



# River Area Council of Governments

[www.racog.org](http://www.racog.org)

Municipal Management Consultant Monthly Announcements

## August 2022

### Next RACOG Meeting

September TBA

**NY Forward Grant Program Announced for Smaller and Rural Communities** - The Department of State has announced a new program that might be of interest to Tug Hill towns and villages. It is called NY Forward, modeled after the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant that several area cities (Oswego, Watertown, Rome, Utica, etc.) have received. NY Forward is targeted for downtowns in NY's smaller and rural communities and is funded at \$100 million this year, the same as DRI. <https://www.ny.gov/programs/ny-forward>

**Castorland Journal Presentation** – Here is the recorded video of Dr. Gallucci's presentation on July 28, 2022 at the Lowville Academy. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TJF9A1VMfa0>

**NEW Short-Term Property Rental Issue Paper** – Here is new short-term property rental issue paper by the Tug Hill Commission. <https://tughill.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Short-Term-Rentals-FINAL-7-2022.pdf>

**Tug Hill Commission Hiring** – The commission is advertising for an entry level Projects Specialist to provide assistance to local governments and regional organizations in the rural Tug Hill region in the areas of natural resources, community development, and general technical assistance. <https://tughill.org/job-openings/>

### RACOG UPDATES

- **Promotional Video** – On July 25<sup>th</sup> we had a meeting with CGI to discuss next steps in the video process. They are looking at shooting video on 9/23/2022 and 9/24/2022. The subcommittee will be starting to put together a draft script.
- **RACOG Economic Visioning Summit** – The results from the survey will be passed out at the board meeting in September.
- **RACOG Event Display** – The banner created by the Howard G. Sackett Technical Center visual communications class was on display at the Jefferson and Lewis County fairs.
- **LED Lighting** – Lewis County communities have received their shared service funds. Jefferson County communities should be getting their funds soon, the commission is assisting Jefferson County to finalize their shared service plan documentation for all their shared service projects.
- **Complete Street Projects** – The villages of Castorland, Deferiet, and Lowville all have interest in getting digital radar signs to be put up in their villages to help slow traffic down. The village of Lowville is also interested in pedestrian crosswalk signs. I am going to see if BOCES has a 3D printer they can use to create the crosswalk signs. The commission is also going to attend the traffic safety meetings for Jefferson and Lewis County if possible.

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- **“Friends of the Black River” Working Group** – Had their presentation by Dr. John Gallucci on July 28, 2022. There was a good turnout for it. Next steps for the group are to get the river completely mapped and the Black River website updated.

## TRAININGS/WORKSHOPS

To see more information on these trainings, go to <https://www.racog.org/grants-trainings/>

**Downtown Revitalization Initiative + NY Forward Webinar: August 4, 2022**, Online, On Thursday, August 4 at 1 p.m. join the NYS Department of State, NYS Economic Development Council, and NY Conference Of Mayors & NYS Association of Counties for a free webinar to learn more about Round Six of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative and the first round of the New York Forward program. [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_Qp0j0SfRQVKB6ThhWlirJg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Qp0j0SfRQVKB6ThhWlirJg), *NYS Department of State, NYS Economic Development Council, and NY Conference Of Mayors & NYS Association of Counties*

**OSC Government Accounting Schools Classes: Fall 2022**, <https://www.osc.state.ny.us/local-government/academy>, *Office of State Comptroller*

**NY Conference of Mayors Fall Training School: September 12 -16, 2022**, The New York State Conference of Mayors (NYCOM) is holding its fall training school at the Saratoga Hilton in Saratoga Springs September 12-16, 2022. Complete information available at [www.nycom.org/2-uncategorised/1053-fall-school-agenda](http://www.nycom.org/2-uncategorised/1053-fall-school-agenda), *NYCOM*

## GRANTS/ASSISTANCE

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**NY Forward Grant Program Announced for Smaller and Rural Communities** The Department of State has announced a new program that might be of interest to Tug Hill towns and villages. It is called NY Forward, modeled after the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) grant. NY Forward is targeted for downtowns in NY’s smaller and rural communities and is funded at \$100 million this year, the same as DRI. <https://www.ny.gov/programs/ny-forward>, *New York State*, **Deadline:** Submit Letter of Intent ASAP

**Restore New York Communities Initiative (“Restore NY”):** Restore NY provides municipalities with financial assistance for the revitalization of commercial and residential properties. <https://esd.ny.gov/sites/default/files/1-Restore-NY-Round-6-Guidelines-2022.pdf>, *Empire State Development*, **Deadline:** August 11, 2022

**State Water Grants:** \$225 million in grants for critical drinking water and wastewater infrastructure projects through the Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) and Intermunicipal Water Infrastructure Grant (IMG) programs are available. <https://efc.ny.gov/wiia>, *Environmental Facilities Corporation*, **Deadline:** September 9, 2022

**Internet For All Program:** Internet for All programs are slated to build internet infrastructure, teach digital skills, and provide necessary technology to ensure that everyone in America – including communities of color, rural communities, and older Americans – has the access and skills needed to fully participate in today’s society. [https://www.internetforall.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/Fact%20Sheet%20-%20IFA%20Launch\\_0.pdf](https://www.internetforall.gov/sites/default/files/2022-05/Fact%20Sheet%20-%20IFA%20Launch_0.pdf), *National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)*, **Deadline:** September 30, 2022