



Columbia  
County  
Housing Task  
Force  
Presentation  
November 2023



**Rural Housing Coalition**  
*of New York*



- Rural Preservation Companies (RPCs) are local non-profit organizations funded mainly by state and federal grants to provide housing services to rural communities. There are currently 58 RPCs in the state.
- RPCs typically provide the following:
  - Housing counseling services to first-time homebuyers and foreclosure prevention.
  - Repair, rehab and construction of affordable housing, both rental and owner-occupied.
  - Section 8 Voucher Administration.
  - Management of low-moderate income and senior housing rental properties.
  - Mobile home replacement and repair.
  - Accessibility modifications for the disabled and seniors.
  - Main street and downtown redevelopment.
  - Weatherization.



- HCR definition of rural is communities of 25,000 or less
- There are 34 counties with 100% of the population considered rural
- There are 46 counties with majority of population considered rural
- 72% of rural housing is owner occupied.
- 57% of rural housing was built before 1970 and 35% built before 1940.
- There are 405 USDA 515 funded rental properties in the state.
- There are 1,800 mobile home parks in the state.



- Lack of capacity of many rural local governments and non-profits.
- Outdated or non-existent zoning regulations/comprehensive plans.
- Lack of infrastructure (water, sewer, broadband).
- Older housing stock in disrepair or vacant.
- Existing affordable housing in danger (USDA 515 properties and mobile home parks).
- Few state programs targeted to rural communities.







# 2024 Budget Requests

- Maintain Funding Levels for Rural Preservation Program at \$7,557,000
- Increase Funding for Small Rental Development Initiative (SRDI) from \$7 to \$14 million
- Change allowable uses of Manufactured and Mobile Home Replacement Program (MMHR) to include repair of mobile homes and increase funding to \$10 million.
- Change allowable uses of Manufactured Home Advantage Program (MHAP) to include replacement of mobile homes and increase funding to \$10 million.
- Establish funding program to acquire and preserve USDA 515 rental properties.
- Re-establish Office of Rural Affairs in the Executive Chamber.
- Create Infrastructure Fund for Housing Developments

An aerial photograph of a rural town. The foreground shows a mix of residential houses, some with large lawns, and open fields. A prominent road runs vertically through the center. To the right, there is a large green field, possibly a cemetery or a park. The background shows a dense residential area extending to rolling hills under a clear sky. A green gradient bar is at the top of the image.

# For more information Contact

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