



Rural Housing Coalition

of New York

Working Together to Revitalize Rural New York

2024 Budget Priorities

1. Maintain 2023 Funding Levels for the Rural Preservation Program (RPP) – The Rural Preservation Program received an increase in 2023 for the first time in over 5 years and the funding was desperately needed by the Rural Preservation Companies (RPCs), which are non-profit housing organizations that are the main conduit for implementing the state’s housing initiatives in the rural parts of the state.
Request: Restore 2023 funding levels of \$7.5 million plus 3% inflationary increase (including \$250,000 for the Rural Housing Coalition).
2. RESTORE/Access to Home – The Legislature increased funding for these two programs in 2023 that assist with emergency repairs and accessibility modifications to the homes of low-moderate income seniors and the disabled. The 2024-25 Executive Budget rolled back those much-needed increases.
Request: Restore 2023 funding levels of \$8.4 million for RESTORE and \$3 million for Access to Home.
3. Small Rental Development Initiative (SRDI) – This funding is needed to address the shortage of affordable rental housing in rural communities. Funding is targeted to small rental construction or rehab projects of 5-20 units, which are a suitable size for rural communities, but not for LIHTC funding. HCR received 11 applications for \$14 million in funding during the first round in 2023 and funded only 5 (2 in rural areas).
Request: \$20 million (Executive Budget zeroed out the \$7 million in 2023 funding).
4. USDA 515 Rental Properties Preservation - USDA 515 projects are affordable rental properties built with USDA funding in the 1990’s and early 2000’s in rural areas of the state. The 30-year mortgages on these properties are expiring along with their affordability protections. There are approximately 400 properties encompassing 12,000 affordable rental apartments in New York. The state needs to invest in preserving and rehabbing these properties like the Mitchell-Lama Program in urban areas. **Request: \$25 million (half the amount in state budget to preserve Mitchell-Lama apartments).**
5. Main Street Program – The New York Main Street program plays an important role in revitalizing small communities in rural New York through building renovations, façade improvements and streetscape enhancements. The program over the past 5 years has received annual requests for over \$10 million.
Request: \$10 million (currently funded at \$4.2 million)
6. Affordable Housing Corporation (AHC) – The program supports homeownership through new construction, provides down payment and closing cost assistance and the rehabilitation of owner-occupied housing. The Legislature increased funding in 2022 from \$26 million to \$36 million.
Request: Restore funding to \$36 million (currently funded at \$26 million).
7. Manufactured and Mobile Home Replacement Program (MMHR) - The program is utilized by non-profit housing organizations to provide financial assistance to mobile homeowners with replacing or rehabbing their dilapidated and unsafe homes. Funding is limited to \$100,000 per unit and needs to be increased to \$200,000 per unit, the admin fee needs to be increased from 7.5% to 10% and mobile homes located in mobile home parks should be made eligible for this funding. **Request: \$4 million and changes above.**