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 **Assemblyman**
Steve Otis

91st Assembly District
Larchmont - Mamaroneck - New Rochelle - Port Chester - Rye Brook and Rye



Annual NYS Water Infrastructure Grant Workshop Gathered State Experts and Municipal Leaders at Jay Heritage Center



Last Thursday, I hosted my annual **Clean Water Infrastructure Grant Workshop** at the Jay Heritage Center in Rye. Officials from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) and the Department of Environmental Conservation

(DEC) as well as the Department of State and the Department of Health made presentations and answered questions on the many NYS funding opportunities available this year.

The purpose of the annual workshop is to bring local officials and not-for-profits together to receive the latest information on clean water infrastructure and other available grant funding. I have held these workshops since 2015 when we created the Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) program. Since the program was established, NYS has provided \$3.4 billion in grants to over 1200 local projects across New York. To date, Westchester communities have received over \$132 million in grants for 53 projects.

The annual workshop covered the current round of applications for the WIIA and the Intermunicipal Grant (IMG) programs. The [2026 EFC application](#) window is now open for those programs with \$425M available in grants this round. Submissions are due on **July 27th**. The workshop also covered several other clean water and environmental programs administered by NYS, including EFC's Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund, DEC's Water Quality Improvement Program (WQIP), and local government efficiency grants offered by the NYS Department of State. WIIA and IMG drinking water grants are administered in cooperation with the NYS Department of Health (DOH), which was also represented at the workshop.

The program also included discussion of Technical Assistance and Planning Grants and EFC's Community Assistance Teams, which assist local governments in matching local projects with state grant opportunities.

The workshop provides an excellent opportunity for municipal officials, staff, consultants, and not-for-profits to learn about current grant opportunities and discuss their individual projects with state agency staff. My goal is to maximize the opportunity for local governments and other groups to secure funding.

I continue to be a leading advocate for clean water funding in the state budget. Since 2027 New York has allocated \$500 million a year for an array of clean water programs. This year we increased that total to \$525 million and also support environmental grant funding through the NYS Environmental Protection Fund and

the Environmental Bond Act.

The workshop was sponsored by SeaGrant NY, Save The Sound, Federated Conservationists of Westchester, Westchester Municipal Officials Association, Riverkeeper, the Construction Industry Council and the Jay Heritage Center.

Thank you to our host, the Jay Heritage Center, President Suzanne Clary and to LMC Media for taping this year's workshop and making it available for those who could not attend in person.

Please contact my office for additional information, guidance, and support for any applications you are considering.

Warm regards,



Resources

[EFC Website](#)

[2026 Water Workshop Presentation Slides & Presentation Video](#)
(Courtesy of [LMC Media](#))

[NYS Water Infrastructure and Water Quality Grants One Pager](#)



In addition to a panel from the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation we were joined by panelists from other key grant program agencies. I am pictured here with Leila Mitchell, NYS DEC Environmental Program Specialist II; Amy Ferguson, NYS DOD, Local Government Specialist; Sara Powell, NY SeaGrant; Ashley Hyde, DOH Program Manager, Bureau of Water Supply Protection; and Lauren Speziale, NYS DOH, Public Health Specialist 1, Bureau of Water Supply Protection.



