



**Department of State**  
Local Government

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY GRANT PROGRAM OVERVIEW



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# Division of Local Government Services

- Principal resource for New York's local governments
- Provides technical assistance through three programs:
  - Local Government Training
  - **Local Government Efficiency**
  - Regional Economic and Community Development



# Local Government Efficiency

- Reducing costs and local property taxes through shared services and municipal collaboration & coordination
- Modernizing critical municipal services, improving service delivery, & focusing limited resources to improve efficiency



# Citizens Reorganization Empowerment Grant

- Implements *General Municipal Law 17-A*, **Dissolution or consolidation of local governments**.
- Towns, villages, fire districts, special improvement districts
- **Re-organization** planning, implementation, & expedited assistance
- \$100,000 funding cap on total project support (*up to \$50,000 for planning and up to \$50,000 for implementation*).
- **Tax credits** to consolidated local governments – *15% of combined real property taxes prior to consolidation*, up to \$1 million.

# Local Government Efficiency Grant

- LGE programs fund:
  - General Government Services
  - Public Safety & Emergency Services
  - Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
  - Education Services
  - Transportation
  - Information Technology & Cybersecurity
  - Clean Energy, Sustainability, & Resilience Initiatives
- Local governments apply through the **Consolidated Funding Application** (CFA) for the LGE grant

# Eligible Applicants

- **Counties, cities, towns, villages, special improvement districts, fire districts**
- **Public libraries, association libraries, & public library systems**  
*(if they advance a joint application on behalf of member libraries)*
- **Water authorities, sewer authorities, regional planning and development boards**
- **School districts and Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES)**

# Available Funding

Funding	Implementation	Planning
Total	\$7.2 million	\$800,000
Per Applicant	\$250,000	\$20,000
Per Application	\$1,250,000	\$100,000
Local Match	10% of Total Project Costs	50% of Total Project Costs*
* Less return of Local Match for Planning Grant if it resulted in Implementation Grant		

# Grant Structure

Regional Project	Local Project
4 or more Applicants	2+ Applicants, that is not defined as a “Regional Project”
Must be led by Regional Planning Board or County	Any local government may lead
May combine planning <u>and</u> implementation in single grant	Planning <u>or</u> implementation only

# Eligible Expenses

LGE grants may be used to cover costs integral to project implementation including, but not limited to:

- *Legal and consultant services,*
- *Capital improvements*
- *Equipment purchases, and*
- *Transitional personnel costs not to exceed 3 years*



# Ineligible Expenses

- *Salaries, except for transitional personnel*
- *Utilities and overhead*
- *Contingency expenses*
- *Indirect expenses*
- *Approved operating expense of the school district as defined in Education Law § 3602(1)(t)*
- *Any expenditures previously funded through the LGE program or any other NYS grant program*
- *Additional expenses as identified in the RFA*

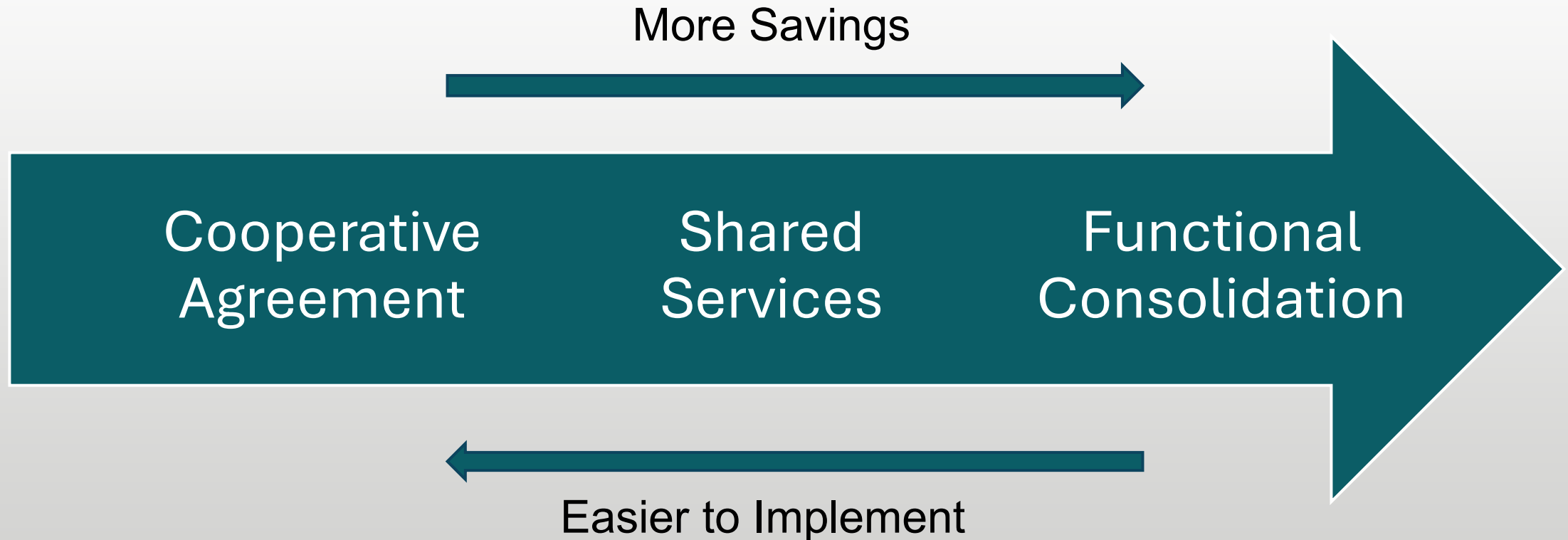
# EXAMPLE LGE PROJECTS



# Examples of Recent LGE Awards

- Town of Darien, **Regional Wastewater Treatment**, \$600,000
- Tompkins County, **Countywide Rapid Medical Response**, \$630,000
- Washington County, **Shared Highway Facility**, \$400,000
- Town of North Hempstead, **Joint Tree Assessment & Forestry**, \$540,000
- Brockport Fire District, **Mutual Aid College Student Bunk-In**, \$490,500
- Village of Rensselaer Falls, **Village & Library Resilience**, \$400,000
- Albany County, **County & City Records Digitization**, \$309,000
- Town of Carmel, **Multi Police Dep't Records Management System**, \$1,200,000
  
- City of Watervliet, **Code Enforcement Collaboration study**, \$25,000
- Montgomery County, **Countywide Law Enforcement IT study**, \$50,000
- Town of Leicester, **Fire & EMS Services study**, \$19,500
- Wyoming County, **Countywide Water Feasibility study**, \$75,000
- Madison County, **Countywide Shared Code Enforcement study**, \$21,000

# Risk vs. Reward



# Cooperative Agreements

*An agreement to aggregate demand to get lower prices from selected suppliers*



*Lewis County:*

## **Shared Highway Services**

- County purchased 3 pieces of equipment: a Hydro Vac Truck, a Grapplesaw Truck, and a Loader Mounted Snowblower for shared municipal use among 17 towns and villages.

# Shared Services

*The joint provision or delivery of a service or facility by two or more municipalities which each may lawfully undertake separately*



## *Town of Smithtown:* **Regional Fuel Facility Consolidation**

- Regional fuel depot with shared fuel and fleet management services serving multiple municipalities.

# Functional Consolidations

*One municipality provides a service or function for another municipality, which no longer engages in that service or function*



## *Town and Village of Saugerties:* **Consolidation of Police Departments**

- Eliminated duplicate costs for equipment, property, support services, maintenance and records

# Government Consolidations

*Local government consolidations and dissolutions not eligible under the Citizens Reorganization and Empowerment Grant (CREG)*



*Livingston Manor and Roscoe Central School Districts:*

## **School District Merger**

- Implemented a school district merger in July 2025 with grant funds used for training, building improvements, equipment, and curriculum development

# SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY



# Activity 1: Practicing Efficiency

## WITH YOUR TABLE

1. Introduce yourself to the table.
2. Write (*on the paper provided*) challenges or ideas that you think a LGE grant may be able to solve. List the ideas out. (*These can be real or made up.*)
3. Narrow down to ONE idea to work on as a group. Circle it.
4. Brainstorm and list all the ideas on how this one idea will save costs. List short-term savings, long-term savings, and how you can document or define it for a grant.

# SHARING

**Each table read off their ideas and  
cost savings list**

# Activity 2: Making Connections

## ALL TOGETHER

1. What is a REAL LIFE efficiency problem your community would like to solve? (*Name of Community, County of Community, and YOUR name as a contact*)
2. Everyone use your sticky notes (post-its) in front of you. Place your name, your community's name, your county, and your email / phone number if you would like to evaluate working together on this.
3. Place sticky notes with contacts under the real-life efficiency problem you're interested in working on together.

**REPEAT**

*...until we are out of ideas*



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## **Division of Local Government Services**

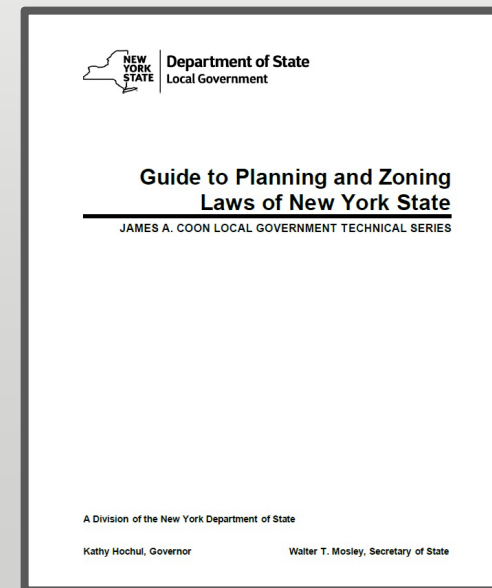
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**<https://dos.ny.gov/training-assistance>**

## **Publications:**

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