

Call for Priority Project Proposals Mid-Hudson Region

Due by 4:00 p.m. on July 30th



The Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council (“MHREDC”) seeks projects wishing to be designated as **Priority Projects** by the Council for the 2013 round of Consolidated Funding Application (“CFA”) awards from New York State. A priority project is one that directly or indirectly creates a significant number of jobs, fits one of the goals identified by the Council, leverages private-sector resources, and has impact at a level that can be transformational for the region.

Those wishing to respond to this call for proposals should fill out the attached worksheet and submit it by **July 30, 2013 at 4 PM** (along with any supporting documentation). This solicitation is designed to help the MHRC identify and recommend those projects that apply through the CFA process that may be truly transformative for the region.

Please note that the attached worksheet is not the CFA, and that submission of the worksheet alone does not make a project eligible for funding. All applicants wishing to receive funding from New York State must complete a CFA for each project submitted. The CFA is the official application for State resources and may be found online at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov>. All CFAs must be completed no later than 4:00 pm on Monday, August 12, 2013.

INSTRUCTIONS – please read this in its entirety before completing the attached worksheet.

- 1.) The Mid-Hudson Region’s Economic Development Plan and the 2012 Progress Report can be found online at <http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/content/mid-hudson>. In order to be considered a Priority Project, your project must be aligned with one of the Council’s Goals as delineated in the 2012 Progress Report. These goals are listed on the worksheet and are described in detail on pages 6-9 of the Progress Report.
- 2.) Funding requests should be made with careful consideration. Even if you are designated a Priority Project, please keep in mind that your request may not be fully met in the final award. Award amounts are made based upon eligibility, budgetary constraints, economic impact, and agency and Regional Council scoring. Projects that do not demonstrate significant leverage of private funding will not score highly. Please note, ESD seeks to provide no more than 20% of the capital financing for any particular project through the Regional Council Capital Fund and applicants must be prepared to clearly identify all sources of the balance of funding. Please see the 2013 CFA Resource Manual, page 7, for complete details of this funding program. Projects submitted for consideration may also apply for non-ESD funding. Information on funding opportunities are available in the Resource Manual at http://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/sites/default/files/documents/2013/resources_available_2013.pdf
- 3.) Please note that up to \$150 million is available in Regional Council Capital Funding and \$70 million Excelsior Jobs Program Funding.
- 4.) Please respond to this solicitation by emailing your completed worksheet and any supporting documentation to nys-midhudson@esd.ny.gov by **4:00 p.m. on July 30, 2012** and send three stapled, hard copies with attachments to **33 Airport Center Drive, Ste. 201, New Windsor, NY 12253 postmarked by July 30, 2012.**
- 5.) Please contact the Empire State Development (ESD) regional office at (845) 567 – 4882 for guidance on your business assistance project. If your project involves other state agencies, please contact the appropriate state agency for technical assistance with the CFA application.

MID-HUDSON PRIORITY PROJECT SCORING CRITERIA

As you complete the attached worksheet, keep in mind that the Council will look most favorably upon projects that:

1. Advance the Council's Economic Development Plan

- Align with the Council's goals and vision
- Support a target industry as identified in the plan

2. Provide a Positive Economic Benefit

- Retain or create jobs with sustainable wages, taking into account the size of the community
- Provide opportunities to distressed communities *

3. Are Ready to Go

- Have financing in place
- Have regulatory and infrastructure requirements that have been identified and can be satisfied within a reasonable timeframe

4. Provide Potential for Growth

- Are sustainable in the long-term
- Will attract or sustain related businesses
- Support the growth of existing and emerging industry clusters as identified in the Council's Economic Development Plan
- Provide a plan for the establishment of a paid internship program for residents of distressed communities in the Region. The plan should be for a minimum of one paid intern per calendar year.

5. Maximize return on State investment by leveraging other funding (as a proportion of total funds)

- Maximize the attraction of private sector investment
- Leverage existing infrastructure
- Leverage federal and local funding
- Leverage educational assets
- Encourage public/private partnerships

*Please see Attachment A for a definition of distressed communities.

MID-HUDSON PRIORITY PROJECT PROPOSAL WORKSHEET

Name (Provide the name used in the project's consolidated funding application, as well as the application #.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Description (Provide a detailed description of the project.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Link to Mid-Hudson Region's Strategic Plan (Please put two check marks next to the single goal that the project best advances. You may put a single check mark next to other goals that the project also supports. However, please do NOT check goals that do not fit the project, as this will make it more difficult to evaluate your application.)

- Goal #1: Target job creation investments in industry clusters such as biotech, biomedical and healthcare, advanced manufacturing, and IT.
- Goal #2: Retain and stimulate more mature industries such as distribution, financial and professional services, corporate food & beverage, and health care.
- Goal #3: Sustain and promote agriculture, artisanal food and beverage, recreation, tourism and waterfront development to preserve the region's outstanding quality of life.
- Goal #4: Improve key regional infrastructure, foster housing development to create construction jobs and more housing supply, and support the revitalization of our urban centers to make the region more business ready.
- Goal #5: Enhance the region's workforce development initiatives by making investments in long-term strategies for growth and youth retention (such as paid interns, among other ideas), as well as short-term responses to emerging needs.
- Goal #6: Promote entrepreneurship, start-ups, small businesses and MWBE's.
- Goal #7: Make the region more business friendly via tax and administrative policy initiatives to ensure that businesses locate and stay in the region.
- Goal #8: Align public-private support to ensure implementation of the Strategic Plan and embrace inter-regional partnerships that leverage cross-region resources.

Current Status of Project (Describe what, if any, element or phase of the project has begun. If applicable, specifically address the status of zoning and permits from local municipalities and state/federal agencies.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Implementation Schedule (Address project readiness including start date and timeline for completion. The Council will pay particular attention to permitting deadlines, closing dates and other potential deadlines, which may impede a project's progress.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Job Creation (Include general job descriptions, wages, and the assumptions used to generate the information for each job category. Keep in mind that the Council considers both net new jobs, as well as those retained.)

Short-term construction jobs – [Click here to enter text.](#)

Long-term full time or full time equivalent jobs* – [Click here to enter text.](#)

Workforce Development (Describe how jobs created by the project will be filled by members of the Mid-Hudson Region. Will the proposed project include retraining of incumbent workers, training of unemployed persons, or hiring of new entry level workers?)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Economic Impact Statement (Attach economic impact data and/or projections of indirect jobs created, if available.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Regional Support (Attach, as appropriate, key letters of support/collaboration/formal strategic partnerships from government, businesses, community, educational institutions, and/or labor.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Sources and Uses of Funding (Please produce separate tables, as appropriate, for each phase of this project. Also include detail on each source of funds, including information on degree of commitment.)

[Click here to enter text.](#)

Public Sources of Funds (Requested)		Uses of Funds
NYS Capital	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
NYS Tax Credit	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Other State Funds (identify source)	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Other Public Funds (identify source)	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Private Sources of Funds (Leveraged)		Uses of Funds
Private	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Not-for-Profit	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.
Other Funds Still to Be Secured		Uses of Funds
Funds to be secured	\$ Click here to enter text.	Click here to enter text.

ATTACHMENT A

DISTRESSED COMMUNITIES

The characteristics of a distressed community are outlined below. You can find the necessary information for the project location by looking at the most recent Census (specifically looking at the Census tract that the project location is in), the 5-year estimates under the American Communities Survey, the NYS Department of Labor and NYS Department of Education Report Card. It would be helpful if the project description included the specific percentages of the characteristics described below.

- A local poverty rate above the county's rate or 20% of the national standards;
- Sufficient evidence of an unemployment rate that exceeds the Region's rate by 25%;
- Home ownership rates less than 60%;
- A subsidized school lunch rate (free and reduced) higher than 35%;
- An income level of less than 80% of the county median income according to the ACS 5-year data; and
- A commercial vacancy rate of over 15% for the designated area.