



APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Housing Project

ADDENDUM

Please complete this addendum and submit Pages 1-2, including any required supplemental information requested, along with the Standard OCIDA Application for Financial Assistance

Housing Project Questionnaire

Complete the following questions only if your project is a Housing Project. Please reference the Oneida County Industrial Development Agency Uniform Tax Exemption and Agency Benefits Policy Market Rate Rental Housing Development Initiatives. (Add additional pages as needed).

1(a) Describe the housing project to be constructed or renovated in detail (type of housing, number of units, etc.):

1(b) Describe how you will change the current use of the facility or property being utilized for the project. To assist the IDA in their determination of an eligible vacant urban infill site project please provide an extensive explanation as well as photos of what is being removed or replaced with the new construction.

1(c) Will the project have any impact on the existing infrastructure or upgrades to the current infrastructure (water, sewer, electrical, gas, etc.)? If yes please provide detail and who you are working with at the applicable organization.

1(d) If your project is a multi-use facility please provide details of the project, project square footage breakdown of non-housing to housing usage, detail the job creation and retention associated with the non-housing component.

1(e) Does the project provide a community benefit? If yes provide detail substantiating (reference the IDA policy).

**Oneida County Industrial Development Agency
Uniform Tax Exemption and Agency Benefits Policy
Market Rate Rental Housing Development Initiatives
(Effective March 1, 2015 and revised on April 20, 2018 and October 20, 2023)**

1. Overview :

In furtherance of the Oneida County Vision 2020 – “Path Toward Prosperity Initiative,” the Oneida County Industrial Development Agency (“OCIDA”) has created the following Uniform Tax Exemption and Agency Benefits Policy (the “Policy”) to encourage development of specific types of market rate rental housing. The expansion of OCIDA’s policy to support eligible market rate rental housing is largely driven by the anticipated employment opportunities that will be created by the nanotechnology and emerging innovation economy where a segment of the new work force that will be attracted to these type of jobs prefer market rate rental housing and unique urban living lifestyles.

The purpose of this Policy is to assist OCIDA in determining whether a housing project promotes employment opportunities and prevents economic deterioration in the area served by OCIDA, consistent with New York State Controller’s Opinion No. 85-51 and the New York State General Municipal Law. This Policy is intended to be annexed to and made a part of OCIDA’s Uniform Tax Exemption Policy adopted on January 28, 1994, amended on December 21, 1998 and April 30, 2009 (the “UTEP”). OCIDA reserves the right to deviate from this Policy at its discretion and in accordance with the General Municipal Law.

2. Eligible Housing Projects:

The types of housing eligible for OCIDA consideration include market rate (rental only): ***apartments, townhouses, condominiums, loft-style housing and new urbanism type of housing developments.***¹***In order to be considered for OCIDA financial assistance pursuant to this Policy, projects must have a minimum of five (5) units in a renovation or conversion of a building and twenty-four (24) units for new construction, and achieve the minimum number of points to qualify for incentives in accordance with this Policy.***

In addition, all applications for consideration must have a minimum project investment of \$400,000 in renovation/construction projects and \$1.2 Million for new construction rental housing projects.

All projects shall be subject to and in compliance with the New York State General Municipal Law and the UTEP. OCIDA’s UTEP requires all applicants to file a Cost/Benefit Analysis that is deemed acceptable to OCIDA.

3. Eligible Areas:

¹ **New Urbanism** is an urban design movement which promotes walkable neighborhoods containing a range of housing and job types.

OCIDA’s Uniform Policy for Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 benefits are targeted for projects that lie in the defined areas of the cities of Rome, Sherrill and Utica and 2010 Census Urbanized Areas and incorporated villages, as shown on the maps that are annexed hereto and made a part of this Policy. Projects that lie outside the three cities or the historic villages but lie within the urbanized area must have water and sewer service in place in order to qualify for OCIDA consideration.

Eligible projects within the defined Eligible Areas will be considered for benefits provided the application can achieve the required minimum number of points.

4. Criteria:

OCIDA will entertain applications for assistance that fall within the following criteria, using the following 100 point scoring system for each application received:

Criteria	Description of Criteria	Points
Adaptive Reuse Projects	Projects that propose a change in use to an existing building (e.g., reuse of vacant or underutilized facility) or propose development on a vacant urban infill site ² that is being repurposed or redeveloped for an eligible housing project.	25
Eligible Area Locations	Projects located within <i>Eligible Areas</i> (see attached map) that have 24 or more units of eligible housing units via new construction or renovation, except for urban infill development projects where the IDA will entertain applications for projects located on a vacant urban infill site that has less than 24 units of eligible housing.	20
Utilizes Existing Infrastructure	Projects that <i>utilize existing infrastructure</i> (i.e. utilizing both existing sewer and water services and do not require system expansion. Modernizations, such as replacing existing pipes where service is already provided, are viewed favorably).	20
Community Benefits	Projects that create other benefits that inure to the benefit of the community that may include: rebuilding community infrastructure, pays sewer credits, creates or contributes to a community amenity, dedicates land to a municipality for a public improvement which benefits health and safety, removes slums and blighting influences (e.g., demolition or supports in-fill development within a neighborhood, commercial corridor, downtown, or main street area), provides an environmental enhancement (e.g., flooding wetlands creation/restoration, is part of a Brownfield, utilizes federal/state historic tax credit programs, provides mixed income rental units to support workforce housing, or provides other benefits deemed important and relevant by OCIDA.	5
Green Projects	(1) Projects to be constructed on a New York State or federal defined Brownfield, such as a site designated as a federal or state Superfund site; a participant in the State	10

² Urban infill site would include infill rental housing being constructed on vacant or underutilized property.

	Voluntary Cleanup Program; a former, verified Manufacturing Gas Plant, or within a Brownfield Opportunity Area; or (2) Projects whose plans qualify for a LEED Certification from the US Green Building Council (final certification required prior to commencement of the PILOT Agreement); or (3) Projects that incorporate geothermal technologies that are projected to make a significant impact on the stability, reliability and resilience of the grid. The physical geothermal plant providing energy to the Project must be located within Oneida County, turned on and connected to the grid, the energy generated must provide at least fifty percent (50%) of the energy needs for the Project, and more than fifty percent (50%) of the energy generated must be used in Oneida County.	
Mixed Use Development Projects	Projects that are mixed use development with housing being at least –50% or more of a building’s total area and the project induces job growth (mixed use development project proposes direct job creation with non-residential uses). To reach 20 points, must create at least 2 FTEs.	20
Total Points:		100

5. Scoring of Housing Applications:

OCIDA shall use this scoring system to determine the level of Agency benefits:

- Tier 1 Benefits: projects that score at least 60 points may receive abatement of real property taxes, exemptions from sales taxes and exemptions from mortgage recording taxes
- Tier 2 Benefits: projects that score between 50 to 59 points may receive abatement of real property taxes, exemptions from sales taxes and exemptions from mortgage recording taxes
- Tier 3 Benefits: projects that score 40 to 49 points may receive exemptions from sales taxes and exemptions from mortgage recording taxes (not eligible for abatement of real property taxes)

Term of PILOT Exemption Schedule	Tier 1 – PILOT Exemption Schedule	Tier 2 – PILOT Exemption Schedule
1	100%	75%
2	100%	75%
3	100%	75%
4	100%	75%
5	75%	50%
6	50%	25%
7	50%	
8	25%	
9	10%	
10	10%	

Applicants will pay 100% of all taxes due and owed until a Certificate of Occupancy is issued for a project, and then the first exemption year in the schedule will begin effective the first taxable status date after a Certificate of Occupancy is issued.

6. Ineligible Housing Projects:

OCIDA will not consider housing applications that propose new suburban subdivisions that serve single family detached housing or projects that are not located within the eligible areas as referenced in Section 3 and included on the map, which is attached hereto and made a part of this policy.

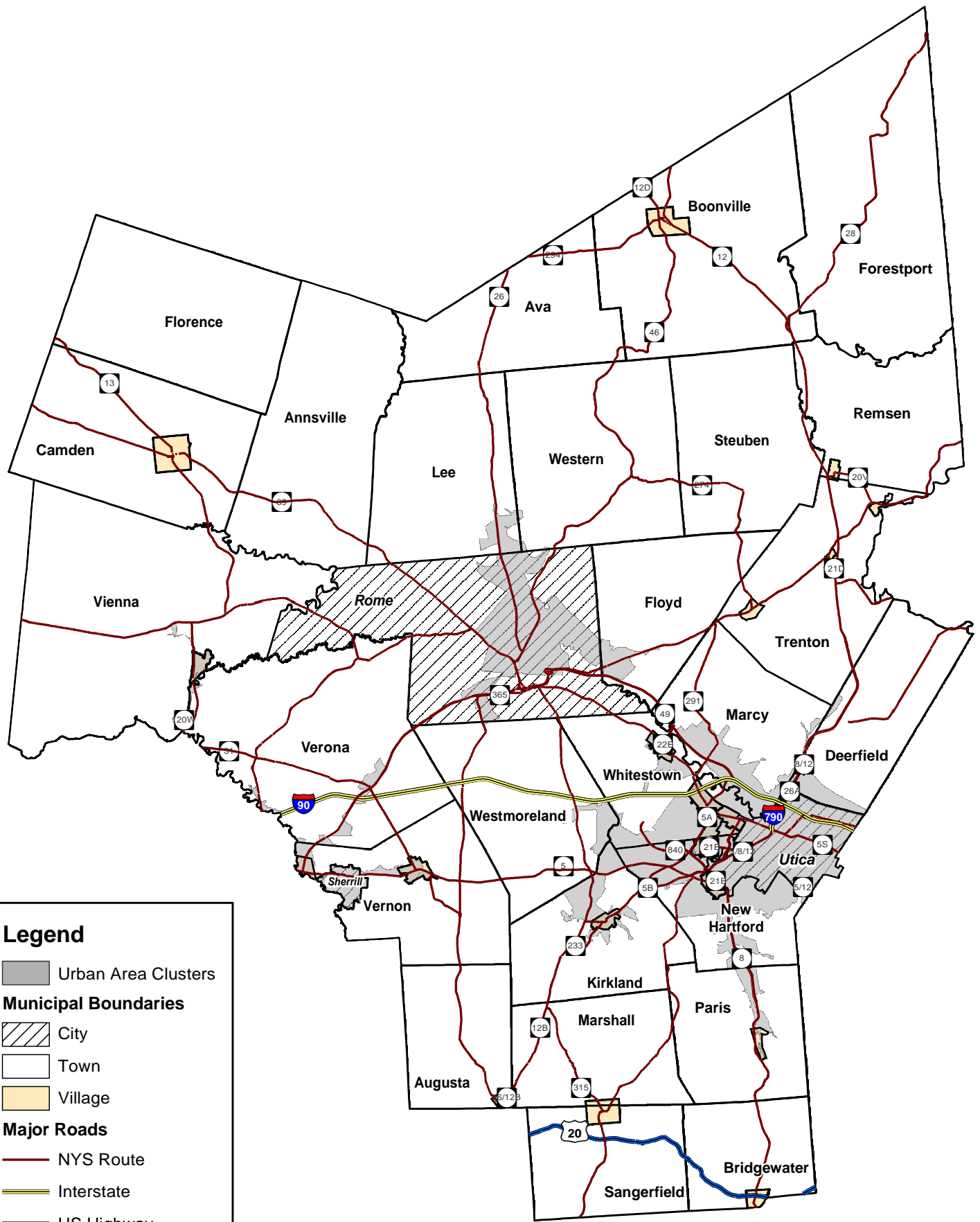
7. Sunset Provision:

The effective date of this policy will commence on the first day of the month following the date in which this Policy is formally approved in accordance with requirements set forth under Article 18A of the General Municipal Law and shall remain in effect until December 31, 2025, unless OCIDA elects to further extend or modify the Policy.

All applicants who are granted approval during this time period will have twenty-four (24) months to complete their project, which shall be evidenced by issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy by the applicable local codes officer for the political subdivision where the project is situated. Receipt of a Certificate of Occupancy is required in order to receive all tax benefits that were granted in the final authorizing resolution approved by OCIDA.

8. Agency Fees:

The applicant will be required to remit to OCIDA all applicable fees (see fee schedule), including payment of all OCIDA legal costs associated with the project and an annual rent payment of \$750, which is due as part of the lease agreement with OCIDA. A copy of the applicable fee schedule is included with the application package. When the application is submitted, the applicant shall submit a check for \$1,500 which includes a non-refundable application fee of \$500 and a commitment fee of \$1,000 that will be applied at closing; if the project does not close the \$1,000 is applied to legal fees incurred in connection with the application. Other than the application fee and the annual rent payment, all other fees shall be due and paid at closing.

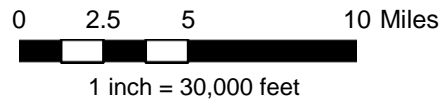


Legend

- Urban Area Clusters
- Municipal Boundaries**
- City
- Town
- Village
- Major Roads**
- NYS Route
- Interstate
- US Highway



Oneida County, NY
Urban Area Clusters



This information has been compiled for planning purposes and may not be reproduced or transmitted for commercial purposes or for any other purpose without the prior approval of the Herkimer Oneida Counties Comprehensive Planning Program (HOCCPP). The HOCCPP shall not be liable for any misuse or misrepresentation of this information. The HOCCPP makes no warranty as to the accuracy of the data contained hereon.

Updated: August 2017

Oneida County Industrial Development Agency
Housing Recapture Policy
Adopted November 13, 2015

1. **Project Obligation.** The financial assistance granted by the Agency is conditioned upon the Applicant constructing its Project as represented in its Application, within two years from the date the Project is induced (the "Project Obligation"). Each Project receives financial assistance based upon how the Project scored using the criteria described in the Housing Policy (the "Initial Score"). If, after two years or upon completion of the Project, the Final Project is not completed in accordance with the Project Obligation, it may subject the Applicant to recapture of financial assistance.
2. **Reporting to the IDA.** An Applicant will be required to submit one Final Project Report within ten days of receiving a Certificate of Occupancy for all units, or at least ten days before the end of the lease term, whichever is soonest but in no case longer than two years from the date induced. The Final Project Report will certify completion of the facility in compliance with the Project Obligation, and will provide copies of all Certificates of Occupancy.
3. **Final Project Review.** Upon receipt of the Final Project Report, the Agency will score the Project again using the same criteria contained in the Housing Policy as when the Project was induced (the "Final Score"). In the event the Applicant fails to meet the criteria upon which the project received its Initial Score and the Final Score would have resulted in less financial assistance, the Applicant may be subject to recapture and/or a reduction of financial assistance. If the scoring results in a higher score, the Applicant will not be entitled to additional financial assistance.
4. **PILOT Amendments.**
 - a. If a Project's Initial Score is for Tier 1 Benefits and the Final Score is for Tier 2 Benefits, the PILOT Agreement will be revised to reflect the PILOT Exemption Schedule for Tier 2 Benefits.
 - b. If a Project's Initial Score is for Tier 1 Benefits or Tier 2 Benefits and the Final Score is for Tier 3 Benefits or lower, the PILOT Agreement will be terminated.
5. **Major Shortfall.** If a Project's Final Score is lower than Tier 3 Benefits, the Agency will notify the Company in writing of its intention to recapture benefits and the Company will have thirty (30) days to respond to the letter citing the reason or reasons the Company failed to achieve its Project Obligation, including any request to appear before the Agency. Then the Agency, in its sole discretion, may:
 - a. Take no action if it is determined that the reason or reasons for failing to achieve the Project Obligation are temporary or, in the sole opinion of the Agency, it is in the best interest of economic development of Oneida County;
 - b. Reduce the benefits granted to the Company in an amount proportionate to the percentage of the Project Obligation that was achieved (i.e., if the Company meets 75% of its projections, 25% of benefits are recaptured); or
 - c. Terminate the Leaseback Agreement and the PILOT Agreement and require the Company to repay 100% of the benefits received to date.

6. **Mandatory Recapture**. The Agency is mandated to recapture New York State sales tax benefits where:
 - a. The Project is not entitled to receive those benefits.
 - b. The exemptions exceed the amount authorized, or are claimed for unauthorized property or services.
 - c. The Company fails to use property or services in the manner required by the Leaseback Agreement.

7. **Miscellaneous**.
 - a. The Agency in granting benefits retains all rights to impose, delay or waive penalties and the right to deviate from these recapture provisions.
 - b. No violation of these provisions will, in and of itself, constitute a default of any financing debt instrument.