Volume 2, No. 5, May 2023

2023-24 New York State Budget

Historic Funding Approved for the Neighborhood Preservation Program

New York State Legislators passed a \$229B budget late Wednesday night.

Three budget bills of significance for housing programs include:

Education, Labor, Housing and Family Assistance (ELFA) Appropriations Bill

— S4006 — includes funding for the NPP with a historic amount of \$17,633,000 and a carve-out of \$250,000 for the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of New York State.

VIEW ENTIRE \$4006 BILL

2023-24 NPP Funding Carve-out \$250,000

NPCNYS NPP Funding Carve-out \$250,000

NPCNYS NPP Funding Carve-out \$250,000

Aid to Localities Appropriations Bill

- \$4003 includes:
- \$40 million for the Homeowners Protection Program (HOPP), a \$5 million increase
- \$10 million for Land Banks
- \$25 million for First Time Home Buyers Program

VIEW ENTIRE \$4003 BILL

Capital Projects Appropriations Bill

- S4004 includes:
- \$3 million for ACCESS to HOME,
 a \$2 million increase
- \$26 million for Affordable Housing Corp. (AHC)
- \$8.4 million for RESTORE/HOPE, a \$5 million increase

VIEW ENTIRE \$4004 BILL

Governor Hochul Announces Highlights of Budget

May 3, 2023 — Press release click **HERE**.

Of special note, funding for housing in the State Budget included:

- \$391 million for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to support additional tenants and families, including NYCHA and other public housing residents and recipients of federal Section 8 vouchers.
- \$50 million for a Homeowner Stabilization Fund to finance home repairs in 10 communities across the state identified as having high levels of low-income homeowners of color and homeowner distress.



Message from Board President Cassandra Perry

First, let me shout out a tremendous thank you and congratulations to all our NPC colleagues. You – we – all work diligently serving our communities every day, and, for the last several months, also advocating for an increase in our NPP funding. Your efforts truly made a difference!

While our Executive Director Mark Streb has comments on the State Budget, I'm updating you on the progress of another Coalition initiative:

The Conference Committee has been meeting, discussing potential conference agendas and logistics, and has settled on the following theme for the 2023 Annual NPC Conference: *Bridging HomeUnity*.



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SAVE THE DATE

The Senator speaking at the NPCNYS Rally in Albany on February 13th demonstrating support of our Agenda.

TOMORROW

May 5th

Interactive Webinar
@ 11 a.m. EST
with State Senator

Brian Kavanagh

We'll begin with an overview on the Housing budget, followed by a discussion of topics to include the final budget items on NPP Funding, the Homeowner Protection Program (HOPP), and other housing initiatives.

Following the overview, the Senator will take questions from participants.

Register now!

REGISTER HERE

Message from Executive Director Mark Streb

This is a historic time for the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition as the New York State 2023-24 State Budget includes an unprecedented \$17.633 million in funding for the Neighborhood Preservation Program.

Furthermore, the funding includes a carve-out of \$250,000 for the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition, allowing us to continue to improve our services to you, our community organizations.

We are immensely grateful to Governor Hochul, Senate Majority Leader Andrea Stewart Cousins and Speaker of the House Carl E. Heastie for coming to this agreement.

Moreover, we are thankful for the tireless efforts of Senator Brian Kavanagh and Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal who have fought for our cause and supported us.

Making a huge step in closing the gap with the CPI:

2023-24	17.63 million
2022-23	12.93 million
2021-22	12.83 million
2020-21	12.83 million
2019-20	12.8 million
2018-19	12.8 million
2017-18	13.3 million
2016-17	13.3 million
2015-16	13.3 million

Cumulative rate of inflation 2015-2022 = 25.7%

At this point, I want to remind everyone that the Senate Committee Chair of the Housing Brian Kavanagh is all set to talk housing with us TOMORROW!

It's not too late to register for this webinar. (See info in left column.)

And, finally, thanks go out to you, our grassroots community organizations who do the hard work everyday, and still had the time to advocate for increased funding. Your hard work and support paid off. Congratulations!

Keep an eye out in an upcoming eNews for information on contacting your representatives to thank them for voting for the increase in NPP funding.

We're gathering resources to assist you in creating a quick, but thoughtful message. On the flip side, if they didn't vote for an increase in funding, why not?

As a reminder, your NPP funds can be used to attend the annual conference: your travel, rooms, and conference fees!



Assemblywoman Linda Rosenthal speaking in support of our Agenda at the Joint Legislative Budget Hearing on March 1, 2023.

President's Message continued

The theme "Bridging HomeUnity" encompasses many of our visions and values as individual NPCs, as well as the Coalition's mission:

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition will unify, educate, empower, and strengthen community organizations in their provision of affordable housing and community revitalization activities.

As we know all too well, provision and preservation of affordable housing is a lofty notion, but in reality, is complex, as it is intertwined with and impacted by political, social and economic factors.

And that's where we nonprofits come in! So many of us are grassroots organizations, often formed in response to a community need and committed to serving our individual communities. Because of this, we are uniquely positioned to understand the history and perspectives of our communities and to meaningfully contextualize their struggles and successes as we labor together, making progress, no matter how small, towards bridging the gaps that separate citizens from appropriate homes.

We can tap into information about the unique makeup of our community to contemplate and evaluate, in small and large ways, what does and does not work in our particular communities; understanding that effective strategies vary from community to community.

But, how do we get to our goal?

As members, we view our communities not as geographic descriptions, but as vibrant collectives whose health depends on the functioning — and thriving — of all its members.

Perhaps we take notes from other Inclusive Communities and use some of their guiding principles as our own objectives:

- Members are respected and valued such that, as a whole they strengthen the community, and the community helps them to meet their basic needs so that they can live with dignity, engage actively, and contribute to the community.
- Meeting basic needs, such as access to affordable housing, requires that members also have resources to obtain such needs.
- At the micro level, individuals feel safe, respected, and comfortable in being themselves and expressing all aspects of their identities.

Our NPC Annual Conference provides ideas, information, and access to resources, and time to connect with others. Consider this gathering to engage — using your community's perspective — and bring your ideas to the discussions, too.

We know that one policy, or even many, won't get us to our goal. But, by being creative and exploring many paths we can continue a long-historied conversation and make progress. As so many of our clients will attest, we seek "Progress, not Perfection."







Your input helps!

Please take a few minutes to fill out our survey. You needn't complete all questions.



UPDATE CDOL PERMISSIONS

Community Development Online (CDOL) is the portal through which all NRPP-related documents are sent to HCR.

CDOL requires a User ID and Password. If you don't know this information, are new to the program, have had staffing changes, or need to update permissions, visit HERE.

Save this site as a "favorite" on your browser, as this is also where the CDOL portal entrance is located.

Need help with Technical Assistance?

The Neighborhood Preservation Coalition can help you.

NPC technical assistance exists to help you complete your reports and receive your funding!

Contact Eileen McCashion at **emccashion@npcnys.org** if you have questions or need assistance.

KEEP PAST APPLICATIONS HANDY

While HCR frowns on "copying and pasting" information from one application or report to the next, you can and should refer to the previous year's documents to help you complete the current year. This is especially helpful if you are new to the process.

Don't wait for the next due date, start preparing what you will need now. For the most part, this information does not vary from year to year.

ADOBE ACROBAT READER

The most recent version of Adobe Reader is free and can be found HERE.

It's all you need to complete HCR documents.

Fully download forms prior to filling them out. That means saving each one locally with a modified name (like adding your SHARS ID # to the name). Then, close it and reopen it.

This is especially important if multiple people contribute to your forms and reports. Share a copy and keep the original for yourself.

Your original (downloaded file) is what the signature and date will be applied to before uploading through the CDOL portal.

Of course, it's still possible for a form to have a glitch (they're created by humans, after all) but it's less likely to be an issue if you've followed the basic steps.

1/3 OF WHAT?!

INSURANCE CERTIFICATES EXPIRE

The NPP grant (and NYS, in general) requires you to have Fidelity, Liability, Disability, Worker's Comp, and Auto insurances (auto, as it applies).

These certificates expire and should be renewed and uploaded to CDOL as you receive them.

Make note of expiration dates on your calendar so you can make timely renewal requests from your insurers.

The NPP requires, from each organization, a one-third match to your awarded funds (as of 2022, that's \$31,227). These may be Federal, State or local grants; private or in-kind donations; or perhaps you receive rental income or funds for managing a building.

Grant funding sites can connect you with grants targeted toward the services you offer or a

Consider using some of your NPP funds to join one of the many grant finding sites for nonprofits:

- The Grantsmanship Center
- The Chronicle of Philanthropy
- GrantStation
- Instrumentl
- Salesforce Philanthropy

particular project.

- Community Foundation Locator

- Mozilla

Knight Foundation

- **CNE**
- **Nonprofit Expert**
- The Stable Company
- Fundraiser Help
- Grantsplus

Let them do the work for you. Watch for when those with memberships offer discounts (i.e. GrantStation offers a \$99 annual membership at least twice a year).

Don't forget about the dozens of local banks and "big" businesses in your own neighborhood.

Look into their charitable foundations. They want the tax write-off and where better to put their money than back into their own neighborhood.

And certainly, check into **NYSHCR's opportunities** throughout the year for a variety of project applications at varying award amounts. Visit HCR's website **HERE**.

Coming soon...

Weekly interactive webinars hosted by NPC, with topics relevant to completing HCR applications.

Click to sa two

LINKS2Partners

Click on oval buttons
to visit Websites >

National partners:

NACEDA WEBSITE

National Alliance of Community
Economic Development Association.

NACEDA's mission is to lead the community development field and its partners in shaping and influencing strategies that advance community prosperity.

NLIHC WEBSITE

The National Low Income Housing
Coalition (NLIHC) is dedicated to
achieving racially and socially equitable
public policy that ensures people with
the lowest incomes have quality homes
that are accessible and affordable in
communities of their choice.

HCR WEBSITE

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

To download a PDF file directory of NPCs, visit HCR then scroll to the bottom of the page.



Post your NPC Job Announcement in the **NPCe-News**

If you have a job opportunity and would like it posted in the **NPC**e-News, create a document with details and contact information and save as a PDF file.

Email **jbeckmann@npcnys.org** with "Job Announcement for e-News" in the subject line. Include the PDF as an attachment.

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