

New \$300 Million in State Grant Awards To Target Water Infrastructure Projects

ALBANY—New York State earlier this month announced nearly \$300 million is being awarded to communities through the Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant, Intermunicipal Grant, Green Innovation Grant, and Engineering Planning Grant programs to fund critical water infrastructure projects across New York State.

A host of Hudson Valley municipalities have been awarded significant grants for wastewater improvement projects.

The grants awarded by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation are part of the state's nation-leading commitment to modernize the state's aging water and sewer systems by providing the financial resources that municipalities need to undertake critical once-in-a-generation projects. These grants will support water infrastructure projects totaling more than \$1 billion that safeguard drinking water from the risk of toxic chemicals, increase community resilience to flooding, regionalize water systems, support local economies, and are critical to protecting public health and the environment. The grants are projected to save local taxpayers an estimated \$1 billion.

The announcement marks the second announcement of Water Infrastructure Improvement Grant (WIIA) awards this calendar year, bringing EFC's total state water infrastructure grant awards to nearly \$900 million in 2022. WIIA and IMG grants totaling \$600 million were announced in April.

Program awards included: Water Infrastructure Improvement (WIIA) and Intermunicipal Grants (IMG): 73 projects awarded \$279.3 million; Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP): eight projects awarded \$15.8 million; and Engineering Planning Grants (EPG): 70 projects awarded \$3 million.

Grants totaling more than \$158 million were awarded to 22 clean water projects and 14 drinking water projects located in environmental justice communities under the WIIA program. More than half of WIIA/IMG funding this round has been awarded to environmental justice communities. More than \$115.5 million has been awarded to improve drinking water systems.

Examples of drinking water projects that were awarded grants include:

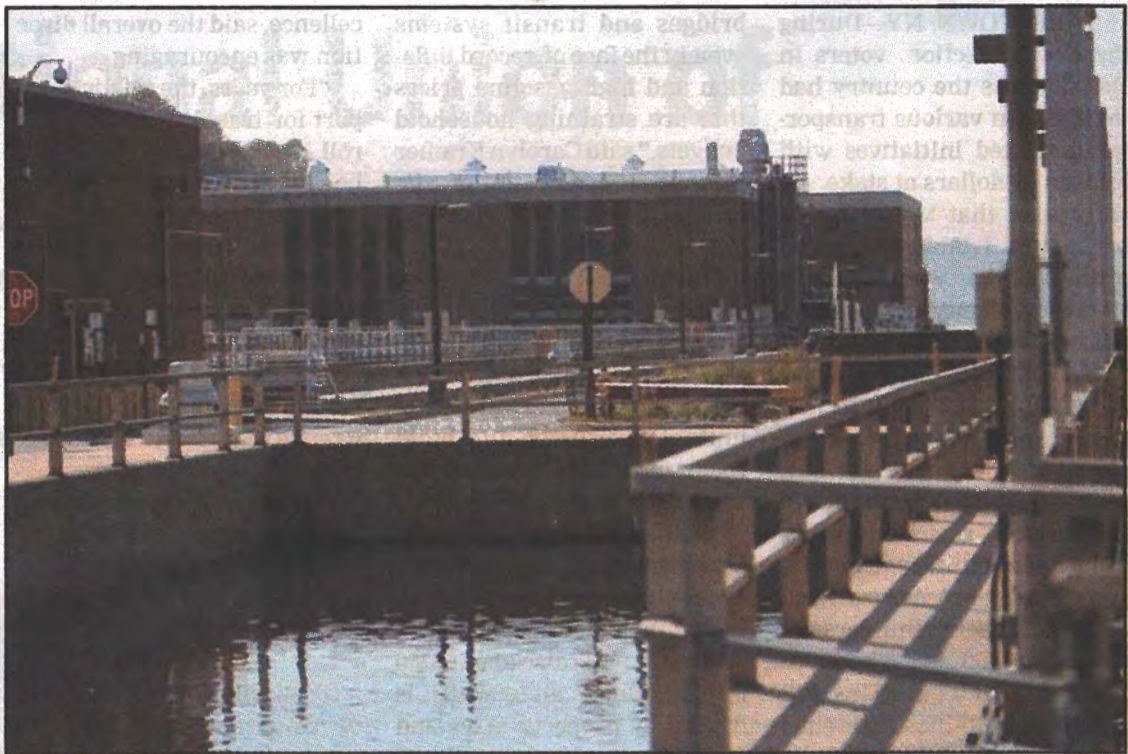
Six projects on Long Island have been awarded grants to construct treatment systems that treat emerging contaminants above the MCL. Long Island is almost entirely dependent on a sole-source aquifer and helping water providers protect this valuable and unique groundwater source is vital to ensuring millions of people in Nassau and Suffolk Counties have clean water to drink.

Two projects in the Mid-Hudson region also received these grants. Among the projects is the Village of Nyack in Rockland County, which was awarded \$2.7 million for PFAS/PFOA treatment at the water plant, including the construction of a granular activated carbon treatment system.

Among the Green Innovation Grand Program awardees in the Hudson Valley/New York City Region included: The City of Yonkers Saw Mill River Daylighting Phase 4, which was granted \$1 million and will use GIGP funds for Phase 4 of the Daylighting of the Saw Mill River.

The Town of Harrison has secured \$2.6 million for the Brentwood Brook Floodplain Restoration project. The Town of Harrison will use the funds to restore flood plains within an

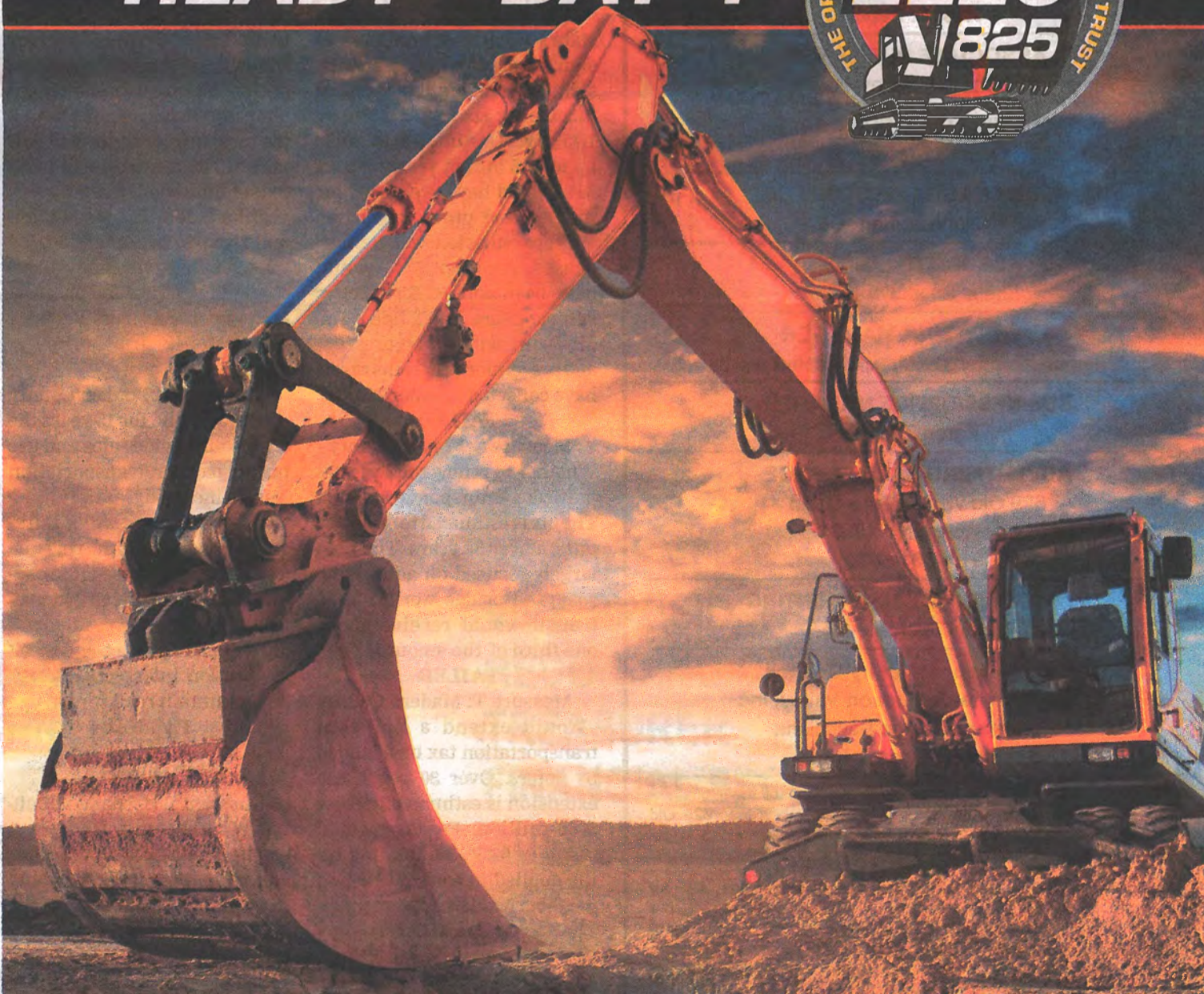
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Among the state water grant recipients included Westchester County, which secured more than \$11.2 million for work at the Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant (pictured above) and at the Rye Lake Water Filtration Plant.



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WHAT'S NEW & WHO'S NEWS

Grassi Adds Fox to Real Estate Practice

NEW YORK—Evan Fox, CPA, JD, LLM, has joined Grassi as a Tax Partner in the firm's Real Estate Practice, the firm announced on Nov. 14.

His expertise covers a wide range of real estate funds and transactions, including 1031 planning, financial analysis for acquisitions/sales, joint ventures, UPREIT formation, mergers, spin-offs, reorganizations, and financings, for a wide array of clients such as leading real estate owners, operators, investors, institutional funds, REITs, and developers. Mr. Fox has served clients with a broad scope of operations, including residential, commercial, retail, hospitality, mixed use, industrial and infrastructure. Fox also has experience in the affordable housing sector. He recently has been involved in structuring and consulting clients on the implementation of Qualified Opportunity Funds.

Mr. Fox has nearly 15 years of experience working across various industries including real estate, insurance, manufacturing, law firms, technology companies, and investment management. Most recently, he was a Tax Leader at a national accounting firm, and previously, a principal at a leading midsize firm based in New York.

Mr. Fox is a Certified Public



Evan Fox, CPA, JD, LLM

Accountant and is licensed in New York State as an Attorney. He obtained his Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School, Master of Laws from New York University School of Law, and Bachelor of Science in Economics from the University of Michigan. In 2020, *New York Real Estate Journal* recognized Fox as "One to Watch."

Grassi, is the 57th largest accounting firm in the nation and is a leading provider of advisory, tax and accounting services to businesses and individuals. The firm maintains offices in New York, Jericho, Ronkonkoma and White Plains, NY; Park Ridge, NJ; Needham, MA; and Palm Beach, FL.

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existing town park. This project will provide additional storage during wet weather events to alleviate flooding and help to improve the water quality of the Brentwood Brook.

New York City's Department of Environmental Protection will receive \$3 million in funding for the Southeast Queens Green Streets project that will transform multiple streets into green streets in Jamaica Queens. The city will retrofit the medians with bioretention and stormwater street trees to help reduce localized flooding and combined sewer overflows.

EFC has awarded more than \$39.4 million to Mid-Hudson municipalities in WIAA and IMG grants. The investment is projected to save Mid-Hudson localities an estimated \$172.3 million.

List of

Mid-Hudson Project Awards

- **Dutchess County WWA**, Greenfields Water Interconnection Project, Dutchess County, \$4,550,086.
- **Village of Nyack**, PFAS/PFOA Treatment at the Nyack Water Plan, Rockland County, \$2,777,394.
- **Village of Pawling**, Phase II - Lower Baxter Wellfield De-

velopment and Construction, Dutchess County, \$1,280,400.

- **City of Peekskill**, Sewer and Pump Station Improvements Project, Westchester County, \$1,075,000.

- **Village of Port Chester**, Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation Westchester County, \$4,012,713.

- **City of Port Jervis**, Port Jervis WIA 2022, Orange County, \$4,562,500.

- **Town of Poughkeepsie**, Design and Construction of the Hudson Heritage Sewer District, Dutchess County, \$1,521,568.

- **Village of South Blooming Grove**, Water System Improvement Project, Orange County, \$4,702,657.

- **Town of Thompson**, Emerald Green WWTP Upgrade & Expansion Project, Sullivan County, \$3,363,899.

- **Town of Thompson**, Sackett Lake Sewer District Collection System Improvement Project, Sullivan County, \$421,281.

- **Westchester County**, Yonkers Joint TP—Odor Control and HVAC Upgrades, Westchester County, \$6,203,611.

- **Westchester Joint Water Works**, Rye Lake Water Filtration Plant, Westchester County, \$5,000,000.



Glenn Pacchiana, president and CEO of Thalle Industries, stands in front of rubble from the White Plains Mall demolition awaiting recycling.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THALLE INDUSTRIES

Thalle Industries' Elmsford Plant Recycling White Plains Mall Debris

ELMSFORD, NY—Debris from a defunct shopping center is being recycled into construction materials for one of the Hudson Valley's biggest construction projects.

Thalle Industries' Virtual Quarry in Elmsford, N.Y. is recycling remnants of the former, 50-year-old White Plains Mall, which was recently demolished to make way for new mixed-use residential towers in the heart of White Plains.

Rather than ship the mall's rubble to remote landfills, the tons of debris from the massive demolition are being transported a short distance to the Virtual Quarry, where the debris will be recycled into subbase to be used underneath

asphalt roads at Regeneron's \$1.8-billion expansion project in Tarrytown, Thalle Industries' officials reported.

The former White Plains Mall will be replaced by Hamilton Green, a \$600-million transit-oriented development at 200 Hamilton Ave. in White Plains. Hamilton Green is the latest construction project by the Capelli Organization and its LRC Construction division.

Regeneron's \$1.8-billion expansion will enlarge the company's research, preclinical manufacturing and support facilities in Westchester County, creating 1,000 new full-time, high skill jobs.



The Williamsburg Bridge

Skanska USA Awarded \$167 Million Williamsburg Bridge Rehab Project

NEW YORK—Skanska USA, a leading global construction and development firm, announced on Nov. 7 it had been awarded a contract by the New York City Department of Transportation to carry out the \$167-million rehabilitation of the Williamsburg Bridge, providing needed improvements and replacement of aging components across the structure.

The project will significantly improve transportation flow across one of the major crossings of the East River, connecting Brooklyn to Manhattan.

"We're thrilled to be providing infrastructure improvements to one of New York City's vital East River crossings, which serves thousands of commuters each day, to and from Manhattan and Brooklyn," said Bill Matre, senior vice president and general manager for Skanska USA Civil.

The rehabilitation includes structural steel repairs throughout the bridge superstructure, inclusive of floor beam repairs, a transit hanger retrofit and temporary jacking system, gusset plate repairs, truss bottom chord repairs, top and bottom lateral bracing strengthening, overhead truss diagonal replacements, intermediate towers repairs and transit stringer repairs.

Additionally, the project includes the replacement of modular joints at the anchorages and approach piers and bearing rehabilitation at approach piers, a full replacement of the bridge fire standpipe system and the replacement of the existing bridge asphalt overlay system.

The project commenced in October 2022 and is expected to reach final completion in December 2025.