

**Executive Committee**

Robert Sauer, *Chair*  
Thomas McDonald, *Vice-Chair*  
Betsy Mack, *Fiscal Officer*  
Lawrence Mierek, *Director*  
Pamela Dibble, *Director*

**Municipal Projects Coordinator**

John Healt  
(315)941-2818  
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[noccog.org](http://noccog.org)



**Announcements**

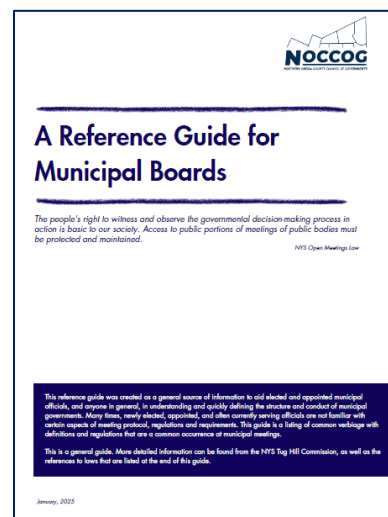
**NOCCOG Releases Reference Guide for Municipalities**

The NOCCOG directors are very pleased to announce the finalization of a reference guide for municipal officials. This reference guide was created as a general source of information to aid elected and appointed municipal officials, and anyone in general, in understanding and quickly defining the structure and conduct of municipal governments.

Many times, newly elected, appointed, and often currently serving officials are not familiar with certain aspects of meeting protocol, procedures or mandated obligations. This guide covers much of the usual verbiage, definitions, requirements and regulations that are a common occurrence at municipal meetings.

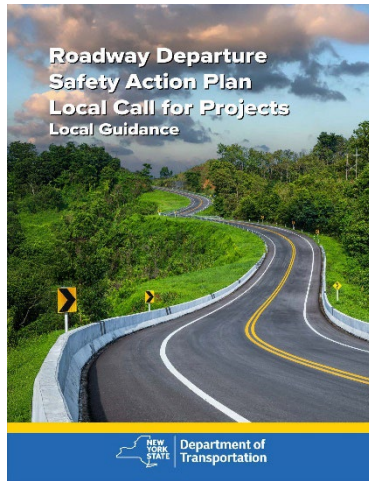
Physical copies of the guide will be available to all NOCCOG municipal officials at no cost, and a digital version is available on the NOCCOG website, [noccog.org](http://noccog.org).

For more information, contact John Healt at [jhealt@tughill.org](mailto:jhealt@tughill.org), or by calling 315-941-2818.



**Towns:** *Annsville ~ Ava ~ Boonville ~ Camden ~ Floyd ~ Forestport ~ Lee ~ Remsen ~ Steuben ~ Trenton ~ Vienna ~ Western*  
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## Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan



New York State has announced \$90 million in funding to reduce fatalities, enhance traffic safety, and minimize crash severity from vehicle lane departures. As part of the NYS Department of Transportation's (NYSDOT's) Roadway Departure Safety Action Plan, the funding can be used to support engineering upgrades, public awareness initiatives/programs, and law enforcement efforts facilitated through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee. Of the \$90 million, \$10 million can be used by local governments to support the development of a Local Road Action Plan/Local Safety Action Plan and the necessary studies. Local road action plans identify improvements on local roads to increase traffic safety, reduce associated risks, decrease fatalities, and reduce the severity of crashes. Local road action plans can also position communities at an advantage for grant funding.

Funding is available to counties, towns, and villages as well as counties that wish to sponsor one or more communities within their jurisdiction. Requested projects must meet a minimum of \$250,000 in highway safety improvement program funds. Applications are due no later than June 13, 2025, to the appropriate metropolitan planning organization or NYSDOT regional planning contact.

Click [here](#) for information, including a PDF of the [guidance book](#), webinar presentations and material, as well as an [application](#) and [instructions](#). Or, for more information on the Action Plan, contact Christopher Barboza at [chris@tughill.org](mailto:chris@tughill.org) or 315-785-2389.

### NYSLTAP - CLRP Roadway Departure Webinar Series

Join the Cornell Local Roads Program in their series of free Foundational Webinars focused on roadway departures.



Webinars are Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 9:00-10:00am.



April 17 - [Introduction to Roadway Departure Issues and Review of Call for Funds](#)\*

April 24 - [Proven Countermeasures – Signing, Delineation & Lighting](#)\*

April 29 - [Proven Countermeasures – Pavement, Geometric](#)\*

May 1 - [Proven Countermeasures – Improve Chances of a Safe Recovery & Minimize Crash Severity](#)\*

May 6 - [Use of the Ball Bank to Determine the Proper Advisory Speed for Curves](#)\*

\*These webinars are anticipated to be worth 1 Engineering PHR credit.

### NOCCOG Global Positioning System (GPS) Mapping Program

GPS mapping services are offered to the municipalities of the Northern Oneida County Council of Governments (NOCCOG) at no charge. NOCCOG contracted employees will work with department heads or representatives to determine what data is to be collected and mapped. Collected information will then be provided digitally and can be updated at any time.

Most departments routinely manage vital infrastructure equipment (culverts, signs, valves) and other non-vital items (park equipment,) noting the maintenance, age, and replacement schedules. GPS service enables municipalities to efficiently collect and store this information, manage, analyze, and deliver data on-demand for a streamlined workflow. This offers municipalities the ability to integrate this information, making their record keeping accurate and up to date.

For information on how GPS mapping may be beneficial for your municipality, contact John Healt at (315) 941-2818, or email [jhealt@tughill.org](mailto:jhealt@tughill.org).

## Kenneth V. and Jeannette Remp Sawyer Community Fund Accepting Grant Proposals for 2025



The Kenneth V. and Jeannette Remp Sawyer Community Fund, at the Northern New York Community Foundation, is accepting grant proposals from nonprofit organizations that serve Boonville, Constableville, and Westernville residents.

The fund was established in 2018 to support programs, projects and initiatives that broadly impact the quality of life in the three communities. The Northern New York Community Foundation administers this permanent, charitable legacy fund that makes annual grant awards. Up to \$60,000 in grant funding is available.

To be eligible for Community Foundation grants, nonprofits must be classified as a 501(c)(3) organization by the IRS. Other entities may be eligible depending on the request.

The deadline for submitting a proposal for consideration is April 18, 2025. Grant applications are managed through the online Grant Lifecycle Manager (GLM) portal.

For grant guidelines, or to learn more about this funding opportunity, click [here](#), or contact Max DelSignore, Community Foundation Assistant Director, [max@nnycf.org](mailto:max@nnycf.org) or 315-782-7110.

## MVEDD Community Development Opportunities Assessment

The Mohawk Valley Economic Development District, Inc. (MVEDD) is scheduling community visits for the spring and summer seasons. The MVEDD team visits to learn your municipality's needs and priorities through site visits and discussions, and then they help navigate applicable grant programs, rebates, incentives, and opportunities. This no cost service offers municipal building and business walk-throughs, streetlight improvements evaluation, energy improvement evaluation, rural connectivity resources, identifying funding sources, digital inclusion and skills support.



MVEDD will send a full written report of opportunities and priority areas specific to your community following the visit.

For more information or schedule a visit, contact MVEDD by email at [info@mvedd.org](mailto:info@mvedd.org), or call 315-866-4671, or check out their website, [www.mvedd.org](http://www.mvedd.org).

## NYAOT 2025 Town Finance and Personnel School



There is still time to register for the NYS Association of Towns' annual Town Finance School, April 22-24, in Saratoga Springs. NYAOT celebrates the 25th anniversary of Town Finance School with a special, expanded program - this year it's the NYAOT 2025 Finance and Personnel School.

Offering more training opportunities, the group has significantly increased the number of available classes by introducing a new personnel track of concurrent sessions and adding an entire extra day of programming.

Additionally, all town officials are invited to the anniversary dinner, featuring keynote speaker NYS Comptroller, Thomas P. DiNapoli.

For a full tentative agenda and schedule of events, please click [here](#). Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

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## Municipal Parks and Recreation Grant Program Applications Now Open



The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP) is pleased to announce a new grant program to fund the development and improvement of municipal parks and recreation sites. Funds for the Municipal Parks and Recreation (MPR) Grant Program are provided by the Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act of 2022 (the “Bond Act”). Counties, cities, towns, and villages within the boundaries of New York

State that own the property where the proposed project is sited are eligible to apply.

MPR funding is available for the construction of recreational facilities and other improvements to municipally owned recreational sites and parks. Examples include playgrounds, courts, playing fields, and facilities for swimming, biking, boating, picnicking, hiking, fishing, camping or other recreational activities. Grants will primarily fund construction costs. Preconstruction activities, such as developing plans and design specifications may be included in the project budget, but MPR cannot fund projects that are solely for planning and design without a construction component.

For the 2025 grant cycle, successful MPR project applications will be funded with up to \$10 million in Bond Act funds from the Open Space Land Conservation and Recreation category. An additional grant cycle will occur in the future, bringing the program total to \$20 million through two rounds of applications.

The MPR grant opportunity can fund up to 90% of the total eligible project costs, with a matching share requirement of 10%. The maximum grant award is \$1,000,000. Grants are administered on a reimbursement basis.

Applications are now available through the on-line Consolidated Funding Application <https://apps.cio.ny.gov/apps/cfa/>, with an application deadline of May 2, 2025, at 4 p.m.

For more information, visit the Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation MPR website, [here](#).

## NOCCOG Scholarship Program

The Northern Oneida County Council of Governments is very pleased to announce the NOCCOG Scholarship program is continuing in 2025. The program, which started last year, is available to graduating seniors in the NOCCOG area school districts that are attending college in the fall. The current schools involved with the program are Adirondack, Camden, Holland Patent and Remsen.



The award is given to recognize the importance of local government, as well as the often-unacknowledged service, commitment, and dedication of community members who are essential in the daily operation of our towns and villages. Ideally, the candidate has been involved in school or community organizations, volunteering their time, usually behind the scenes, without the desire for recognition. The award is given with the hope the recipient will someday be involved in their local government.

The \$500 award is given upon the successful completion of their first college semester.

If you know of a deserving senior, encourage them to check with their local guidance office and apply!

For more information on the program, please contact John Healt, 315-941-2818, or email, [jhealt@tughill.org](mailto:jhealt@tughill.org).

## Oneida County Releases Housing Market Report



The office of the Oneida County Executive commissioned a Housing Inventory Assessment in the Summer of 2023 as part of an initiative to address the needs and gaps in county housing options through a strategic plan. The Oneida County Department of Planning, in partnership with UP Development Planning LLC, conducted the assessment, which also included an online survey that was conducted last fall.

The goal of the comprehensive housing plan was to bring together market influencers and workforce drivers to accurately assess current needs and provide a strategy for the future of housing within Oneida County using meta-analysis of existing data, housing plans, identified housing needs and projected housing needs across the region.

In addition to in-depth demographic information and employment trends, some other key highlights of the report include:

- 6,070 new housing units will need to be created to meet market demand by 2040, with a majority of those required by 2030.
- Senior housing should account for nearly half of new construction.
- 16% of all homeowners and 39% of all renters spend more than 30% of their income on housing.
- Among renters earning less than 30% of the Area Median Income, 78% are cost-burdened and 63% are extremely cost burdened (over 50% of income goes towards housing).

In addition to translating the data collected, the report lays out five goals and 13 implementation strategies, as well as 34 potential action steps to take. It outlines partners for each action and potential funding and resources as well as a proposed timeframe range.

The final housing report can be viewed [here](#). A story map of the process can be viewed [here](#).

## Kubota Hometown Proud Grant Program

Kubota seeks applications for 501(c)3 organizations located within 50 miles of an authorized Kubota dealer for hometown projects and initiatives. The program will invest in communities across the country by awarding ten grants, valued at \$50,000 each (\$25,000 cash and a \$25,000 voucher for Kubota equipment).



The online application portal opens April 3 and closes May 9, 2025. Click [here](#) for more information.

## New Municipal Website Requirements

General Municipal Law (GML) § 300 is a new law pertaining to municipal websites. It currently requires all municipal corporations to maintain an official website with a “.gov” domain name. It also states that the official website shall contain basic information on the municipality including, but not limited to, hours of operations, elected officials and services provided. The website shall also contain a privacy policy and several other items. The new law currently has an effective date of June 19, 2025.

However, Bill S783/A3923 has been signed which revises GML § 300 to make it applicable only to municipalities of a population of 1,500 or higher as of the latest preceding decennial federal census and delay the effective date until one year after the enactment of the law. Information about how to secure a .gov domain is available at [get.gov/domains/](https://get.gov/domains/).

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# Mohawk Valley

## COMMUNITY VISIT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES ASSESMENT



✉ info@mvedd.org

☎ (315) 866-4671

🌐 [www.mvedd.org](http://www.mvedd.org)

📍 26 W Main Street  
Mohawk, NY 13407

*Scheduling Now for  
Spring and Summer 2025*

Call or email to  
schedule your visit!

The Mohawk Valley Team will visit your community to learn about your priorities and needs to help navigate applicable grant programs, rebates, incentives, and opportunities. MVEDD will send a full written report of opportunities and priority areas specific to your community following the visit.

This is a no-cost service.

### Services Included:

- Municipal building walk-through
- Business walk-through
- Streetlight improvements evaluation
- Energy improvement evaluation
- Rural connectivity resources
- Identifying funding sources
- Digital inclusion and skills support

### Community Considerations:

- Priorities and needs
- Community campaigns
- DRI and NY Forward
- Community green spaces
- Park improvements
- Grant funding opportunities
- Planning and assessments

Include local residents, businesses, and organizations to maximize your community development opportunities!





TUG HILL WINTER WILDLIFE SERIES:



# SPRING RAPTOR MIGRATION ALONG LAKE ONTARIO

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 6PM

JOIN US FOR AN EXCITING WEBINAR WITH DAENA FORD, A CONSERVATIONIST WITH 30+ YEARS OF RAPTOR EXPERIENCE AND PRESIDENT OF BRADDOCK BAY RAPTOR RESEARCH.

## WEBINAR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Raptor migration counts at sites along Lake Ontario like Braddock Bay and Derby Hill
- The importance of raptor populations as an environmental barometer
- The challenges and threats our native raptor species face and which populations are in decline
- Previous conservation challenges and victories such as raptor recovery and DDT
- Ways to get involved in hawkwatching, seeing the migration in person, and ID'ing raptors



For more information and registration, see here:  
[tinyurl.com/tughillraptor](http://tinyurl.com/tughillraptor)