** 

163rd Street Improvement Council, Inc

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#### **WESTCHESTER, HUDSON VALLEY**

#### **Dennis Hanratty**

Board Secretary Mt. Vernon United Tenants



#### **CAPITAL DISTRICT**

#### **Christine Nealon**

Board Vice President, Upstate TRIP, Inc.



# SYRACUSE, CENTRAL, MOHAWK VALLEY, NORTH COUNTRY, SOUTHERN TIER

**Walter Dixie** 

Jubilee Homes of Syracuse



#### **ROCHESTER**

#### Clara A. Forbes

Coalition of North East Associations, Inc.

#### Mike Evans

South East Area Coalition



#### **BUFFALO, NIAGARA**

#### Roseann Scibilia

Board Treasurer
University District Community
Development Association

#### Alissa Venturini

Lt. Col. Matt Urban Human Services Center of WNY