



Rural Housing Coalition

of New York

Working Together to Revitalize Rural New York

2025 Budget Priorities

1. Fund Rural and Neighborhood Preservation Companies Equally - Neighborhood Preservation Companies (NPCs) receive approximately \$130,000 and Rural Preservation Companies (RPCs) receive \$121,000 each for administrative expenses. The state should fund urban and rural housing programs equally and fairly. **Request: Reverse proposed cuts and fund RPCs at \$130,000 each (60 RPCs) for a total of \$8,050,000 (including \$250,000 for the Rural Housing Coalition).**
2. 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 4-20 units, which are a suitable size for rural communities. HCR received 13 applications for \$7 million in funding and awarded 7 grants in 2024 (2 in rural areas). **Request: Reverse proposed cuts and provide \$20 million (increase of \$13 million over last year.)**
3. USDA 515 Rental Properties Preservation - USDA 515 projects are affordable rental properties built with USDA funding 30 years ago 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. **Request: Reverse proposed cuts and maintain the \$10 million.**
4. Safer Homes for Seniors - This new initiative would fund small household repairs and improvements (grab bars, railings, minor plumbing and electrical work, window and door repairs, etc) to promote safe aging in place for low-mod income seniors in either owner-occupied or rental homes. **Request: \$5 million**
5. Infrastructure Funding – Provide infrastructure funding to support the building of housing in areas of the state that lack infrastructure (i.e. rural areas). **Request: \$100 million**
6. 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)**
7. RESTORE/Access to Home – Both programs routinely receive more applications for funding than budgeted. The programs assist with emergency repairs and accessibility modifications to the homes of low-moderate income seniors and the disabled. The 2024 Budget reduced funding for RESTORE to \$1.4 million and increased funding for Access to Home to \$4 million. **Request: Reverse proposed cuts and provide \$4 million each for Restore and Access to Home.**
8. 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).**