

REDC awards Southern Tier \$89 million: See who benefits from economic grants

Jeff Platsky, Binghamton Press & Sun-Bulletin Published 4:20 p.m. ET Dec. 19, 2019 | Updated 4:51 p.m. ET Dec. 19, 2019

The Southern Tier received a nearly \$89 million ([/story/news/politics/albany/2019/12/19/ny-announced-761-m-economic-development-projects-how-itll-spent/2700335001/](https://www.binghamtonpress.com/story/news/politics/albany/2019/12/19/ny-announced-761-m-economic-development-projects-how-itll-spent/2700335001/)), commitment for economic development projects deemed transformative by a review panel.

An [eight-county region, which stretches from Steuben and Schuyler counties eastward to Delaware County \(https://artsnys.org/new-york-state-regional-economic-development-initiative/\)](https://artsnys.org/new-york-state-regional-economic-development-initiative/), received funding for 109 projects (<https://www.ny.gov/sites/ny.gov/files/atoms/files/2019REDCA2f79hkFinal.pdf>). Awards ranged from \$5 million for Binghamton University to pay for campus energy-saving measures and \$5.2 million to assist Tyoga Container in relocating a pallet factory from Tioga, Pennsylvania, to Painted Post, New York, to \$12,500 for The Cherry Arts Center in Tompkins County to turn a part-time artistic director role into a full-time position.

The Southern Tier received the largest share of the [more than \\$761 million awarded Thursday. \(s://regionalcouncils.ny.gov\)](https://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov) It was the ninth funding round of this economic development initiative that Gov. Andrew Cuomo trumpets as a locally directed effort to jump-start projects with the best prospects for sustainable economic development.

How the money is being spent around NY: \$761M for economic development projects ([/story/news/politics/albany/2019/12/19/ny-announced-761-m-economic-development-projects-how-itll-spent/2700335001/](https://www.binghamtonpress.com/story/news/politics/albany/2019/12/19/ny-announced-761-m-economic-development-projects-how-itll-spent/2700335001/)).

"Throughout the [Regional Economic Development Council process \(https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-more-761-million-economic-and-community-development-resources-awarded\)](https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-cuomo-announces-more-761-million-economic-and-community-development-resources-awarded), over the past nine years, we have seen unprecedented regional investment focusing on a ground-up, strategic model that has spurred tremendous growth in every corner of this great state," Cuomo said.

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Among the projects funded:

Broome County

- \$340,000 to Beer Tree Brew Works Inc. to renovate a portion of the former Sears at the Oakdale Mall in Johnson City to create a microbrewery, canning and distribution facility.
- \$770,000 to Johnson-Schmidt & Associates, Architects, to [renovate a historic Revolutionary War-era property at 41-43 Court St. in Binghamton into an entertainment and cultural arts center.](#) ([/story/news/local/2019/06/21/entertainment-venue-downtown-binghamton/1497761001/](#))
- \$186,375 to [LUMA Projection Arts](#) ([/story/entertainment/2019/09/05/luma-binghamton-2019-guide-weather-parking-schedule/2221449001/](#)) to produce and create the world's first projection mapped short film.
- \$250,000 to [Sam A. Lupo & Sons Inc.](#) to [relocate and expand its existing operations](#) ([/story/news/local/2019/06/20/lupos-expanding-spiedie-operation/1509855001/](#)) to meet continued demand and grow their business.
- \$400,000 to Volunteers Improving Neighborhood Environments Inc. (VINES) to build a straw-bale green commercial office building.

Chemung County

- \$1 million to assist Newtown Creek Community Inc., a recently established member-owned mobile home park, with the installation of new water, sewer and storm lines.
- \$400,000 to Country Kids Childcare Center, LLC to relocate existing operations to a newly built facility, expanding access to child-care and creating new jobs.
- \$100,000 to Arnot Health to undertake the planning necessary to address poverty in the Elmira area, and enhance its role in the reduction of blight and revitalization in the City of Elmira's downtown with a plan to transform, upgrade with innovation and technology, and repurpose its physical assets.
- \$600,000 to the City of Elmira to restore the historic clock tower on City Hall in downtown Elmira.

[Regional Economic Development Council projects](#)
(<http://lohud.nydatabases.com/database/regional-economic-development-council-projects>)

Chenango County

- \$1.5 million to UHS Chenango Memorial Hospital to renovate the Chenango Medical Neighborhood. The hospital will feature a new emergency room and walk-in center, as well as new diagnostic imaging.
- \$40,000 to the Village of Afton to inventory and assess public infrastructure to determine areas in need of repair or upgrade.

Delaware County

- \$700,000 to Manhattan Country School to expand its farm education program in Roxbury to accommodate increased student enrollment and grow relationships with area public schools interested in farm education.
- \$599,000 to Saputo Dairy Foods to purchase and install new equipment enabling them to create jobs, increase production efficiency, and support the launch of new milk products while increasing demand for New York state-produced milk and milk products.
- \$749,875 to the Town of Hancock to be used to replace the remaining original water distribution system pipe and complete the rehabilitation of the water system.

Schuyler County

- \$750,000 to the Village of Montour Falls to make improvements to the wastewater collection system, including relining existing gravity sanitary sewer mains, rehabilitating existing manholes, and replacing sanitary laterals for existing sewer customers.
- \$150,000 to Watkins Glen International to implement a comprehensive advertising campaign attracting out-of-state tourism to its 2020 NASCAR event and to the overall Southern Tier region of New York.
- \$150,000 to the Seneca Lake Wine Trail, in coordination with the four tourism promotion agencies within its footprint looking to drive winter and shoulder season agri-tourism visitation.

Steuben County

- \$1 million to City of Hornell to install effluent ultraviolet disinfection at the city's Water Pollution Control plant.
- \$500,000 to Three Rivers Development Corp. and Corning Inc. to retrofit an existing building to expand access to child care and create jobs in Steuben County, enabling Corning Inc. to continue attracting and retaining a workforce.
- \$832,850 to the Town of Jasper to complete replacement and improvement of the wastewater treatment plant, installation of disinfection within the treatment plant building, and improvements to the collection system.

Tioga County

- \$2.15 million to Town of Owego to upgrade its water pollution control plant to meet its SPDES permit limits for phosphorus and nitrogen, as required by the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load.
- \$424,000 to the Neighborhood Depot project, a new facility that will host several local nonprofits to promote shared services, reduce overhead costs, and promote collaboration, and will act as an emergency response center in times of crisis.
- \$250,000 to Tioga County to assist in the renovation of mixed-use properties in the Village of Owego's downtown.

Tompkins County

- \$4.5 million to Tompkins County Chamber of Commerce Foundation Inc. to construct the Downtown Ithaca Community Conference Center in the heart of downtown Ithaca.
- \$1.2 million to Cornell University to recover and reuse waste heat in four research/lab facilities on campus, upgrade building controls system, and continue associated recommissioning for multiple campus facilities.
- \$1.18 million to the YMCA of Ithaca and Tompkins County to expand its programming through a renovation and expansion of its facility in the Village of Lansing that will accommodate increased child care and support spaces for the Ithaca community.

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