

Eligibility

Eligible applicants are local municipalities, non-profits, and local economic development entities. Individuals and for-profit businesses are not eligible to apply. The Fund, while open to all applicants that meet the stated criteria, is intended to help smaller communities with projects that may not be eligible for alternate funding sources. Preference will be given to projects that are in line with that objective, as well as, the vision and goals listed below:

Goals of the Small Community Fund

In 2012, Broome County adopted a comprehensive plan with a series of vision items. These include:

1. Making Broome County an Inviting Place to Live, Work, and Play
2. Engaging Our Students and Young Professionals
3. Taking Pride in Our Urban and Village Centers
4. Taking Pride in our Scenic Beauty
5. Investing in Our Legacy Sites
6. Making a Commitment to High Standards in Services
7. Making a Commitment to High Standards in Building Design and Renovation
8. Becoming More Resilient
9. Investing in Our Workforce, Entrepreneurship, and Innovation

The full plan is online here: gobroomecounty.com/comprehensiveplan

Broome County seeks to advance these goals through selected projects and initiatives. Applicants should demonstrate how their project advances these goals. The emphasis of the Small Community Fund will be on projects which address the above goals by:

- Supporting small retail and restaurants
- Addressing substandard housing
- Promoting elder-friendly development
- Attracting and retaining artists, entrepreneurs, and retirees
- Supporting events and festivals
- Fostering public art
- Improving streetscape, bike and pedestrian amenities, commercial facades
- Supporting and coordinating marketing efforts for rural village centers
- Combating blight in primary and secondary corridors and gateway areas
- Improving access to recreational and scenic resources

Evaluation Criteria

Applications for Small Community Fund will be evaluated on the basis of the following criteria:

- How well the proposed project advances the goals of the comprehensive plan as listed above
- The degree to which the project leverages funds from other sources, with an emphasis on leveraging private funds
- Whether the project has a plan for self-sufficiency

Application Process

Applications are available online at gobroomecounty.com/planning/hmf

Agencies and organizations interested in utilizing Hotel-Motel funds must submit an application to:

Director of Planning
Broome County Department of Planning & Economic Development
PO Box 1766
Binghamton, NY 13902
beth.lucas@broomecounty.us

Questions regarding the application process should be directed to Beth Lucas at (607) 778-2375 or beth.lucas@broomecounty.us

Approval Process

Complete and eligible applications will be considered either the Board of Acquisition and Contract or the Broome County Legislature based on the amount requested and the County's procurement procedure.