

Executive Committee

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Announcements

NOCCOG Annual Fall Dinner Meeting, October 29



There is still time to register for the Northern Oneida County Council of Governments Annual Fall Dinner and Meeting, which will be held Thursday, October 29th, at the McConnellsville Country Club, 3007 McConnellsville Rd, Blossvale. A cash bar and social hour will start at 5:30 pm, with a buffet dinner and meeting to follow. Invitations have been emailed, but if additional invitations are needed, please reach out to any NOCCOG municipal advisor. The cost is \$35 per person with reservations requested by Thursday, October 15.

Oneida County Planning Commissioner, James Genovese, will be the featured speaker. James will present on the positive action Oneida County is taking with regard to housing. Last year's annual meeting minutes and the 2027 proposed budget will be emailed shortly for member municipality review.



To reserve your spot, or for more information, check out the NOCCOG website, reach out to your current municipal advisor, or contact John Healt, 315-941-2818 or jhealt@tughill.org.

NYS Highway & Public Works Expo, Oct. 8



The 32nd Annual New York State Highway and Public Works Expo will be held on October 28, from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Exposition Center at the New York State Fairgrounds in Syracuse. Exhibitors from around the state and the nation gather each year in Syracuse for the annual Expo that puts them face to face with municipal budget decision makers. Complimentary lunch and raffles are provided.

There is no cost to attend, but pre-registration is required. Click [here](#) for the pre-registration link, or visit the Expo webpage, [here](#).

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Rate Setting and Affordability Assessment for Small Water Systems Webinar, Oct. 13

Small water systems face the challenge of maintaining financial sustainability while providing safe, reliable service at affordable rates. Join the Environmental Finance Center Network and presenter, Danish Kumar, on Tuesday, October 13, from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm as they introduce the fundamentals of rate setting, including common rate structures. Participants will learn how to assess whether current or projected rates are sufficient to meet system needs and evaluate rate affordability for customers. The session will also demonstrate tools for rate analysis and affordability assessment and highlight resources available to support small systems.



For more information, visit the EFCN training [webpage](#), or click here to [register](#).

Cyber Security Webinars, 2 Part Sessions, Oct 14 & 28



The Academy for New York State's Local Officials, through the Office of the State Comptroller, is recognizing October as National Cybersecurity Awareness Month by offering a no charge, 2 part, cybersecurity webinar series on Wednesday, October 14 and on Wednesday, October 28. Both hour long sessions start at 10:00 am. Click the highlighted titles to register.

October 14, 10:00 am-11:00 am, [Effective Cybersecurity Awareness Training, Part 1](#)

Effective training is crucial to help prevent inadvertent data breaches and to protect information technology (IT) systems from unauthorized access and use. This webinar will discuss training topics and other items that are key to ensuring effective cybersecurity awareness. Strategies for assessing training effectiveness, such as employee surveys, phishing simulations and incident reporting trends will also be shared.

October 18, 10:00 am-11:00 am, [Cybersecurity Standards: A Case Study, Part 2](#)

Information technology (IT) systems, historically, were not always designed with security built in by default. IT system administrators generally need to evaluate, update and configure settings before a newly implemented IT system can be used securely. A variety of cybersecurity standards are available to help IT system administrators navigate this often-arduous task. This webinar will walk through a cybersecurity standards case study, demonstrating how an IT system administrator could select and use one of the many industry-vetted standards as a baseline when configuring, implementing and periodically evaluating an IT system's position in successfully defending against today's cybersecurity threats.

Please note- these trainings do not qualify to meet the cybersecurity awareness training requirements under State Technology Law Section 103.

NY Bricks Round 2 Offers \$75 Million for Community Centers



The second round of the Building Recreational Infrastructure for Communities, Kids and Seniors (NY BRICKS) capital grant program has launched, making \$75 million available to municipalities and nonprofit organizations to build, renovate and modernize community centers across New York State. Gov. The funding was secured in the FY2027 Enacted Budget to support community centers that promote physical health, mental well-being and connections among youth and older adults. This second round of NY BRICKS will provide grants ranging from \$250,000 to \$15 million, with priority given to projects in underserved communities.

NY BRICKS provides grants for projects that build or improve community centers. Eligible projects include design, construction, reconstruction, major renovations, improvements, modernization and rehabilitation. Grant recipients must provide a 20 percent match toward total project costs. The Request for Applications and supporting materials for the second round of NY BRICKS are available at dasny.org/bricks. A webinar for potential applicants is posted.

Applications will be accepted through the DASNY Grants Application Portal beginning Nov. 2 and must be submitted by 3:00 p.m. Dec. 7. Awards are expected to be announced no earlier than Feb. 26, 2027.

32nd Statewide Conference on Local Bridges, Oct. 21 & 22

The largest conference in NYS dedicated to bridge issues for local governments will be held October 21 and 22, with a training day on the 20th, at the Holiday Inn, Saratoga, in Saratoga Springs, NY. Registration rates increase after October 3rd.



Anticipated training day sessions are worth 4 PDHs and include Engineering the Federal Aid Process and Subsurface to Slabs: Geotechnical Process, PEM, and Bridge Deck Construction. The conference is worth 7.5 PDHs and covers topics such as Bridge Solutions, updates from NYSDOT Bridge Management Bureau, and Project Highlights, which includes Lewis County's Emergency Bridge Replacement Utilizing NYSDOT Arrow Bridge.

Full details are available on the NYSLTAP-CAP conference [webpage](#). To register, click [here](#).

Developing and Managing Competitive Grant Applications Webinar, October 22



Local leaders should always be focused on maximizing resources for your community priorities. Federal and state grant programs are vast, and getting more diverse every year. From planning and community development initiatives to large scale infrastructure projects, there's a grant resource for almost any program or project imaginable. This session will focus on the role of planning and prioritization in grant success, elements of a successful application, and the joys of administering a grant once you win.

On Thursday, October 22, from 6 -7 pm, the MRB Group and Hancock Estabrook will present *Funding Your Priorities- Developing and Managing Competitive Grant Applications*, their 9th session of their no cost annual training program, geared to assist local governments, town officials, and planning and zoning boards.

To register for this webinar, click [here](#). For more information, or to view the 2026 Municipal Bootcamp Program, visit the MRB Group Bootcamp [webpage](#).

Providing Fire Protection in NYS, October 27

New York's system for providing fire protection is complex, and many towns and villages are working hard to maintain fire protection for their citizens balanced with fiscal responsibility. Join the New York Association of Towns, the Office of the State Comptroller, and the NYS Tug Hill Commission as they present a no cost, in person training, Providing Fire Protection, on Tuesday, October 27th, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, at the West Monroe Fire Hall, 54 County Route 11, West Monroe. Included in the workshop will be a general overview of firefighting, fire protection by municipality type (city, town, village), fire districts, budgeting, and reporting requirements.



The workshop is free to attend, but pre-registration is required. Click [here](#) to register. For questions or more information, contact the Tug Hill Commission by email, tughill@tughill.org, or by calling 315-785-2380.

New York State Data Centers & Legislation Dashboard



The Rockefeller Institute of Government has launched a data center and legislation dashboard, visualizing operating facilities, proposed developments, local municipal moratoriums, and state legislation across New York State. The goal of the dashboard is to summarize available information on the development of data centers and policy responses in the state. The dashboard is updated with new information as it becomes available.

Check out the dashboard [here](#).

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METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

Boehlert Center at Union Station

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Julie Richmond, MPA, Director

September 1, 2026

Dear Potential Applicant:

This letter is to inform you that the Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council (HOCTC) is accepting applications for the Local Bridge Preliminary Engineering Program, which is intended to give local governments an opportunity to complete bridge preliminary engineering studies ahead of the next NYSDOT Bridge NY program solicitation.

Eligible applicants include all sponsors authorized to receive and administer state and federal transportation funding under the NYSDOT Bridge NY program. Applications may be submitted by public entities seeking funding to complete preliminary bridge engineering for facilities under their jurisdiction. Eligible projects will include all bridges on public highways carrying vehicular traffic, in accordance with the Federal-aid process. No applications for culverts will be accepted at this time.

A total of \$3 million in federal funding is available to communities in Herkimer and Oneida Counties on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no minimum or maximum request. Municipalities can submit more than one project but should rank projects in order of need. Applications will be evaluated based on the area need, the relationship to other existing or proposed projects, potential implementation capacity, regional significance, and alignment with the goals of the HOCTC Long-Range Transportation Plan and consistency with the eligibility criteria for the NYSDOT Bridge NY Program. HOCTC is not bound by this request and may initiate other projects that utilize available funding to support MPO, state, and federal funding priorities that may take precedence.

Awards will support preliminary engineering work, and Federal/State capital funds will cover up to 95 percent of the project cost, with the remaining five percent covered by local funds. Applications will be due by **Tuesday, December 15th at 4 p.m.**

Application materials and information are available on the HOCTC website (<https://oneidacountyny.gov/departments/planning/transportation/>) and at [Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council \(HOCTC Central\)](#). Please contact Julie Richmond at jrichmond@oneidacountyny.gov or 315-798-5710 at HOCTC for more information or questions about this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.

Chairman, Herkimer-Oneida Counties Transportation Council