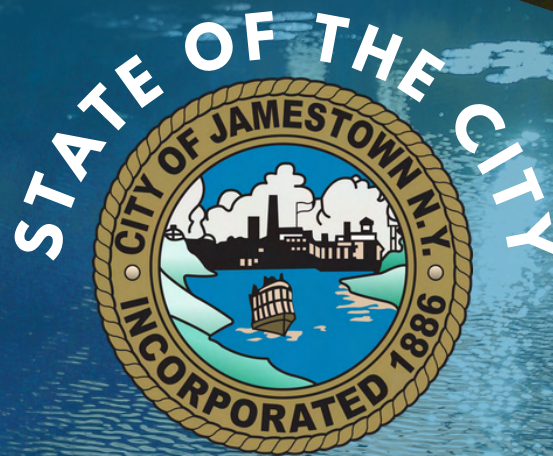


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JAMESTOWN, NEW YORK



PRESENTED BY:

Mayor Kimberly A. Ecklund



*DELIVERED TO MEMBERS OF THE
JAMESTOWN CITY COUNCIL
JANUARY 30, 2025*

To Council President Dolce, Council Members, and to all residents of Jamestown:

As we transition into 2025, I want to share an update on the State of the City—reflecting on the progress Jamestown has made over the past year and outlining the road ahead. This first year of my administration has been both rewarding and challenging. From the outset, we have had to confront numerous unexpected hurdles that arose from prior decisions, actions, and missed opportunities, requiring swift and focused efforts to address critical issues impacting our community.

Among the most pressing challenges were the delay in completing the 2022 City Audit, setbacks in finalizing and relocating the Fleet Maintenance Garage, and a significant increase in homeless encampments that required urgent intervention. We also inherited delays in deploying the second ambulance—an initiative expected to generate additional revenue—and financial discrepancies in the 2024 budget, including overly optimistic sales tax projections.

Further complicating matters were missed opportunities, such as the failure to apply for Financial Restructuring Board (FRB) funding, and underestimations in critical expenses, including retirement costs for police and fire personnel, as well as health, dental, and Medicare costs. Rising costs for goods and services have added to these financial pressures. Although these

challenges stemmed from various factors, they necessitated immediate and decisive action to minimize their impact and guide Jamestown toward a more stable and prosperous future.

While these issues have tested our resilience, they have also demonstrated the strength of our community. They have reinforced the importance of adaptability, transparency, and collaboration as we work to address pressing concerns. Through these challenges, we have gained valuable insights and are focused on developing sustainable solutions to move Jamestown forward.

Despite these obstacles, we have made notable progress over the past year. We have worked diligently to improve City services, support local businesses, and ensure the safety and well-being of our residents. While there is still much work to be done, the strides we have made this year have provided us with a solid foundation to build on as we look ahead.

As we enter 2025, we know that new challenges await us, but we remain committed to addressing them head-on. The year ahead will bring several important initiatives, including the ongoing negotiations for several labor union contracts, the completion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)-related projects, and the necessary updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Codes. A key focus will also be the implementation of updated software systems, including GovPilot and Springbrook, to enhance operational efficiency, improve financial management, and deliver better services to our residents. This transition is a vital step toward modernizing our processes and ensuring more effective governance. Additionally, we face the critical task of balancing the 2026 budget, striving to align financial responsibility with the City's immediate priorities and long-term vision.

While the work ahead will undoubtedly be demanding, I am confident in the direction we are moving. With the unwavering support of our dedicated public servants, business leaders, and residents, we will continue to work together to overcome any challenges and build a Jamestown that is not only stronger but also a model of growth and opportunity for future generations.



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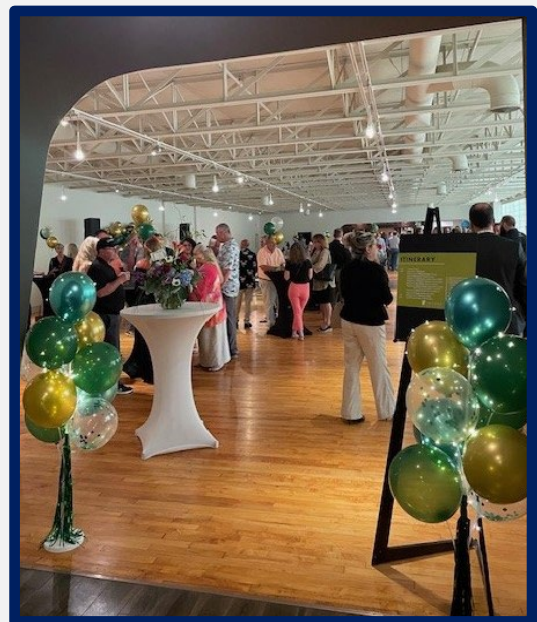
Mayor Ecklund presents a proclamation honoring the 100th anniversary of the Jamestown Cycle Shop.

KEY COMMUNITY MILESTONES CELEBRATED IN 2024

In 2024, Jamestown was proud to celebrate a series of remarkable milestones that highlight the enduring strength and commitment of our local businesses and cultural institutions. Among these, Jamestown Cycle Shop and Brigiotta's Farmland Produce & Garden Center both celebrated their 100th anniversary. These two storied businesses have been pillars of our community for a century, continuously investing in Jamestown and providing exceptional products and services that enrich

the lives of our residents. Their longevity speaks to their resilience and dedication to the city, and we look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Equally notable was the 50th anniversary of Artone Manufacturing, a key player in Jamestown's manufacturing sector. Artone's consistent investment in its workforce and facilities has made a significant impact on our local economy, and their commitment to innovation and quality continues to shape the future of our industrial landscape. We celebrate their legacy and look forward to their continued growth and contribution to the City's economic prosperity.



The 50th anniversary celebration at Artone Manufacturing on Allen Street Extension.

In addition to these incredible business milestones, Jamestown also celebrated a cultural milestone that has touched the hearts of our community—the 100th anniversary of the Jamestown High School a Cappella Choir’s Vesper’s Services. Since its founding in 1924 by Ebba Goranson, the choir has offered a cherished holiday tradition with its sacred music concerts held each December at First Lutheran Church. This year’s celebration was especially memorable, as the choir, led by Director Lauren Scharf, performed their 100th



Mayor Ecklund presents a proclamation at the Jamestown High School a Cappella Choir Vesper Services in honor of its 100th anniversary.

Vespers, accompanied by an alumni reunion that drew more than 300 past members. Renowned as the “Choir of Cathedrals,” the choir has performed at prestigious venues across the world, including Washington D.C.’s National Shrine Basilica and New York City’s St. Peter’s Lutheran Church. With 58 voices and additional ensembles such as the Madrigal Singers, the choir continues to inspire and showcase local talent. This milestone is a testament to the lasting influence of the arts in Jamestown and the choir’s significant role in our community’s cultural fabric.

These celebrations serve as a testament to the enduring spirit of Jamestown and the pride we take in our local businesses, institutions, and cultural heritage. We are grateful for their contributions to our city and excited to see what the



Mayor Ecklund presents a proclamation to Brigiotta’s Farmland Produce & Garden Center recognizing their 100th anniversary in business in the City of Jamestown.

future holds as they continue to shape our community for generations to come.

**WELCOMING
JAMESTOWN'S NEWEST
VENTURES**

Jamestown welcomed an exciting array of new businesses this past year, each bringing fresh energy and contributing to the city's dynamic growth. Grab & Go Pizzeria, located on 2nd Street, has quickly become a favorite for those seeking a quick and satisfying meal. Wicked Warren's, situated at the corner of 3rd Street and Washington, combines wood-fired pizza with fresh brewery beer, offering a warm and inviting atmosphere for locals. Beyond great food and drinks, it has also become a welcoming space for community gatherings, meetings, and events.



**Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of
Wicked Warren's on West 3rd Street.**



**Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of
SOLT & SOLT Café & Bar on West 3rd Street.**

SOLT and its café offer a perfect escape for a relaxing afternoon or an enjoyable evening with friends.

On 3rd Street, SOLT is redefining relaxation and wellness with its unique blend of spa services, including float therapy, halotherapy (in a salt cave), contrast therapy, and Vichy showers. A true destination for self-care, SOLT also features the SOLT Café & Bar, where visitors can enjoy healthy food options, specialty coffees, and cocktails. Open to the public with its own entrance, the café provides a revitalizing atmosphere for all, whether as a complement to spa services or as a stand-alone

On North Main Street, Lifted, the region's first cannabis store, has taken an important step in educating the community on the benefits and technical aspects of cannabis use. Their

commitment to promoting safe and informed consumption sets them apart, fostering a deeper understanding of this emerging industry while offering high-quality products. Lifted is paving the way for responsible cannabis use in the community, making it a valuable addition to Jamestown's business landscape.



Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of The Taco Company on North Main Street.

Also on North Main Street, The Taco Company has quickly become a community favorite, serving up an array of delicious Tex-Mex dishes crafted with high-quality ingredients. With its welcoming atmosphere and commitment to local flavor, The Taco Company embodies the essence of Jamestown's hometown hospitality, making it an ideal spot for casual meals and gatherings alike. On Washington Street, Chachy's Lemonade has brought a refreshing splash of flavor to the city this

summer. Operated by 13-year-old entrepreneur "Chachy," this vibrant stand offers 18 inventive lemonade flavors and specializes in private events. Chachy's youthful energy and commitment to community involvement make it a shining example of Jamestown's bright future.

B K Wine & Spirits, relocating from Sherman, NY, opened on East 2nd Street, filling a much-needed niche in the area by providing a diverse selection of wines and spirits. Their dedication to customer service is unmatched, going above and beyond ordering special items for customers if they are not already in stock. Chadakoin Paddle & Co., located next to McCrea Point, has infused Jamestown with a sense of adventure and a deeper appreciation for the great outdoors. By offering safe and exceptional kayak rentals, they invite residents and visitors alike to explore and experience the beauty of the Chadakoin



Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of B K Wine & Spirits on East 2nd Street.

River. With a focus on fostering environmental stewardship and promoting healthy, active lifestyles, they have created a memorable way to connect with nature right here in the city.



Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of Chadakoin Paddle Co. on West 8th Street.

Adding to the vibrant entrepreneurial scene, Evolve Salon & Spa opened on Pine Street, led by two young and dynamic entrepreneurs. This chic salon and spa offer an array of services, including massages, custom lashes, and expert hair treatments, creating a welcoming space for relaxation and self-care. Manpower Group joined Jamestown's business community with its global expertise in workforce solutions. By connecting job seekers to employers,

Manpower provides personal career development resources such as training, assessments, and educational programs. Their presence is an asset for individuals looking to advance their careers and for businesses seeking innovative staffing solutions.

These new businesses represent the vitality and entrepreneurial spirit that continue to shape Jamestown's identity, offering fresh ways to shop, work, relax, and explore. Each new venture adds to the city's diverse offerings, strengthening the community, fostering economic growth, and creating exciting opportunities for residents and visitors alike. As these establishments flourish, they bring new energy to Jamestown, connecting people, inspiring exploration, and enhancing the quality of life in the city.



Ribbon Cutting for the Grand Opening of the Manpower Group on West 3rd Street.



John & Dave Jaroszynski & Michele Jaroszynski Hartweg pose for a photograph shortly after announcing their retirement and closure of Geer Dunn.
Image Credit: postjournal.com

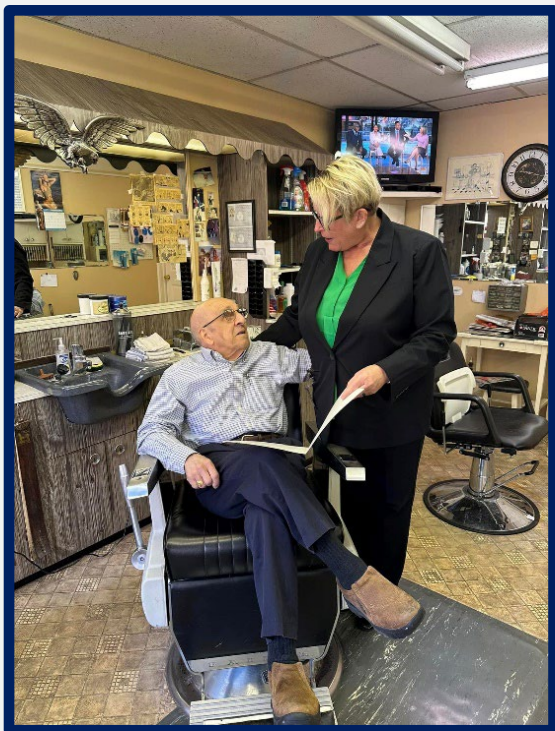
HONORING A LEGACY: FAREWELL TO CHERISHED LOCAL BUSINESSES

Jamestown bid a fond farewell to two beloved businesses this year, each leaving behind a legacy of dedication and service to our community.

Geer-Dunn, a cornerstone of local commerce for an incredible 105 years, closed its doors as owner Dave Jaroszynski retired to enjoy life's next chapter. Geer-Dunn's remarkable tenure stands as a testament to the enduring spirit of small businesses in Jamestown, and we are deeply grateful for its contributions over the decades.

Similarly, JB Barbershop, led by the inspiring John Bellavia, concluded over 55 years of serving the community with unparalleled skill and care. Overcoming the challenges of deafness, John not only demonstrated exceptional artistry in his craft but also cultivated a sense of belonging and connection for countless residents. His kindness and professionalism have left an indelible mark on Jamestown.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to these businesses and individuals for their profound impact on our community and wish them every happiness in their well-deserved retirements.



Mayor Ecklund presents a certificate to John Bellavia, owner of JB Barbershop, in recognition of his retirement and years of service to the community.

HONORING A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE & COMMUNITY IMPACT



All the 2023 Babe Ruth World Series teams gathered on the field at Russell E. Diethrick Jr., Park in Jamestown.

The return of the Babe Ruth World Series to the City of Jamestown for 2025 is an exciting milestone, as the City prepares to host the 13-year-old World Series, marking the 45th anniversary of the first-ever 13-year-old World Series, which was also held in Jamestown. Jamestown has a long and storied history with the Babe Ruth World Series, and this will be the City's 20th time hosting the tournament since 1980, further cementing its longstanding connection to this

prestigious national baseball event. The event brings together some of the best young baseball talent from across the country, offering them the chance to showcase their skills on a national stage. Over the years, the World Series has become a symbol of Jamestown's commitment to sports, youth development, and community engagement.

Hosting the Babe Ruth World Series for its 45th anniversary provides an incredible opportunity for the City. The economic impact of the tournament is significant, as local businesses—such as restaurants, hotels, and retail stores—experience a boost in visitors and revenue when families and fans travel to Jamestown to support the teams. This event also highlights the City, promoting Jamestown as a premier destination for sporting events and tourism.



The series fosters a strong sense of pride and unity within the community, as residents come together to support the athletes and celebrate the values of teamwork, dedication, and excellence.



Image Credit: Babe Ruth World Series

This 45th anniversary of the 13-year-old World Series is a proud moment for Jamestown, and the City is honored to once again host this prestigious event. It reflects the resilience and enthusiasm of our community and our commitment to providing memorable experiences for both residents and visitors. The Babe Ruth World Series is more than just a sports tournament; it is an event that brings people together, creates lasting memories, and shows the best of what Jamestown has to offer. We look forward to the celebration of this milestone and the positive impact it will bring to our city in 2025 and beyond.



#BRLWORLDSERIES – Held at Russell E. Diethrick Jr., Park in Jamestown in 2023.



Mayor Ecklund presents retiring Detective Kyle Sorenson with a proclamation honoring his 13 years of dedicated service to the community.

HONORING OUR DEDICATED RETIREES

This year, we recognized the retirements of six individuals whose combined service to the City of Jamestown totals more than 125 years. From the Jamestown Police Department, Detective Kyle Sorenson retired in October after 13 years of investigative work, and Captain Robert Samuelson retired in January, capping a 30-year career. In the Department of Public Works, Joseph Pollaro retired in July after 18 years of dedicated service. The Jamestown Fire Department saw the retirements of Battalion Chief Brian Achterberg

and Firefighter Robert Walburg in April, after 24 and 17 years of service, respectively, ensuring the safety of our community.

Lastly, Lisa Volpe retired as City Assessor in January, concluding a 25-year career. We were deeply saddened by her passing at the end of 2024 and extend our heartfelt condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. Lisa was fondly remembered by her co-workers throughout City Hall for her kindness. Her years of service to the City are greatly appreciated and she will be profoundly missed by all who had the privilege of working with her.

These individuals have left a lasting impact on our city through their hard work and dedication. We thank them for their service, honor their invaluable contributions to making Jamestown a better place, and wish them the best in their well-deserved retirements.

WELCOMING OUR NEW TEAM MEMBERS



8 of the newest PFF's of the Jamestown Fire Department who completed their 15-week training in November of 2024.

In 2024, the City of Jamestown welcomed a talented group of new hires across various departments, bringing fresh energy and skills to our municipal workforce. The Department of Public Works added Darren Pollaro, Joseph Delgado, Joseph Palermo, Jeremy Dossey, and Akeem Sims, while Daniel O'Brien, Benjamin Whittaker, and Joseph Bergman joined the Parks Department. The Clerk's Office welcomed Kristin Vanstrom and Milaysha Anderson, and Sean Jones joined the Department of Development.

The Jamestown Fire Department expanded with new hires, bringing the department to 62 active members and fully staffing all four fire stations. These additions enhance response times and safety for both residents and firefighters. New team members include Sarah Hanlon, Christopher Szatkowski, Nolan Emerson, Matthew Golombek, Colin Melquist, Walker Perry, Michael Scalise, Lucas Willink, Garrett Fransen, Clark Wiltsie, John Russo, and Joshua Ellman.

The Jamestown Police Department welcomed Brock Johnson, Hayden Burgeson, Allison Murphy-Johnson, and Vanessa Lutton, while Ericka Thomas joined the Comptroller's Office, Joseph Calimeri and Ashlan Davis joined the Mayor's Office, and Jordan Berg strengthened the Maintenance Department.

Looking ahead to 2025, the City filled the vital Economic Development Coordinator position on Day 1, ensuring progress in attracting businesses, creating jobs, and

Allison Murphy-Johnson pictured with Hope.

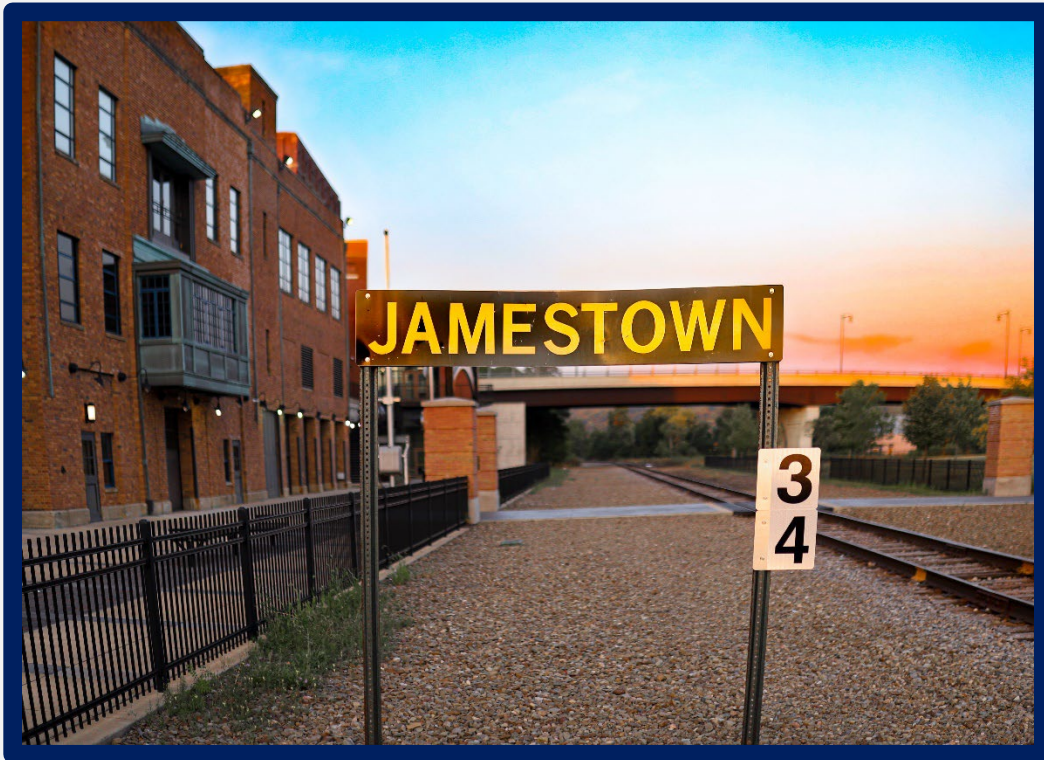




Aili Makuch joins the Department of Development as the new Economic Development Coordinator.

revitalizing the local economy. This role is pivotal to Jamestown’s growth and success, as it will drive strategic initiatives, foster partnerships, and help implement key projects that will elevate the City’s commercial and business landscape. With a focus on innovation and collaboration, the Economic Development Coordinator will play a critical part in shaping a prosperous future for Jamestown.

These new hires represent the future of Jamestown’s workforce, bringing diverse expertise and a shared dedication to serving our community.





The moment of totality captured from Tracy Plaza in downtown Jamestown.

JAMESTOWN'S SOLAR ECLIPSE EVENT: A COMMUNITY CELEBRATION OF A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME PHENOMENON

On April 8, 2024, the City of Jamestown had the unique opportunity to witness a total solar eclipse, an event that captured the imagination of people across the community. In preparation for the eclipse, the City worked diligently to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for residents and visitors alike. Local organizations, schools, and businesses collaborated to provide educational resources, special viewing events, and safe eclipse glasses to ensure everyone could experience the event safely. The City also worked closely with Chautauqua County, which purchased a large supply of eclipse glasses for distribution. These glasses were made available to the public at no cost, ensuring that all residents had access to the necessary safety precautions for viewing the eclipse. The glasses were distributed through local organizations, schools, community centers, and public events, ensuring broad access for everyone. The City opened viewing areas in parks and public spaces, where community members gathered to witness the awe-inspiring celestial phenomenon. Thanks to the efforts of many, including local businesses and volunteers, the event was a tremendous success. It brought people together to witness this once-in-a-lifetime occurrence, leaving the community with lasting memories of this remarkable moment.



A view of the Spring Street Ramp during the Solar Eclipse on April 8, 2024.

ON A WING AND A PRAYER: HONORING JAMESTOWN'S WWII LEGACY



A display from the "On A Wing and A Prayer" exhibit at City Hall, honoring Jamestown's WWII legacy.

In November 2024, the City of Jamestown hosted the "On A Wing and A Prayer" WWII Homefront Exhibit at City Hall, offering a valuable look at the significant contributions of our community during World War II. Coordinated by Rebecca Rosen and her husband, the exhibit featured local specialty WWII Red Cross Canteen food and beverages, live swing music, and service providers in period dress. It showcased community photographs and interactive artifacts that highlighted the role of local businesses, organizations, and manufacturers in supporting the war effort, many of which are still in operation today.

The exhibit served as an important reminder of how small cities like Jamestown played a crucial role in the national and global efforts during the war. For several weeks, students, community members, and visitors from all backgrounds had the opportunity to engage in this history, gaining a deeper understanding of the local impact during World War II.

We would like to thank Rebecca Rosen for her dedication in coordinating this event, which offered a meaningful educational experience for all who attended.



Another display from the "On A Wing and A Prayer" exhibit at City Hall, celebrating Jamestown's WWII legacy.

***HONORING MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS: THE UNVEILING OF 988
SUICIDE LIFELINE SIGNS***



Traffic Division employee Pedro unveils the first of several 988 Suicide Lifeline signs placed throughout the City of Jamestown.

In June 2024, the City of Jamestown took a significant step forward in addressing mental health and suicide prevention with the unveiling of the first 988 Suicide Lifeline signs on the 3rd Street Bridge. This event was deeply personal for many, including myself, as we honored the memory of my nephew, Ryan Michael, who we tragically lost to suicide over four years ago. The ceremony also brought together local families who have experienced the heartbreak of losing loved ones to suicide, demonstrating the strength and resilience of our community. Their participation in this moment underscored the shared pain of losing someone to mental health struggles and the importance of fostering a supportive environment for those in need.

health challenges continue to affect countless individuals and families across Jamestown, and the stigma surrounding these issues often prevents people from reaching out for help. Too often, mental health struggles remain hidden until they escalate into crises, with limited resources and support to turn to. The 988 Suicide Lifeline signs are more than just markers—they are a lifeline themselves, offering a visible, constant reminder that help is available when it is most needed. Strategically placed throughout the city, these signs can make all the difference for someone in crisis, potentially saving lives by directing them to the support they need. They stand as a testament to our community’s commitment to ensuring that no one feels alone in their darkest moments. Together, we can make a difference. Always remember to Be Kind!

Mental



Mayor Ecklund & At-Large Council Member Jeff Russell hold a 988-sign set to be installed in Jamestown.

\$28 MILLION INVESTED IN JAMESTOWN'S RECOVERY & GROWTH FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), enacted by the federal government in 2021, was designed to help communities recover from the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The City of Jamestown was awarded \$28 million in ARPA funds to address critical needs such as economic recovery, public health improvements, infrastructure enhancements, and community development. These funds were intended to help mitigate the pandemic's impacts and foster long-term resilience, particularly in disproportionately affected communities like Jamestown.

In accordance with federal requirements, all ARPA funds were allocated, and all contracts entered by December 31, 2024, ensuring their proper use and compliance with federal guidelines. The City of Jamestown is now in the final stages of project execution, prioritizing diligent oversight to confirm that the funds are utilized effectively by the federal deadline of December 31, 2026. This process includes meticulous monitoring to ensure the successful and compliant implementation of each initiative.



The new pavilion at Roseland Park, with the newly installed pickleball courts in the background.

The ARPA funds were allocated to support a wide array of projects aimed at advancing the City's recovery and long-term development. Infrastructure upgrades included the renovation of Nordstrom and Willard Parks, repairs to sidewalks damaged by trees, and roof replacements at City Hall and Fire Station 4. Economic recovery initiatives included funding of the Construction Trades Workforce Development program, the hiring of four new firefighters,

and a retrofit of the Police Department Fire Range. Recreational spaces have been enhanced through projects like new splash pads at Allen and Jackson-Taylor Parks and upgrades to Roseland Park, featuring pickleball courts and a new pavilion.



A 19A program property at 49 Utica Street, featuring a city sign highlighting its inclusion in the 19A program and its readiness for rehabilitation.

Additionally, ARPA funds have bolstered local businesses and non-profits. Programs such as Small Business Assistance and the Non-Profit Assistance Programs (NPAP) have provided critical support to these sectors. Housing and community support projects have addressed vulnerable populations with initiatives such as the Senior Citizen Home Improvements program, the 19A Home Ownership Program, and the replacement of private roofs, water lines, and sewer laterals. Public safety has also been improved with the acquisition of a SWAT Bearcat vehicle and the installation of a salt brining

system to enhance winter road maintenance.

To ensure transparency and accountability, the City is preparing a comprehensive report detailing the allocation and impact of the \$28 million in ARPA funds. This report will be released to the public in 2027, providing a clear and thorough overview of how these funds have contributed to Jamestown's recovery and growth. With thoughtful planning, responsible management, and

ongoing oversight, the City remains committed to maximizing the lasting benefits of these investments for its residents, businesses, and the community at large.



Fire Station 5 on Fairmount Avenue received major updates to its garage flooring in 2024.

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY: LEVERAGING GRANTS FOR KEY INITIATIVES



The Gateway Center on Water Street, set to benefit from the Minnow Brook Culvert Rehabilitation Project, ensuring improved access to the vital services housed within the building.

In 2024, the City of Jamestown secured over \$52 million in grants to support transformative projects that enhance residents' quality of life. This success reflects the expertise of our grant writer, Paula Pichon, who achieved a 62.5% success rate this year, with 10 applications still pending. It also underscores the vital contributions of our internal department teams and

collaborators, whose input was key to shaping and securing these grants.

Among the grants awarded is \$1.5 million to the Minnow Brook Culvert Rehabilitation Project, a vital initiative made possible through the support of the Department of Public Works (DPW), who played a key role in the grant application process. This project will replace a deteriorating culvert critical for maintaining access to UPMC Chautauqua Hospital and other essential services along Water Street. By addressing this infrastructure need, the project reduces flooding risks, prevents traffic disruptions, and ensures reliable access for residents, businesses, and organizations such as Jamestown Electro Plating and the Mental Health Association (MHA) of Western New York.

In addition to this key project, the City has secured \$2 million through the New York State Vacant Rental Improvement Program (VRIP) to create safe and affordable housing options. The \$29.9 million awarded through the Empire State Development ConnectALL Program will establish a municipally operated broadband utility, reducing internet costs for residents by providing affordable, high-speed internet access under local control. This initiative complements our other municipally operated utilities under the Board of Public Utilities, improving connectivity and ensuring equitable access for all residents. Furthermore, the \$17.3 million secured for the Topic Area 1 MicroGrid project will modernize our energy infrastructure, promoting sustainability and efficiency while strengthening the City's resilience.

Community safety remains a top priority, with \$1.25 million in grants secured for a range of critical programs. These include Police Traffic Services (PTS), Assistance to Firefighters, Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention, the Gun Violence Reduction Initiative (GIVE), and the Law Enforcement Technology Grant (LETCH). These vital programs enhance the capabilities of our first responders, equipping them with the tools, training, and technology necessary to keep our community safe.



Congressman Nick Langworthy discussing the importance of the Chadakoin River Stormwater Channel Maintenance Project this past summer.

As part of our continued efforts to revitalize the Chadakoin River and its surrounding wetlands, the City of Jamestown this past year submitted a \$5.25 million federal funding request for Stormwater Channel Maintenance. This project will focus on cleaning and dredging nine stormwater channels to reduce flooding risks and improve water quality. We were fortunate to meet with Congressman Nick Langworthy to discuss this critical initiative, and we deeply appreciate his strong support. Additionally, we have been awarded \$1.25 million for the project and are optimistic that the grant will further propel the

restoration of the river and enhance the resilience of our community.

This success reflects the collaborative efforts of Paula Pichon, our City departments, BPU teams, and other dedicated City staff. Their teamwork and shared commitment to coordinating resources and supporting the grant application process have been instrumental in securing funding that will benefit the City of Jamestown. Thanks to their dedication, these funds will help strengthen infrastructure, enhance public safety, and support community development, creating a stronger and more resilient future for our residents.

UNION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS & FINANCIAL OUTLOOK FOR THE CITY OF JAMESTOWN

The City of Jamestown is currently amid important contract negotiations with several unions representing City employees. These discussions are crucial for ensuring that the City's workforce remains motivated and compensated while also maintaining the City's fiscal stability. The City has been engaged in good faith negotiations with three unions whose contracts expired on December 31, 2024: The Civil Service Employees Association, Inc. (CSEA), the Jamestown Professional Firefighters Association (Local #137), and the Kendall Club Police Benevolent Association. Unfortunately, despite ongoing efforts, the City has reached an impasse with the Kendall Club Police Benevolent Association, which has resulted in a stalled negotiation process. The City is committed to resolving this situation.

In addition to the active negotiations, the City is preparing for upcoming discussions with three unions whose contracts are set to expire at the end of 2025. These include the Jamestown Urban Renewal Agency (JURA), the Jamestown City Administrative Association (JCAA), and the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 418. As these unions represent key segments of the City's workforce, these negotiations will also play a vital role in shaping the City's financial outlook.

The outcomes of these ongoing and future contract negotiations will have a significant financial impact on the City, especially considering the current fiscal challenges that Jamestown is facing. The City's financial state is far from ideal and balancing the need to fairly compensate employees while managing the budget is no easy task. With limited resources, the City must carefully consider the financial implications of each negotiation, ensuring that any agreements reached are sustainable for the long-term health of the City's economy. While the City is fully committed to recognizing the hard work and dedication of its employees, it must also ensure that any compensation packages or agreements reached are in line with its current and future fiscal capabilities.

As the City of Jamestown faces ongoing union contract negotiations, it is important to highlight the severe financial strain currently affecting the City. To balance the 2025 budget, taxes for residents were raised above the state's 2.0% tax cap, placing Jamestown among the top 10 highest-taxed municipalities in New York, according to the New York State Comptroller's Office. This increase, while necessary, has already placed a significant burden on our residents,

and further financial demands are simply unsustainable. To bring the budget into balance, all capital projects were eliminated, except for those related to the Consolidated Local Street & Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS), and key budget items were slashed.

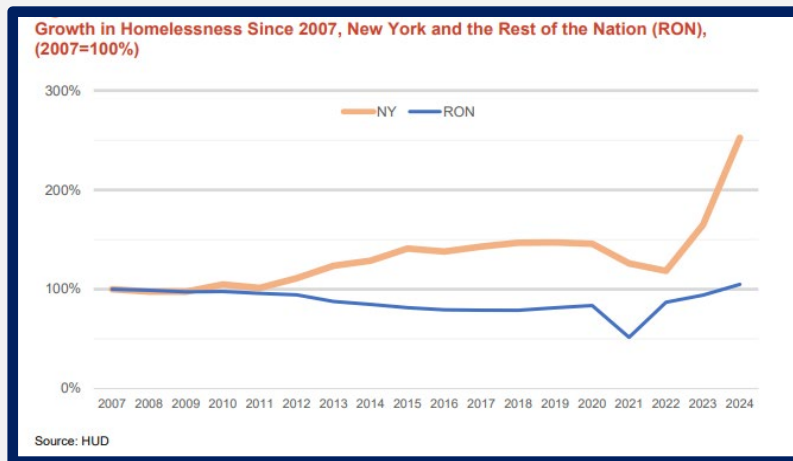
Municipal Code	Company Name	County	City Levy	City Taxable Full Value	Full Value Tax Rate (Levy per \$1,000 Full Value)
600234000000	City of New York City	New York City	\$33,803,636,702	\$1,358,449,018,314	24.88
070213000000	City of Elmira	Chemung	\$16,170,243	\$851,223,670	19.00
350214000000	City of Fulton	Oswego	\$9,142,145	\$492,751,621	18.55
030206000000	City of Binghamton	Broome	\$34,505,358	\$1,903,703,856	18.13
060222000000	City of Jamestown	Chautauqua	\$16,130,327	\$946,384,762	17.04
210226000000	City of Little Falls	Herkimer	\$3,702,988	\$230,158,985	16.09
400238000000	City of Ogdensburg	St. Lawrence	\$5,716,220	\$357,263,756	16.00
170218000000	City of Gloversville	Fulton	\$7,500,686	\$505,160,318	14.85
320215000000	City of Geneva	Ontario	\$8,851,078	\$626,449,146	14.13
290235000000	City of Niagara Falls	Niagara	\$33,391,317	\$2,397,089,756	13.93
040239000000	City of Olean	Cattaraugus	\$7,725,931	\$564,139,142	13.70
110211000000	City of Cortland	Cortland	\$9,964,454	\$735,999,352	13.54
460219000000	City of Hornell	Steuben	\$4,453,592	\$331,043,004	13.45
140225000000	City of Lackawanna	Erie	\$12,886,632	\$969,021,518	13.30
300258000000	City of Utica	Oneida	\$29,962,966	\$2,309,229,513	12.98
350242000000	City of Oswego	Oswego	\$13,045,487	\$1,028,023,704	12.69
080237000000	City of Norwich	Chenango	\$3,615,499	\$288,004,327	12.55
140256000000	City of Tonawanda	Erie	\$15,143,000	\$1,207,660,606	12.54

2024 Full Value Tax Rates for New York State Cities
Image Credit: New York State Office of the Comptroller

Unfortunately, the 2025 budget also does not account for the additional costs that will arise from the new union contracts, adding even more financial pressure to the City. Given these challenges, the City is unable to absorb substantial increases in compensation without jeopardizing its financial stability, and it is essential that we work together to reach mutually acceptable agreements. The residents of Jamestown, already burdened by rising taxes, cannot bear the additional strain of contractual increases. While the City remains committed to finding a resolution that is fair to employees, it is critical that all parties involved recognize the City’s limited financial capacity and work toward a solution that balances fairness with the fiscal realities of our community. The City remains dedicated to ongoing negotiations with the goal of reaching outcomes that support the long-term sustainability of Jamestown and ensure the continued delivery of essential services.

The City of Jamestown recognizes and deeply values the hard work, dedication, and professionalism of its employees, who play a vital role in maintaining the essential services that residents rely on daily. Their unwavering commitment, especially during times of financial uncertainty, is a testament to their resilience and dedication to the community. As negotiations continue, the City remains focused on achieving agreements that not only address the financial realities we face but also honor the contributions of our workforce. By fostering mutual respect and collaboration, we can ensure that our employees feel supported and appreciated, even as we navigate the challenges of maintaining fiscal stability for the City’s future.

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS IN JAMESTOWN: A CALL FOR LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS



Between 2022 & 2024, homelessness more than doubled in New York State – while growing by 20.7% in the rest of the nation.

Image Credit: Office of the New York State Comptroller

Homelessness is an escalating crisis in our community and across New York State, requiring urgent action taken this past summer and long-term, systemic solutions moving forward. The City of Jamestown's declaration of a State of Emergency emphasized the significant challenges posed by the surge in illegal encampments, which have placed

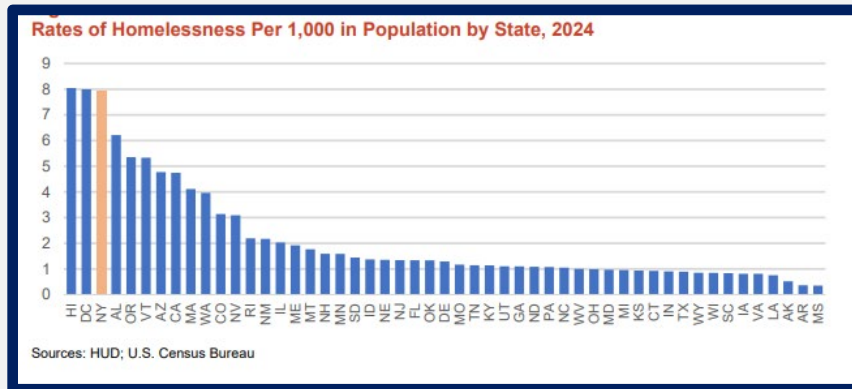
immense pressure on our resources and created substantial public health and safety risks. These encampments have resulted in improper disposal of needles and waste, environmental damage, and an increase in criminal activity—issues that the City is not equipped to address independently.

In 2024, the City incurred \$124,576.57 in unbudgeted expenses related to cleaning up illegal encampments, excluding payroll and the substantial hours dedicated by City departments such as Code Enforcement, Public Works, Parks, Development (DOD), Police, and Fire. These dedicated employees shifted their focus from other critical services to respond to this crisis, and the financial impact would be even higher if payroll costs were included.

Despite our ongoing efforts, Jamestown has not yet received any direct state or federal assistance to address homelessness, both prior to and following the State of Emergency declaration. We have submitted requests for reimbursement, including detailed clean-up invoices and a formal appeal to Governor Kathy Hochul's office, but have not yet received a response. This situation underscores the challenges municipalities like Jamestown face in managing such a complex issue without sufficient state-level support or long-term planning.

It is important to understand that the City of Jamestown does not receive direct funding to address homelessness. Instead, federal and state funds are allocated to nonprofit organizations

and Continuum of Care (CoC) agencies, which are responsible for providing outreach, shelter, housing, and homelessness prevention services. In Chautauqua County, Chautauqua Opportunities Inc. (COI) serves as the HUD-designated CoC, managing funding and services aimed at reducing homelessness.



New York’s homelessness rate in 2024 was approximately 8 per 1,000 residents, ranking 3rd highest in the United States. In Jamestown, this equates to an estimated 224 individuals experiencing homelessness.
Image Credit: Office of the New York State Comptroller

These agencies are tasked with providing essential services such as outreach, emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and long-term solutions like increasing affordable housing. They also collect and analyze homelessness data to inform policy decisions and future

funding. However, municipalities like Jamestown are often on the front lines, responding to immediate needs like illegal encampments and public health hazards. The allocation of funds to nonprofits, instead of directly to the City, highlights the need for greater cooperation between these organizations and local governments. The City’s role is to provide essential information and ensure that nonprofits remain aligned with their missions. By fostering collaboration and accountability, the City can help guarantee that funding is used efficiently to address both immediate needs and long-term solutions to homelessness.

In New York State, social services—such as temporary assistance, mental health services, and addiction recovery programs—are managed at the county level, rather than by individual cities. Chautauqua County, through its Department of Social Services, Mental Hygiene Department, Health Department, and Mobile Crisis Team provides these essential services. The City of Jamestown is deeply grateful for the ongoing support and collaboration with these County departments, whose efforts have been pivotal in addressing the homelessness crisis and delivering both immediate and potential long-term solutions. Their expertise and resources have been instrumental in providing urgent assistance and helping guide individuals toward long-term stability, particularly as we lead the cleanup of illegal encampments. The City looks forward to strengthening these partnerships and continuing collaboration with state and federal representatives, as well as local officials, to combat this crisis in 2025 and beyond.

Jamestown is not alone in this fight. Communities across New York State and the nation are facing similar challenges. The issues of untreated mental health conditions, substance abuse, and the shortage of affordable housing are systemic, requiring coordinated efforts from all levels of government. Temporary solutions are insufficient—we need long-term, comprehensive strategies to address the root causes.

The City of Jamestown remains committed to working with local nonprofits, faith-based organizations, county agencies, and local elected leaders to improve our response to homelessness. However, we cannot do this alone. It is essential that state and federal leaders commit the necessary funding and resources to build the infrastructure needed for lasting, systemic change to a broken system.

Continuum of Care	Number of Homeless, 2024	Percent Change, 2022 - 2024		
		Overall Number	Under 18	People in Families
Glens Falls, Saratoga Springs/Saratoga, Washington, Warren, Hamilton Counties	529	138%	169%	205%
Newburgh, Middletown/Orange County	779	130%	158%	161%
New York City	140,134	127%	170%	196%
Jamestown, Dunkirk/Chautauqua County	219	103%	141%	150%
Troy/Rensselaer County	270	82%	147%	193%
Buffalo, Niagara Falls/Erie, Niagara, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming Counties	1,549	81%	59%	69%

Jamestown, grouped with Dunkirk & Chautauqua County in the chart above, experienced a staggering 103% increase in homelessness from 2022 to 2024 – 4th highest percentage increase among the 25 regional districts across New York State.
Image Credit: Office of the New York State Comptroller

We thank the organizations that have joined us in tackling this critical issue. Together, through collective effort, we can create a future where homelessness is prevented, and every individual has access to stability, care, and opportunity. This issue is too complex and widespread for any single entity to resolve independently. It requires a united front, where municipalities, counties, state and federal agencies, nonprofits, faith-based organizations, and the community at large work together to address both immediate needs and underlying causes, such as mental health challenges, addiction, and the lack of affordable housing.

The City of Jamestown cannot bear the financial and logistical burden alone. Without coordinated action, we risk further entrenching the crisis. It is essential that everyone, government leaders, service providers, local businesses, and residents—play a role in building lasting solutions. Only by pooling our resources, expertise, and commitment can we break the cycle of homelessness and provide individuals with not just temporary relief but long-term support to thrive. Everyone's involvement is crucial to ensuring our community offers every resident the chance to live with dignity, stability, and opportunity.

CELEBRATING JAMESTOWN'S PARKS: 2024 IMPROVEMENTS THAT ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY



Children enjoying the new Jackson-Taylor Splash Pad this past summer.

In 2024, Jamestown's parks and public spaces underwent exciting upgrades, enhancing the quality of life for residents and visitors alike, all thanks to the exceptional work of our Parks Department. This summer, we celebrated the opening of two new splash pads—one at Allen Park and another at Jackson-Taylor Park—providing families with a refreshing new way to enjoy the outdoors. Roseland Park saw a dramatic transformation, including a complete

overhaul of its playground, the addition of pickleball courts, a new basketball hoop, a new scoreboard, and improvements to ensure handicap accessibility. A new pavilion was also constructed, and additional green space was created, offering an ideal setting for both recreational activities and competitive play. Additionally, the large baseball field at Roseland Park was entirely reconstructed to enhance the athletic experience for players and spectators.

Nordstrom Park was upgraded with a new scoreboard, bleachers, and improved fencing, enhancing the experience for athletes and spectators alike. Bergman Park's Disc Golf Course saw improvements, and all the baseball fields were resurfaced with new macro clay material. Johnson Street Park received a new swing set, and trees were removed to open space for play. A highlight of the year was the unveiling of the new Willard Street Tot-Lot Park,



Parks employees installing new playground equipment at the Willard Street Tot-Lot Park.

complete with brand new playground equipment. New signage was installed across several parks, including Johnson Street, Bergman, Jones Memorial, Nordstrom, Southridge, and Jackson-Taylor Parks.

At Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park, the Home Team Locker Rooms received a fresh coat of paint, and a new gas line was installed for the concession stand. The Fenton Mansion saw upgrades, including a new backflow prevention device, a new fence, and a flower bed for the Blue Star Mothers Memorial Garden. McCrea Park and the Steele Street playground both received fresh woodchips, further improving the spaces for community enjoyment.



Parks Manager Dan Stone assists with the unveiling of the Blue Star Mother Plaque & Memorial Garden this past summer.



The updated park sign design at Veterans Memorial Park on West 3rd Street, part of the City's initiative to refresh signage in parks citywide.

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS: PARKS DEPARTMENT & COLLABORATIVE CHILDREN’S SOLUTIONS



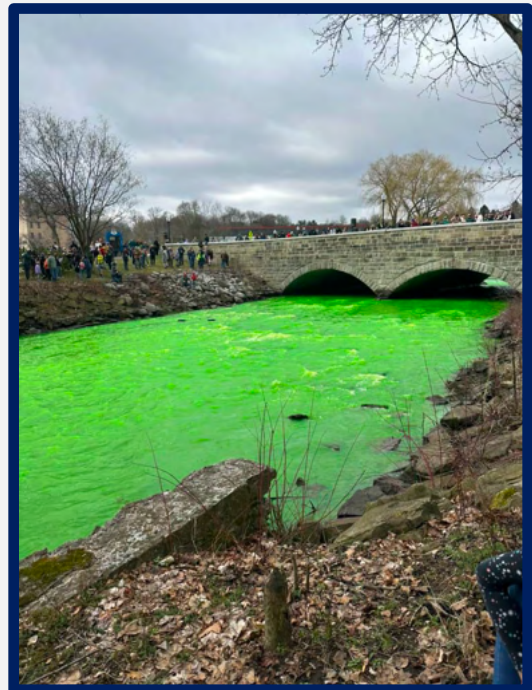
Gus Macker 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at Jamestown Community College (JCC).

The Parks Department showed outstanding dedication through its support of a wide array of signature community events in 2024. Their hard work was essential to the success of the 3rd Annual Halloween at the Riverwalk Trick or Treat Trail, the 43rd Annual Labor Day Festival at Bergman Park, the Gus Macker basketball tournament in August, the 76th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Allen Park, and the downtown Holiday Parade. Additionally, the department captivated the community with the annual "Turn the River Green" celebration for St. Patrick's Day. Other highlights included the Juneteenth celebration, Lucy Fest, Christmas

Parade, and the installation of the Holiday Tree at Tracy Plaza. The Parks Department also played a vital role in organizing the Memorial Day Parade & Ceremony, National “Go Skate Day”, the Paws Walk at the Riverwalk, the World Series of Wheels Car Show, the Cruise-in Downtown Car Show, and the Summer Municipal Band Concerts at the Allen Park Bandshell. Through its tireless efforts, the department continues to bring people together and foster a strong sense of community.



The Easter Bunny at the 76th Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Allen Park this past spring.



The Annual “Turn the River Green” Event – 2024.

Collaborative Children's Solutions has been an indispensable partner in bringing to life some of Jamestown's most cherished community events. Their meticulous coordination with our Parks Department has played a vital role in ensuring that these programs run smoothly and successfully. From the 3rd Annual Halloween at the Riverwalk to the Gus Macker basketball tournament, the Holiday Parade, and countless others, their behind-the-scenes work has helped unite residents and visitors alike.



3rd Annual Halloween at the Riverwalk's Trick or Treat Trail.

In recognition of their exceptional efforts and unwavering dedication, we were pleased to extend our contract for an additional four years. This partnership will continue to bring key events to life and allow our community to thrive through moments of celebration, connection, and fun. The overwhelmingly positive feedback from participants is a testament to the lasting impact of these events on our city.



We are deeply grateful to Collaborative Children's Solutions for their ongoing commitment to excellence. Their passion for creating memorable experiences, fostering community spirit, and contributing to the vibrancy of Jamestown is truly appreciated. With their continued partnership, we look forward to even more successful events in the future, further strengthening the bond between our residents and the city's cultural life.

***EXTENSION OF LEASE AGREEMENT - JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY
BASEBALL***

This year, the City of Jamestown took a significant step in securing the future of baseball in our community by extending the lease agreement with Jamestown Community Baseball for Russell Diethrick Park through 2030. This extension guarantees that the Tarp Skunks, our home team, will continue to bring excitement, pride, and joy to our residents and visitors alike for the next six years. The Tarp Skunks have become a staple in Jamestown, with their games offering an atmosphere of camaraderie and fun for families and fans. By locking in this agreement, we are not only ensuring that the tradition of baseball will thrive, but we are also reinforcing our commitment to preserving Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park, as a treasured part of our City's identity. This partnership marks a bright future for both the team and the park, and we look forward to many more seasons of thrilling baseball.



Jamestown resident Isaiah prepares to throw the ceremonial first pitch, officially kicking off the 2024 Tarp Skunks season at Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park.



**A meet, greet, and catch event held this spring with the Jamestown Tarp Skunks at Russell E. Diethrick, Jr. Park.
Image Credit: [facebook.com/tarpskunks](https://www.facebook.com/tarpskunks)**

EXPANSION OF PARKS & PUBLIC LANDS SMOKING ORDINANCE

This year, the City of Jamestown expanded its Parks & Public Lands Smoking Ordinance to include electronic cigarettes, cannabis, and herbal cigarettes. The decision to broaden the ordinance was made to better protect the health and well-being of our community, ensuring that everyone can enjoy our parks and public spaces without the risks associated with secondhand smoke or the intrusion of smoking-related activities. As vaping and cannabis use have become more prevalent, it was crucial to address these substances in our public areas, particularly for families, children, and individuals with respiratory conditions. This expansion of the ordinance helps to maintain clean, safe, and pleasant spaces where all residents and visitors can relax, engage in outdoor activities, and participate in community events without exposure to harmful substances. By updating the ordinance, we are reinforcing our commitment to a healthier and more inclusive environment for everyone.



JAMESTOWN'S 43-YEAR LEGACY AS A TREE CITY USA



A tree is planted at the childhood home of Roger Tory Peterson in celebration of Arbor Day 2024.

Jamestown, New York, proudly marked 43 years as a Tree City USA in 2024, a designation from the Arbor Day Foundation that highlights the City's commitment to environmental stewardship. This recognition reflects Jamestown's efforts in maintaining a dedicated tree board, implementing a tree care ordinance, and

allocating a minimum annual budget for tree maintenance and planting efforts.

The Tree City USA program brings both environmental and community benefits, improving air quality, reducing energy consumption, and enhancing public spaces. Healthy trees also create inviting, green spaces that residents enjoy.

A key driver behind this success is City Arborist Dan Stone, whose expertise and dedication ensure the health and vitality of Jamestown's trees. His work supports the City's green canopy, balancing urban development with tree preservation. Dan's proactive approach to tree care has been instrumental in the City's continued recognition as a Tree City USA. Through his leadership, Jamestown has maintained a thriving urban forest that enhances both the environment and the quality of life for residents.

In 2024, Jamestown planted 120 trees, removed 206 for safety and health, and trimmed 2,721 to improve structure. Additionally, 192 stumps were removed to make space for future plantings. These efforts help ensure the City's trees remain healthy and vibrant, providing lasting benefits to the community and generations to come.

80TH HISTORICAL MARKER DEDICATION AT LAKE VIEW CEMETERY



The 80th Historical Marker in Jamestown recognizing Lake View Cemetery.

Congressman Abner Hazeltine, and U.S. Congressman Richard P. Marvin. Lake View Cemetery is a place where community members can walk, reflect, and learn about their ancestors while taking in the natural beauty of the site, with its towering trees and tranquil landscapes. Throughout the year, guided tours continue to share the stories of our City's history and its influential people, making Lake View Cemetery not only a burial ground but a cherished historical landmark for all to enjoy.



The unveiling of the 80th Historical Marker in Jamestown.

SUCCESS OF THE 2024 COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP EVENT



Community volunteers assist in distributing t-shirts and providing information to participants during the Hands-on Neighborhoods Community Clean-Up Event.

In May 2024, the City of Jamestown successfully hosted a Community Clean-Up Event as part of the "Hands on Neighborhoods" initiative. This collaborative event brought together residents, volunteers, and local organizations to improve and beautify our neighborhoods. The efforts were supported by the Chautauqua County Land Bank, Jamestown Renaissance Corporation (JRC), City of Jamestown Department of Development (DOD), and the Jamestown Parks, Recreation &

Conservation Department. Together, participants worked to remove debris, plant greenery, and revitalize public spaces, showcasing the power of community teamwork. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Hands-on Neighborhoods, Chautauqua County Land Bank, City of Jamestown DOD, Jamestown Parks, Recreation & Conservation Department, and Jamestown Renaissance Corporation (JRC) for their dedication and partnership in making this event a huge success. A special thank you also goes out to the many community members and volunteers who generously gave their time and energy to this important initiative. Your efforts are helping to create a cleaner, safer, and more vibrant Jamestown for everyone.



Community volunteers preparing bags to collect trash and debris during the Community Clean-Up Event.

**CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE: AWARDS & RECOGNITION FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT**



The Department of Development is honored to have received significant recognition for its efforts in shaping a brighter future for the City of Jamestown. This year, the Department’s work on the Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan has been especially lauded. The American Planning Association (APA) New York Upstate Chapter, WNY Section, awarded the plan an Honorable Mention for the Best Practice Award. This acknowledgment highlights the exceptional planning and vision behind this initiative, which plays a pivotal role in revitalizing the Chadakoin River area—an essential component of the

City’s long-term development goals.

In addition to the Honorable Mention, the Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan was honored with the prestigious Best Practice Award by the APA New York Upstate Chapter. This award recognizes outstanding urban planning practices that positively impact local communities. The recognition speaks of the thoughtful and strategic approach taken by our department to not only revitalize a critical part of Jamestown but also enhance its economic, environmental, and social viability.

These accolades are not just awards—they represent the hard work, vision, and collaboration that define the department's mission to improve the quality of life in Jamestown. The recognition also affirms their commitment to sustainable development, responsible planning, and environmental stewardship. As we continue to push forward with projects, these awards remind us of the positive impact our efforts are having on our community and the broader region.

ADVANCING JAMESTOWN'S VISION THROUGH PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT



Director of Development, Crystal Surdyk, speaking at the Buffalo State Sustainability as Economic Development Conference.

This past year, the Department of Development (DOD) has represented Jamestown at several influential professional conferences, contributing to discussions that are shaping the future of our community and region. At the Mohawk Valley Brownfield Development Summit, our DOD Director, Crystal Surdyk, was honored to serve as a panelist, sharing her expertise on brownfield redevelopment and

its potential to drive economic growth and environmental sustainability in our area.

Crystal also had the opportunity to present at the Buffalo State Sustainability as Economic Development Conference, where she spoke to the Alumni Association about the role sustainability plays in fostering long-term economic prosperity, both in Jamestown and across the state.



Director of Development, Crystal Surdyk, with fellow panelists and attendees at the Mohawk Valley Brownfield Development Summit.

Additionally, the DOD was well represented at the Department of New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services Public Safety Symposium. Crystal, alongside Bronson Abbott, Rehab & Code Enforcement Officer & Housing Court Representative, Deputy Chief Scott Forster, and Nuisance Officer Zach Sandberg, shared their collective knowledge on how multi-agency collaboration is key to improving public safety and addressing challenges in our City. Their presentations highlighted innovative strategies for tackling issues like code enforcement, nuisance properties, and the broader impact of community safety.

These engagements reflect our dedication to staying at the forefront of industry trends, collaborating with other leaders, and bringing back valuable insights to improve the quality of life for Jamestown residents.

REVITALIZING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS: JAMESTOWN’S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SAFETY & GROWTH

In 2024, the City of Jamestown enacted three new ordinances aimed at improving public safety, raising housing standards, and revitalizing its neighborhoods. These measures—centered on public nuisance abatement, rental property inspections, and vacant property management—serve as key elements of the City’s strategy to create a safer and more vibrant community for all residents.



Director of Development, Crystal Surdyk, meets with members of the Real Estate Investors Association Board after City Council voted to successfully adopt the new property ordinance this past year.

These ordinances are not just local solutions; they align with emerging statewide priorities, such as New York State’s upcoming mandates on rental property inspections. By adopting these measures now, Jamestown is proactively addressing critical issues ahead of schedule, ensuring compliance with future regulations while safeguarding the health and well-being of its residents. Together,

these initiatives aim to reduce crime, curb blight, and improve housing conditions, laying a foundation for sustainable growth and revitalization well into 2025 and beyond.

VACANT REAL PROPERTY ORDINANCE: ENHANCING ACCOUNTABILITY & MAINTENANCE

The newly implemented Vacant Real Property Ordinance is designed to support Jamestown's efforts in addressing housing and economic challenges in 2025 and beyond. By targeting vacant and abandoned properties, the ordinance seeks to resolve persistent issues such as property neglect, rising crime, and neighborhood deterioration. Under the ordinance, property owners are required to register their vacant buildings, maintain them to high standards, and prevent them from becoming community liabilities. Covering both residential and commercial properties, the ordinance includes provisions for regular inspections and penalties for noncompliance, ensuring meaningful progress toward revitalizing key areas of the City. By bringing properties back into compliance or, when necessary, facilitating demolition, the City

aims to reduce blight, enhance property values, and create a safer, more vibrant environment for residents and businesses alike.

As Jamestown enters 2025, the Vacant Real Property Ordinance is poised to become a cornerstone of the City’s long-term urban renewal strategy. By establishing a registry for better tracking of vacant properties, the ordinance enables more effective enforcement of property maintenance standards. This proactive approach helps alleviate the burden abandoned properties place on local resources, such as law enforcement, code enforcement, and municipal services. By holding property owners accountable for maintaining their buildings, the ordinance takes a crucial step toward addressing the City’s housing challenges. Focused on preserving secure, safe spaces and preventing further decline, the ordinance aligns with Jamestown’s broader goals of economic development, community stability, and public safety, paving the way for a more vibrant future.

RENTAL INSPECTION ORDINANCE: ENHANCING HOUSING SAFETY IN JAMESTOWN



During the July 29th City Council Voting Session, the Rental Inspection Ordinance was successfully adopted.

The newly established Rental Inspection Ordinance in Jamestown is set to significantly improve the safety and quality of rental housing. The ordinance aims to address the persistent issue of substandard housing by ensuring that rental units meet health, safety, and sanitation standards through regular inspections and proper registration. This proactive approach will protect tenants from unsafe living conditions and help maintain the City’s housing stock as

both a safe and affordable resource. Owners of rental properties are now required to register their units with the City of Jamestown and undergo inspections within 90 days of property transfer. This will allow the City to more efficiently monitor housing conditions and ensure compliance with state and local codes.

As the ordinance is enforced, the City of Jamestown will see improvements in neighborhood conditions and an enhanced sense of community well-being. The requirement for

landlords to designate local contact representatives and pay inspection fees ensures a streamlined process for addressing housing violations promptly. For residents, the ordinance will reduce the risk of living in unsafe conditions, which has historically contributed to public health concerns and neighborhood blight. With a focus on accountability and prevention, this ordinance is expected to have long-term benefits for the City, ensuring that rental properties remain viable, safe, and attractive places to live, while also reinforcing Jamestown’s commitment to maintaining a high standard of living for all its residents.

PUBLIC NUISANCE ABATEMENT ORDINANCE: PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY

The City of Jamestown's newly enacted Public Nuisance Ordinance is designed to address properties used for illegal activities or neglected to the detriment of public health, safety, and neighborhood quality of life. By targeting habitual violations, the ordinance seeks to ease the strain on City resources, particularly Police and Code Enforcement services—while reducing the financial burden on taxpayers.

The ordinance defines public nuisances based on specific illegal activities occurring on properties, such as drug violations or repeated arrests within a six-month period. These activities contribute to neighborhood decay, diminished property values, and increased crime, warranting swift and decisive action.

Key provisions empower the City to issue penalties, mandate the cessation of nuisance activities, and, in severe cases, close properties to prevent further harm. Civil penalties may also be imposed to recoup the costs of enforcement efforts. Property owners are required to abate nuisances within 30 days, with hearings being held to determine appropriate actions, including potential property closure.

As the ordinance is enforced in 2025 and beyond, it is expected to positively impact Jamestown’s neighborhoods, property values, and overall safety. By promoting responsible property ownership, discouraging illegal activities, and reducing the burden on municipal services, the ordinance aims to revitalize neighborhoods, improve residents' quality of life, and ensure more efficient use of City resources. This proactive measure marks an important step in addressing persistent public nuisance issues and advancing the City’s long-term growth and stability.

***BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY: ADVANCING HOUSING,
BUSINESS, & GROWTH IN JAMESTOWN THROUGH STRATEGIC
INVESTMENTS***

In 2024, the Department of Development achieved remarkable progress in improving housing, supporting businesses, and enhancing our community's quality of life. This success was made possible through strategic use of federal funding programs such as the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP), Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Healthy Homes Production (HHP), and the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These programs are designed to address specific needs within our community, focusing on housing affordability, economic development, and infrastructure.



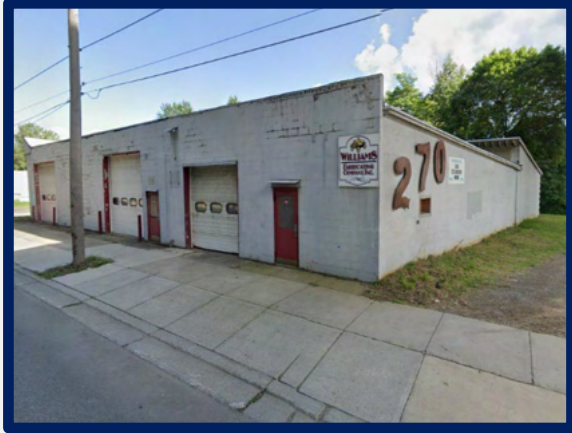
Before Photo: A kitchen set to be remodeled with HOME grant funding.

The HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) is a federal initiative designed to expand the supply of affordable housing for low-income families. In 2024, Jamestown completed 10 housing projects under this program, investing \$309,912.48 to rehabilitate existing homes, build new housing units, and help ensure residents have access to affordable, high-quality housing. These projects directly benefit individuals and families who need safe, stable homes to thrive.



After Photo: The newly remodeled kitchen, transformed with the help of HOMG grant funding.

The HOME-American Rescue Plan (HOME-ARP) program is an extension of the HOME initiative, specifically aimed at addressing the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. This year, \$627,478.59 was allocated to complete 23 projects that provide shelter, supportive services, and housing stability for Jamestown's most vulnerable populations. These funds are crucial in mitigating the housing crisis and offering long-term solutions to those in need.



Before Photo: 270 Steele Street, Fire Guys Bounce Houses & Party Rentals, received CDBG funds for exterior building improvements.



After Photo: The exterior improvements made possibly by CDBG funds have transformed 270 Steele Street, home of Fire Guys Bounce Houses & Party Rentals, enhancing both its appearance and functionality.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides flexible funding to communities for a wide range of activities aimed at revitalizing neighborhoods, supporting economic development, and improving infrastructure. In 2024, \$1,569,255.01 in CDBG funds supported 41 projects, including 15 aimed at assisting local businesses (such as Fire Guys Bounce Houses & Party Rentals), 23 focused on housing needs, and 3 dedicated to improving City infrastructure. These funds were used to assist small businesses, stabilize housing for residents, and complete vital community projects that strengthen the City’s overall infrastructure and public spaces.

The Healthy Homes Production Grant (HHP) is a targeted initiative designed to address specific housing issues such as structural safety, energy efficiency, and habitability. In 2024, in partnership with Chautauqua County Health Department (CCHD), Jamestown invested \$394,350.42 in the HHP program to rehabilitate homes in disrepair, ensuring residents have access to safe and livable housing. These funds also support property inspections and renovations to

improve the quality of housing stock in the city.

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has provided essential funding to support local governments in addressing the ongoing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic and its economic impact. This year, ARPA funds were strategically allocated



After Photo: A resident’s new roof, made possible through ARPA grant funding.

across three key areas: \$1,260,765.98 was invested in 27 business projects, offering grants and

resources to help local businesses recover, grow, and sustain operations, with notable beneficiaries including Labyrinth Press Company, El Greco, Shawbucks, and Artone Manufacturing; \$692,043.74 was dedicated to 121 housing projects aimed at addressing the City’s housing crisis through property rehabilitation, improved affordability, and expanded housing stock; and \$69,072.02 was allocated to 10 community event projects, promoting social connection, cultural engagement, and economic activity through public events, with key organizations like Chautauqua Opportunities Inc. and the YWCA receiving support. These investments have significantly contributed to strengthening the local economy and improving the quality of life for Jamestown residents.

These programs not only address immediate needs but also lay the foundation for long-term growth and prosperity in Jamestown. By utilizing these funds strategically, the Department of Development has worked tirelessly to improve housing standards, support local businesses, and strengthen community bonds. These efforts represent a comprehensive approach to community development, ensuring that every resident of Jamestown benefits from a safer, healthier, and more vibrant city. Moving forward, we remain dedicated to building on these achievements to secure an even brighter future for our community.



Before Photo: A HOME-ARP – Rental Rehab home undergoing demolition and repairs.

COMBATING BLIGHT THROUGH STRATEGIC DEMOLITIONS

In our ongoing effort to improve neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life for all residents, the City of Jamestown has made the fight against blight a top priority. Blighted and abandoned properties negatively impact our community in numerous ways—they diminish neighborhood appeal, pose safety risks, attract illegal activity, and hinder economic development. By addressing these problem properties through targeted demolitions, we are not only removing dangerous eyesores but also creating opportunities for reinvestment and renewal.



Jamestown's 810 Spring Street was successfully demolished this past spring.

This past year, the City successfully demolished 15 condemned properties at a total cost of \$484,904.00, averaging \$32,326.93 per demolition. While this is a significant investment, it is one that delivers real and lasting benefits. These demolitions not only enhance public safety and stabilize neighborhoods but also make way for future development opportunities. Our goal is to ensure that these parcels do not

sit vacant indefinitely. We are actively working to bring these properties back onto the tax roll, turning what were once financial burdens into productive assets for our community.

By collaborating with local developers, nonprofit organizations, and residents, we are exploring creative ways to repurpose these lots. This includes opportunities for in-fill housing, green spaces, community gardens, or redevelopment projects that align with our vision for a vibrant and thriving Jamestown. Each parcel we return to productive use represents a step forward in building stronger neighborhoods and growing our tax base, which is critical to funding the services and infrastructure our community relies on.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to securing funding and support to sustain our blight reduction efforts. At the same time, we are evaluating policies and programs that encourage property owners to maintain and rehabilitate structures before they reach the point of demolition. Together, these initiatives reflect our commitment to strengthening our neighborhoods, enhancing property values, and fostering a sense of pride and possibility for all Jamestown residents.

CURRENT STATE OF CODE VIOLATIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (DOD)

The City of Jamestown’s Department of Development is currently facing a substantial volume of code enforcement cases, with 1,887 active violations that require the attention of our Code Enforcement Officers. Each officer is managing a caseload of over 400 issues, ranging from junk and debris to structural fire hazards. These violations span numerous categories, including 467 cases of junk and debris, 160 involving equipment or utilities, 227 exterior violations, 301 interior violations, 54 infestations, 27 concerning domestic animals, 102 parking-related issues, and 38 cases related to structural fires. This widespread range of violations demonstrates the complex challenges facing the department and the tremendous resources needed to maintain and improve our city’s living conditions.

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

Code Enforcement



<p>1: The Complaint</p> <p>The DOD receives a complaint through online submission, phone call, email, or in person. A case is then created and assigned to a Code Enforcement Officer (CEO).</p>	<p>2: Communication</p> <p>The assigned CEO attempts to get in contact with the property owner or occupant through phone, USPS mail service or home visit. See steps 3 and 4 for violation types.</p>	<p>3: Interior Violation</p> <p>Interior violations require consent from the occupant to enter the interior of the property. A CEO inspects the inside of the reported property.</p>
<p>4: Exterior Violation</p> <p>Exterior violations that can only be observed from the sidewalk may be inspected without consent. Any exterior violations located behind a fence, or the home that cannot be seen from the sidewalk/road must have prior consent to inspect.</p>	<p>5: Notice of Violation Issued</p> <p>After inspection, the assigned CEO will issue a Notice of Violation to the property owner at the address listed on the tax roll. The property owner has an allotted amount of time to make repairs and ask for a reasonable extension.</p>	<p>6: Court Appearance</p> <p>If the violations, exterior or interior, are not corrected in the allotted timeframe, the property owner/ occupant are issued a court appearance ticket for the next available docket space.</p> <p>The judge requests a plan of repair, allows time for repair to be completed, and schedules a follow up court date. If the owner/occupant does not appear for court, an evidentiary hearing is scheduled.</p>
<p>7: Condemnation</p> <p>If the initial inspection has life threatening violations, the property or unit is given a Notice to Vacate, then condemned.</p> <p>If the interior repairs are not made in a timely manner and continue to be a danger to the occupant, the property or unit is issued a Notice to Vacate, then condemned.</p> <p>Condemned properties may be issued a clean up or demolition order, and fines through the court.</p>	<p>8: Continued Correspondence</p> <p>Communication between CEO's and owners/occupants continue. Fines continue to be issued as determined by the housing court judge, and continued re-inspections take place.</p>	<p>9: Absentee Property Owners</p> <p>If the assigned CEO is unable to reach the owner of a vacant/abandoned property, the owner is process served to bring them into court to remediate all violations.</p> <p><i>Addresses listed on current tax roll are not always the owner's current or full-time residence.</i></p>
<p>The timeliness of outcomes may vary depending on the owner/occupants response time and cooperation with their assigned CEO.</p> <p>The Department of Development must follow City of Jamestown and State of New York codes and legal processes.</p>		

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The process that follows once a code complaint is filed with the Department of Development.

When a complaint is filed with the Department of Development, the process of investigating and addressing it is far from simple. A case is opened, and a Code Enforcement Officer is assigned to inspect the property and determine whether any violations are present. For exterior violations visible from public spaces, the officer can proceed with an inspection without consent. However, for violations located behind fences or otherwise not visible, prior consent from the property owner or occupant is required. For interior violations, consent must be obtained from the occupant to enter the property.

Once a violation is confirmed, the assigned officer will take photographs and issue either a Notice of Violation or an Appearance Ticket.

For less severe exterior violations such as peeling paint or structural issues, a Notice of Violation is issued, which includes the violation's details, a comply-by date, and photographic evidence. If no progress is made within the specified timeframe, the property owner will be issued an Appearance Ticket, and the case moves forward to legal proceedings. For more immediate concerns, such as junk and debris, high grass, or infestations, an Appearance Ticket is issued directly for the next available court date.

If a property is found to have life-threatening violations, a Notice to Vacate is issued, and the property is condemned for the safety of the occupants. The legal process following such determination involves a series of court hearings and inspections, which can be prolonged and resource heavy. If the property owner fails to make the necessary repairs or attend court, additional fines are imposed, and in some cases, condemnation or demolition orders are issued.

The legal process is lengthy, requiring significant effort and resources from the Department of Development. When violations are not resolved in the prescribed timeframe, an Appearance Ticket is issued, and the case moves to housing court. The court typically orders a plan of action, allowing additional time for repairs, followed by a follow-up court date to ensure compliance. If the property owner does not appear in court, an evidentiary hearing is scheduled, further delaying the resolution.

For absentee property owners, the process becomes even more complicated. The owner must be served through legal means, which often involves tracking down current contact information, as tax roll addresses are not always up to date. In these cases, coordination with legal services becomes crucial. Should the owner fail to make the necessary repairs, the court may issue further orders for cleanup or demolition, along with additional fines.

The entire process—from the initial complaint through to the legal resolution—demands an extraordinary amount of time, documentation, court appearances, and follow-up inspections. This burden highlights the complexity of maintaining the safety and livability of our neighborhoods. Despite these challenges, the mission of the Department of Development remains clear: to ensure safe, healthy living environments for all Jamestown residents through diligent enforcement of property maintenance codes and collaborative efforts with property owners and tenants.

WELCOMING OUR NEWEST CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER – SEAN JONES



We are proud to have Sean Jones as an integral member of the Department of Development’s Code Enforcement team. Having joined the team this past September, Sean has already proven himself to be an asset in addressing the significant volume of code violations currently being managed across the City of Jamestown. His background and extensive experience have made him an exceptional at managing complex cases through a collaborative, community-focused approach.

Before joining our team, Sean served as a Senior Peer Specialist at UPMC and previously held the position of Certified Peer Specialist at the Mental Health Association (MHA). He is currently halfway through his certification process to become a fully accredited Code Enforcement Officer in New York State, a rigorous program that combines both classroom instruction and field experience.

In addition to his professional role, Sean is actively involved on the Chautauqua County Homeless Coalition Board, where he brings his knowledge of community services to address homelessness in our region. His prior experience as the owner of Jones 212 Bakery further enhances his ability to engage with the community and understand the needs of both property owners and residents.

We are excited to see Sean thrive in his new role, where he is instrumental in tackling the challenges our city and department face. His expertise, work ethic, and passion for Jamestown will undoubtedly strengthen our DOD team and help drive positive changes in the community.

NEW FUNDING TO REVITALIZE VACANT HOUSING & ENSURE LONG TERM AFFORDABILITY IN JAMESTOWN FOR RESIDENTS

City of Buffalo	City of Buffalo	\$2,497,500	35
Belmont Housing Resources for WNY, Inc.	Counties of Erie and Niagara	\$2,500,000	37
Broome County Land Bank Corporation	Broome County	\$110,000	20
Home HeadQuarters	City of Syracuse	\$5,000,000	75
Broadway Fillmore Neighborhood Housing Services	City of Buffalo East Side	\$2,500,000	35
PRIDE of Ticonderoga OBA North Country Rural Development Coalition	Counties of Essex, Washington, and Warren	\$2,000,000	30
Ontario County Economic Development Corporation	Ontario County	\$2,000,000	30
City of Elmira	City of Elmira	\$952,460	16
Allegany County Community Opportunities and Rural Development Inc.	Allegany County	\$750,000	13
City of Glens Falls	City of Glens Falls, Town of Queensbury, Town of Lake Luzerne, and Town of Lake George	\$1,090,000	18
City of Jamestown	City of Jamestown	\$2,000,000	24
City of Rochester	City of Rochester	\$2,500,000	37

Jamestown is proud to be among the recipients of V-RIP funding.

Image Credit: New York State Vacant Rental Program

go toward the rehabilitation of 24 vacant apartments, converting them into safe, affordable homes for low- and moderate-income families in our community.

The VRP program, introduced as part of Governor Hochul’s FY25 Enacted Budget, is designed to revitalize underutilized properties and make them accessible to residents who need affordable housing the most. This funding is specifically targeted to landlords who manage fewer than 20 units, allowing them to receive up to \$50,000 per unit for essential renovations, including health and safety upgrades, environmental remediation, and accessibility modifications. These improvements will bring vacant and distressed rental units back to life, making them habitable and available for rent at affordable prices.

To ensure these units serve the intended demographic, strict income requirements apply. Units receiving up to \$50,000 in assistance must be rented to tenants whose income is at or below 80% of the area median income. For more extensive renovations—up to \$75,000 per unit—the income threshold is set at or below 60% of the area median income. Additionally, these renovated units must remain affordable for the next 10 years, providing long-term housing stability for those in need.

CODE is also eligible to receive up to 15% of the awarded funds to rehabilitate its own vacant units that are not currently habitable, which will further expand the impact of this initiative. The VRP program offers a unique opportunity for local landlords to contribute to the revitalization of Jamestown’s housing stock while addressing the city’s pressing need for affordable rental units. This is a crucial step toward improving the quality of life for Jamestown families, creating economic stability, and continuing the revitalization of our community.

This past year, Jamestown saw a significant boost in efforts to address its housing challenges, thanks in part to a \$2 million award from the New York State Homes & Community Renewal Vacant Rental Program (VRP). In partnership with Citizens Opportunity for Development & Equality Inc. (CODE), this funding will

TRANSFORMING THE ALLEN STREET SITE: A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS



A 2019 photo of 1061 Allen Street, formerly home to the Crawford Furniture Manufacturing Building.

The City of Jamestown extends its gratitude to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for their unwavering support in the cleanup and redevelopment of the former Crawford Furniture facility at 1061 Allen Street. The EPA's intervention not only addressed significant environmental and safety hazards but also saved Jamestown taxpayers from the substantial financial

burden of an extensive cleanup, which exceeded \$5 million.

Established in 1883, Crawford Furniture Manufacturing Corporation was a cornerstone of Jamestown's industrial heritage, specializing in solid wood furniture production. However, due to economic challenges, the company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on August 25, 2011. In May 2012, Allen Street Development, LLC, acquired the property during the bankruptcy proceedings. Unfortunately, the new ownership did not maintain the site, leading to significant deterioration and safety concerns.

Recognizing the escalating risks, the City of Jamestown proactively engaged with Allen Street Development, LLC, highlighting issues such as vandalism, structural decay, and unauthorized access. Despite these efforts, the property owner remained unresponsive. In June 2021, the Jamestown Department of Development (DOD) formally sent a letter to EPA requesting enforcement and removal action, initiating EPA's involvement.

In April 2021, the Jamestown Department of Development issued a Notice to Vacate Order for the property. Tragically, on November 16, 2022, a massive fire erupted at the facility, consuming most of the structures. This incident not only endangered the lives of first responders



and nearby residents but also released hazardous materials, including asbestos, into the environment, exacerbating the complexity of the cleanup.

In response to the fire and the subsequent environmental hazards, the EPA commenced demolition and removal of asbestos-containing debris in November 2023. By September 2024, the site was cleared of environmental risks, setting the stage for future redevelopment.

In 2024, the City of Jamestown acquired the property, marking a pivotal step toward its revitalization. Situated in a dynamic commercial and industrial area, the site holds significant potential for redevelopment, promising economic growth and community enhancement. The City's collaboration with the EPA's Superfund Redevelopment Program has been instrumental in facilitating this transition, ensuring that the property can be repurposed safely and effectively.



Director of Development Crystal Surdyk stands beside the Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser sign at 1061 Allen Street. The City of Jamestown now owns this property and is eager to return it to productive use and back on the tax roll.

The journey of the Allen Street site—from its industrial prominence to neglect, disaster, and now, renewal—underscores the resilience and proactive spirit of the Jamestown community. Through collaboration with federal agencies like the EPA, we have transformed a site of potential peril into a beacon of opportunity. We eagerly anticipate the positive impact this redevelopment will have on our city's landscape and the well-being of our residents.

***RAMSAY AGRICULTURE: A NEW ERA OF SUSTAINABLE FARMING &
ECONOMIC GROWTH IN JAMESTOWN***



We are thrilled to announce the upcoming development of Ramsay Agriculture in Jamestown, with plans to operate from two strategic locations: 65 River Street and 40 Winsor Street, the former Crawford Furniture facility.

This state-of-the-art indoor hydroponic farm will bring a reliable supply of fresh, nutrient-dense leafy greens, baby greens, and microgreens to our community. By employing advanced hydroponic techniques, Ramsay Agriculture will offer produce that is fresher and more flavorful than traditional farming methods, setting a new benchmark for locally grown food in the region.

Ramsay Agriculture's commitment to sustainability is a key aspect of its operations. The facility plans to implement innovative energy-harvesting technologies in its waste management systems, significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions while generating renewable energy. This will help ensure the farm operates in an environmentally responsible way, supporting Jamestown's green initiatives. In addition, the use of hydroponics allows Ramsay Agriculture to extend the shelf-life of its produce, offering a healthier, more sustainable alternative to imported food.

Although still in the planning and development stages, Ramsay Agriculture is poised to have a significant economic impact on Jamestown. The project will create a variety of job opportunities, from farm management and agricultural specialists to logistics and operations roles. These positions will contribute to the city's economic growth while providing essential services to the local community. Once operational, the farm will not only enhance the availability of fresh produce but also support local businesses by strengthening the food supply chain. As the farm grows, it will also generate valuable tax revenue to support vital public services and infrastructure in Jamestown.

The mission of Ramsay Agriculture is to provide high-quality, locally grown food while supporting the broader goals of Jamestown and Chautauqua County. The facility's focus on sustainable farming practices will position Jamestown as a leader in the industry, creating long-term economic benefits for the city and the region. Ramsay Agriculture's integration of hydroponic

farming and renewable energy solutions, including an anaerobic digester, will transform a once-vacant industrial space into a thriving hub for sustainable food production and clean energy.

Supported by investments from the USDA REAP Program, private investors, and Ramsay Agriculture’s own resources, the project will revitalize a former manufacturing facility, breathing new life into this space and contributing to the community’s economic revitalization. This project aligns with both State and Federal climate goals, positioning Jamestown as a hub for innovation and sustainability. By



Image Credit: Ramsay Agriculture

reducing reliance on out-of-state suppliers and providing year-round access to fresh, locally grown produce, Ramsay Agriculture will help strengthen Jamestown’s food security and support the region’s long-term economic growth.

With this project, Ramsay Agriculture aims to make a lasting impact on the region’s agricultural sector, creating jobs, increasing food security, and boosting the local economy. As it progresses, the project will help Jamestown become a leader in sustainable agriculture and renewable energy, benefiting both the local community and the broader state of New York.



Image Credit: Ramsay Agriculture

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE & ZONING CODE OVERHAUL

In 2024, the City of Jamestown embarked on the crucial journey of updating its Comprehensive Plan, marking the first update since 1998. This effort is a pivotal step in addressing the evolving needs of our city while laying a foundation for sustainable growth. The Comprehensive Plan serves as a strategic roadmap for Jamestown’s future, guiding development, enhancing infrastructure, and improving the quality of life for all residents. The updated plan will focus on key areas such as land use, housing, transportation, economic development, public services, environmental protection, and sustainability, ensuring that our city is well-prepared for long-term success.

Over the past year, our Comprehensive Planning Committee met multiple times and participated in several community events to engage with residents. Our first outreach event was held at Wicked Warren’s, where community members shared valuable insights and ideas for the city’s future. This event marked the beginning of a series of activities, including site tours, pop-up events, and an online survey, all designed to provide residents with a platform to actively influence the City’s development. We encourage continued participation in 2025 to ensure that the final plan truly reflects the goals and values of the Jamestown community.



Community Members board a trolley for a tour of the Northside as part of a community event for the Comprehensive Plan Update.

Alongside the Comprehensive Plan update, the City will also undertake a comprehensive overhaul of our zoning codes. This critical step, which will follow the completion of the updated Comprehensive Plan, will ensure that our City's regulations align with the long-term goals outlined in the plan. The updated zoning codes will be essential in facilitating the development and revitalization of residential, commercial, and industrial areas, while promoting sustainable

and adaptable growth. By streamlining zoning regulations and aligning them with the Comprehensive Plan, we will create a more efficient, effective, and forward-thinking city.



More community members participating in Comprehensive Plan Update activities during a community meeting at Wicked Warren's.

The updated Comprehensive Plan and subsequent zoning code overhaul are vital to ensuring Jamestown remains competitive in securing federal and state funding for important projects. A modernized plan opens new opportunities for funding, particularly for infrastructure, housing, and public safety initiatives. It also enhances our eligibility for federal grants, making it easier for Jamestown to access the resources needed to continue growing and improving the

services we offer to our residents. The work we are doing now will lay the foundation for a stronger, more prosperous future for Jamestown.



We extend our gratitude to our partners at C&S Engineers, Joy Kuebler Landscape Architect, and Jacques Planning & Consulting for their expertise in guiding this process. Their abilities, paired with the invaluable input from our residents, will ensure that our Comprehensive Plan reflects Jamestown's needs, aspirations, and vision for the future. We look forward to

continuing our collaborative efforts in 2025 with our partners and the community, as we work towards finalizing a Comprehensive Plan that will lay the foundation for a bright and thriving future. We eagerly anticipate the completion of the updated plan, which will provide clear direction for the growth and development of our city in the years ahead.

***TRANSFORMING JAMESTOWN'S NATURAL & INFRASTRUCTURE
ASSETS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE***



The Chadakoin River Basin and surrounding area will undergo transformative changes this year.

Looking ahead to 2025, the City of Jamestown is excited to launch the Chadakoin River Basin Activation and Stormwater Channel Maintenance Project, a transformative initiative aimed at enhancing both the natural beauty and the functionality of one of our most valuable community assets. This project will focus on revitalizing the Chadakoin River Basin and conducting essential maintenance of the stormwater channels,

ensuring our infrastructure supports the city's growth while mitigating environmental risks.

The Chadakoin River has long been central to Jamestown's identity, and with this project, we are taking steps to transform the river basin into a more accessible and engaging area for residents and visitors. This project will include new pathways, signage, and public spaces, fostering a stronger connection to the river and encouraging outdoor activities. This will not only improve the area's recreational value but also enhance its role as an environmental and community asset.

The Stormwater Channel Maintenance component will address critical infrastructure needs by clearing sediment and debris, stabilizing the channels, and improving the efficiency of our stormwater management systems. This essential work will reduce flood risks and ensure effective stormwater management, protecting Jamestown's neighborhoods and businesses from potential water-related challenges.

At the end of 2024, C&S Companies was awarded the project and will lead this important initiative. With a proven track record in Jamestown, C&S has played a crucial role in projects such as the Chadakoin River Strategic Business Plan, Step 2 Brownfield Opportunity Area

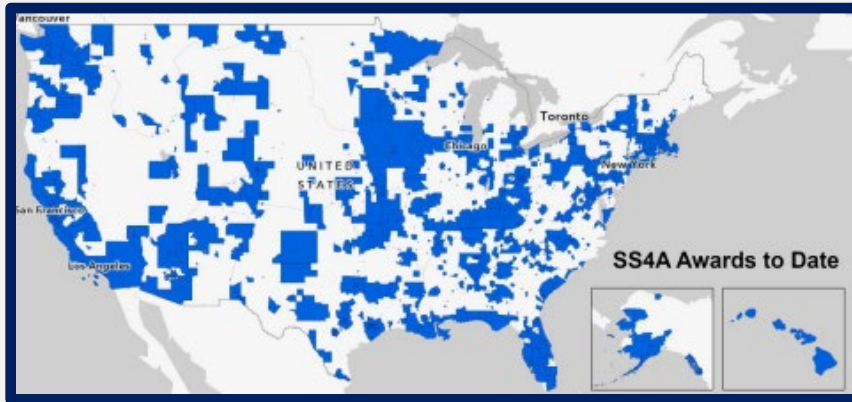
Project, and the USEPA Brownfields Program. They are also currently leading the City's Comprehensive Plan Update, which will complement and strengthen the goals of this project.

C&S Companies' experience extends well beyond Jamestown, with notable projects like the Buffalo Canalside Redevelopment, Syracuse Creekwalk, and Bemus Point Streetscape. Their deep understanding of Jamestown's unique challenges and expertise in Western New York make them ideally suited to successfully execute this initiative. Under their leadership, the City can be confident that the Chadakoin River Basin Activation and Stormwater Channel Maintenance Project will be executed with skill and precision.

This project reflects Jamestown's ongoing commitment to urban development, environmental sustainability, and infrastructure modernization. With C&S Companies at the helm, we are confident that they will contribute to the City's continued growth, bringing lasting benefits to our residents and the community.



SAFE STREETS FOR ALL: A BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER JAMESTOWN



A map highlighting all recipients of SS4A Awards, including the City of Jamestown.
Image Credit: U.S. Department of Transportation

The City of Jamestown is proud to have been awarded a Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Action Plan Grant totaling \$248,685.44 as announced by the U.S. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. This

funding, secured under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, places Jamestown among an elite group of only 500 communities nationwide selected in the program's inaugural round.

These grant funds will be instrumental in crafting a Comprehensive Road Safety Plan, which will include vital engineering and design work. This plan will serve as a blueprint for projects aimed at enhancing pedestrian, bicyclist, and driver safety while prioritizing improvements to safe routes to schools. By focusing on equity and public engagement, the plan will ensure that the needs of all Jamestown residents, particularly underserved populations, are addressed.



The Vision Zero resolution, recently adopted by the Jamestown City Council, sets an ambitious but vital goal: to eliminate roadway deaths and serious injuries within our community. This new safety framework acknowledges that every roadway death is a preventable tragedy and reorients our approach to roadway safety toward saving lives and enhancing the quality of life for everyone who lives, works, and travels in Jamestown.

Between 2016 and mid-2022, Jamestown experienced 5,996 traffic crashes, resulting in 1,199 injuries and seven fatalities. These sobering numbers underscore the urgent need for this initiative and reinforce our commitment to creating a safer, more equitable transportation network.



Image Credit: U.S. Department of Transportation

This initiative will be led by the City of Jamestown Department of Development, in partnership with the Department of Public Works and the Mayor's Office, with the help of federal funding to engage professional consultants for safety analysis, community outreach, and project planning. By focusing on data, public input, and a comprehensive strategy, the Safe Streets for All Action Plan will enable us to strategically invest in projects that save lives and improve mobility for all users.

The Safe Streets for All project represent more than just infrastructure improvements, it is an investment in our future. With a clear roadmap and the support of our community, we are one step closer to realizing our vision of a safer, healthier, and more connected Jamestown.

SS4A grants are already making an impact nationwide

- In the first three years of funding, USDOT awarded **\$2.9 billion** to over **1,600 communities** across all **50 states and Puerto Rico**.
- SS4A funds to improve roadway safety planning have been awarded to communities that comprise about **77% of the nation's population**.
- Awarded funds go to localities that make up **70% of all roadway fatalities**.
- Projects and activities will significantly **improve safety for all people using the road** in those communities, including drivers, passengers, pedestrians, bicyclists, people using transit, and people with disabilities.

Awards reach communities of all different sizes and safety needs:

- **Rural communities** comprise around half of all grant award recipients to date.
- 816 communities (44% of award recipients) have **populations under 50,000**.
- **64 Tribal communities** were awarded SS4A funding.
- About 50% of award recipients are **new direct Federal funding recipients to USDOT**.
- Around 60% of funds will **benefit underserved communities**, providing equitable investment to places that need funding the most.

Image Credit: U.S. Department of Transportation

ENHANCING JAMESTOWN'S MOBILE VENDOR COMMUNITY



Cachy's Lemonades, opened this summer, serving lemonades from their food truck.

Image Credit: [facebook.com/cachy'slemonadaes](https://www.facebook.com/cachy'slemonadaes)

The City of Jamestown recently implemented an ordinance and regulations for mobile food vendors. These regulations aim to support economic development by fostering opportunities for small businesses, increasing access to desired local foods, and simplifying the food vending process. The City's focus is to ensure public health and safety by establishing clear, narrowly tailored regulations for mobile food vendors. The ordinance requires mobile food vendors to obtain a permit and meet a range of application requirements, including vehicle

registration, insurance, and health department approval.

Vendors must adhere to various operational standards, such as maintaining their vehicles in good condition, providing waste receptacles for customers, and adhering to parking and zoning restrictions. Additionally, vendors will be inspected by the Chautauqua County Health Department, and a mobile food vendor license will be issued upon meeting all criteria. Permits are required for each food unit, and vendors must comply with state, county, and local laws, including fire and zoning codes.

Mobile food vendors will be classified into three categories based on the level of food preparation involved: Type I, II, and III, with varying inspection frequencies. The City will maintain a record of vendor permits, inspections, and complaints, helping to ensure that food safety standards are met.

At the same time, the City recognizes the importance of supporting our brick-and-mortar restaurants, which are the backbone of Jamestown's culinary scene. The goal is to create a balanced ecosystem where both food vendors and established restaurants can thrive. By welcoming mobile food vendors to our community while still fostering a supportive environment for our local restaurants, we can enhance the dining experience for residents and visitors alike, encouraging growth and collaboration within the local food economy.



Mayor Ecklund and Director of the Department of Development, Crystal Surdyk touring Blackstone Advanced Technologies on Blackstone Avenue.

CONNECTING WITH LOCAL BUSINESSES FOR A STRONGER JAMESTOWN

As Mayor, one of my top priorities this first year was to personally visit as many businesses in Jamestown as possible. I aimed to hear directly from business owners and their teams, gaining a deeper understanding of their challenges, successes, and the products and services they offer. Through this engagement, my goal was to foster open communication, build stronger relationships, and establish rapport with local entrepreneurs. Throughout the year, I had the privilege of visiting numerous businesses across the city. These visits provided invaluable insights into what is needed to support and grow our local economy, reinforcing the importance of collaboration between the

City government and local businesses.

Supporting our businesses is critical to the well-being of our community. Every business, whether large or small, plays an essential role in shaping Jamestown's identity and economic vitality. They create jobs, contribute to the local economy, and foster a sense of pride within our neighborhoods. By engaging with them directly, I am better equipped to advocate for policies, resources, and initiatives that help them thrive. These relationships have also enabled us to identify opportunities for growth and improvements that benefit both business owners and the residents of Jamestown. A thriving business community strengthens our city, providing opportunities for both current and future generations.

During my visits, I was continually amazed by the remarkable businesses that call Jamestown home, especially our local manufacturers. It was inspiring to learn about the incredible range of industries our manufacturers serve. From products used in submarines, buses, and heavy-duty transportation, to rail transport, aerospace, and even NASCAR, the scope of industries our businesses impact is truly extraordinary. I was in awe when I discovered that products made right here in Jamestown are used by national retailers, high-end car manufacturers, Disney, professional basketball teams, and more. These products are not only shipped across the United States but are also distributed to destinations around the world. The pride our manufacturers take in their work is evident in every conversation, and their unwavering commitment to quality and innovation is truly inspiring. Jamestown is more than just a manufacturing hub—it is a community playing a vital role in shaping industries on a global scale. This success story highlights the strength and potential of our city's economy and showcases the caliber of businesses that call Jamestown home.



Mayor Ecklund and Director of the Department of Development, Crystal Surdyk tour Mastergrind EDM and learn about the various components they manufacture at their facility on Buffalo Street in Jamestown.



Mayor Ecklund and Director of the Department of Development, Crystal Surdyk, tour Ballgame Heroes on West Third Street.

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS IN JAMESTOWN: GOOD
JOBS, GREAT CITIES (GJGC) ACADEMY 2024**



In 2024, the City of Jamestown advanced workforce development through its participation in the Good Jobs, Great Cities (GJGC) Academy, an initiative launched by the National League of Cities to address workforce challenges in cities across the United States. Funded by the Citi

Foundation, the program selected 16 cities, including Jamestown, to participate. Alongside Jamestown, other participating cities included Birmingham, Alabama; Chattanooga, Tennessee; Duluth, Minnesota; Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Frederick, Maryland; Kokomo, Indiana; Lansing, Michigan; Missoula, Montana; Monroe, North Carolina; Newark, New Jersey; San Antonio, Texas; Santa Fe, New Mexico; Saint Louis, Missouri; Tacoma, Washington; and Tempe, Arizona. The GJGC Academy focuses on building local solutions to workforce needs through collaboration between City leaders, employers, educators, and community organizations.

In Jamestown, the initiative united stakeholders from the manufacturing sector, public organizations, and community-based nonprofits to identify projects addressing the workforce development needs of the City’s growing manufacturing industry. Following a thorough review of data and outreach efforts, the program identified key strategies to strengthen workforce pipelines for both youth and adults pursuing new career opportunities.



One of the primary goals was to develop an early talent pipeline to prepare students for careers in manufacturing. The Chautauqua Striders mentoring

program partnered with the Manufacturers Association of the Southern Tier and Dream It Do It (DIDI) to expand its capacity and align efforts with the Advanced Manufacturing Program (DIDIAMP). This collaboration ensures that students from local schools, including Jamestown Public Schools, gain access to work-based learning experiences and obtain industry-recognized certifications. These efforts also aim to increase enrollment in DIDIAMP, providing more students with pathways to rewarding manufacturing careers.



For adults, the program partnered with the Western New York Goodwill Goodskills Career Builder Program and Jamestown Community College (JCC) to offer short-term training opportunities tailored to manufacturing careers. These initiatives create pathways for residents to access career advancement opportunities in the sector.



The program also emphasized employee retention as a key priority. Through programs like The Resource Center (TRC)/ Supporting & Facilitating Employee Retention (SAFER), businesses and their employees receive critical wraparound support services, helping employees overcome barriers and remain in their jobs long-term.



Several key accomplishments highlighted the progress made through the GJGC Academy. The Dream It Do It Advanced Manufacturing Program launched to provide students with hands-on experience and certifications in manufacturing. Events like STEM Wars engaged over 1,000 participants from 18 school districts, raising awareness of manufacturing careers. New initiatives such as Girls in Manufacturing programming and the TCAM (Teachers, Counselors, Administrators, and Manufacturers) Camp helped engage youth and educators in exploring opportunities within the sector. Additionally, partnerships with local school districts and organizations like Job Corps ensured that individuals seeking training had access to the necessary resources.

Despite these successes, challenges remain. Securing sustainable funding for future initiatives is critical to maintaining momentum. Engaging the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population and ensuring they have access to flexible funding and wraparound services will also be key to fostering broader workforce participation.

Looking ahead, the program's goals are to connect more individuals with manufacturing jobs, secure funding for strategic workforce development projects, and strengthen collaboration with other regional efforts. By working together, Jamestown is building a strong foundation to meet the needs of its manufacturing sector and create a sustainable, skilled workforce for the future.

***JAMESTOWN HOSTS NATIONAL & REGIONAL LEADERS FOR
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT AT ARTONE MANUFACTURING***



A highlight from the COJ April GJGC Summit at Artone.

On April 24–25, 2024, the City of Jamestown had the honor of hosting a pivotal workforce development event at Artone Manufacturing. This gathering brought together a diverse group of national, state, and regional leaders to engage in discussions aimed at advancing workforce initiatives in the region. The event served as a key opportunity to explore innovative strategies for tackling workforce challenges, particularly within the manufacturing sector,

and to create pathways for sustainable employment.

Distinguished attendees included Molly Bashay, Senior Policy Advisor at the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), and Hannah Jenuwine, Workforce Analyst at the USDOL. Also present were Mike Bartlett, Program Director for Postsecondary and Workforce Success at the National League of Cities, and McKinzie McGuire, Senior Program Specialist at the National League of Cities. Both contributed their expertise in advancing post-secondary education and workforce integration, helping cities develop effective strategies to strengthen local economies. Amy Hadfield, Supervising Apprenticeship Training Representative for the Finger Lakes/WNY Regions, and Laura Szmania, Project Coordinator at the NYSDOL Infrastructure Office, also participated, providing valuable insights on apprenticeship programs and workforce infrastructure.

The event provided a platform for local industry leaders, educational institutions, and community stakeholders to come together, addressing critical workforce development needs. Topics of discussion included expanding apprenticeship opportunities, enhancing workforce programs, and ensuring that residents have access to the training and resources necessary to succeed in high-demand fields such as manufacturing. Through these collaborations, the event underscored Jamestown's commitment to fostering equitable workforce systems and creating sustainable employment pathways for its community.

***CITY OF JAMESTOWN ATTENDS GOOD JOBS GREAT CITIES SUMMIT
IN WASHINGTON, D.C.***



**Mayor Ecklund alongside fellow elected officials
representing their cities at the
Good Jobs Great Cities Academy summit in Washington, D.C.**

Representatives from the City of Jamestown recently attended the Good Jobs Great Cities (GJGC) Summit in Washington, D.C., an event dedicated to showcasing the successes and opportunities of the 16 cities participating in this national workforce development initiative. Held at the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Headquarters, the summit provided a valuable platform for city leaders to connect, exchange insights,

and strengthen relationships with federal agencies and one another.

The summit highlighted the collective accomplishments of the GJGC Academy cities and offered a chance to reflect on the innovative approaches each City has taken to address workforce challenges. Jamestown representatives presented updates on local programs, including efforts to strengthen manufacturing pipelines and engage both youth and adult talent. Discussions focused on leveraging shared experiences to identify new strategies and collaborations to support equitable workforce development.

Throughout the event, City leaders engaged with representatives from federal agencies such as USDOL, gaining insights into emerging workforce policies and funding opportunities. Presentations featured speakers from the USDOL and other key organizations who shared their expertise on creating resilient, inclusive workforce systems. The summit also facilitated discussions on apprenticeship programs, short-term training initiatives, and strategies to support underrepresented populations.

By participating in the summit, Jamestown solidified its role as a proactive partner in the national effort to build stronger, more equitable workforce systems. The connections and insights gained at the event will serve as a foundation for future collaborations, ensuring that Jamestown remains at the forefront of innovative workforce development initiatives.

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS: A YEAR OF PROGRESS

The City of Jamestown made significant strides in public works projects throughout the past year, enhancing our streets, intersections, and public spaces to improve functionality, safety, and overall quality of life. These efforts reflect our commitment to maintaining and upgrading essential infrastructure that serves residents and visitors alike.



The intersection of Baker & Hazeltine was reconstructed this past summer, enhancing traffic flow and improving safety within the school zone.

Three major street reconstruction projects were completed in 2024: Morton Street, Springdale Avenue, and West Virginia Boulevard. These comprehensive overhauls included subbase preparation, new pavement installation, and enhancements to ensure long-term durability. Additionally, we partnered with the Chautauqua County Department of Public Facilities on a critical intersection reconstruction at Baker Street and Hazeltine Avenue, improving traffic flow and safety in a high-traffic school zone area.

Paving projects were also a priority, with 21 streets receiving full paving work. We completed chip seal treatments on 31 streets, and micro paving on 26 streets. These techniques not only extend the lifespan of our roadways but also improve driving conditions across the city. In addition, 2.99 miles of chip seal, 7.05 miles of crack filling (using over 1,700 gallons), 0.82 miles of Nova Chip, and 5.16 miles of slurry seal were completed. The department also paved 3.98 miles of road, repaired 0.78 miles of brick and curb, and fixed 0.50 miles of storm sewer. These efforts help enhance the longevity of our roads and improve safety for drivers and pedestrians alike.

Brick and curb repair projects were undertaken on Superior, Price, Jefferson, Shaw, Royal, Sprague, Sherman, and 23rd Streets, preserving the historic character and integrity of these areas. Partial curb and sidewalk repairs were completed on 13th Street, and brick removal

followed by pavement installation was performed on Shaw and Cheney Streets, modernizing these roadways for better usability.

Our stormwater infrastructure also received crucial upgrades. A new storm sewer was installed on Arlington Avenue, and significant storm sewer improvements were made on Benedict Avenue, addressing longstanding drainage concerns and reducing flood risks. Springdale Avenue received a complete subbase replacement and new pavement, while the island on Christy Street was removed, followed by an overlay to enhance traffic flow.

Public parks were another focal point of our efforts. New parking lots and sidewalks were installed at Allen Park and Jackson-Taylor Park to complement the recently added splash pads. These upgrades have created safer and more accessible recreational spaces for families to enjoy year-round.



Baker Street captured before the new paving was completed.



These achievements underscore the dedication and hard work of the City of Jamestown’s Public Works Department. By addressing critical infrastructure needs and prioritizing improvements that benefit residents, we are building a stronger, safer, and more connected community.



New upgrades at Allen Park including new sidewalks and a parking lot to improve accessibility and convenience for residents.

***FROM CONCEPT TO COMPLETION: JAMESTOWN'S FLEET
MAINTENANCE FACILITY***



The new Fleet Maintenance Building on Washington Street is now complete and fully operational, ready to service the city's fleet needs.

The Fleet Maintenance Building on Washington Street has been a long and evolving project for the City of Jamestown, undergoing significant changes since its inception. In February 2020, the City hired CPL Architects to design a new Fleet Maintenance facility on City-owned property on Crescent Street. However, it was determined that the Crescent Street site was too small to accommodate the City's needs.

At this time, the City was approached by the owner of a vacant property on Washington Street who offered to sell. CPL reviewed the option of modifying the existing building and concluded that renovating and expanding the Washington Street property would be more cost-effective and providing the required space. In November 2020, the State approved the City's plan to renovate and expand the existing structure instead of building a completely new facility.

The Fleet Maintenance Building was completed in late 2024, with key upgrades such as vehicle lifts and an overhead crane. This modernized facility now effectively supports the maintenance needs of the City's Public Works, Fire, Parks & Recreation, and BPU vehicles, significantly enhancing operational efficiency and capacity.



City vehicles undergoing maintenance in the newly constructed Fleet Maintenance Building.

***NYSDOT ENHANCES EAST SECOND STREET FOR JAMESTOWN'S
FUTURE***



Route 394, referred to as East Second Street by Jamestown residents, is set to undergo major improvements this year, led by the NYSDOT.

The City of Jamestown has partnered with the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) to plan and enhance Route 394, also known as East Second Street. The goal of this project is to improve safety, update road conditions, and optimize the street's functionality for the benefit of both residents

and visitors.

East Second Street is a state-owned and maintained road. While the City has a maintenance agreement with NYSDOT for all state roads within the city, this agreement specifies that the City is responsible only for minor maintenance tasks such as blacktop patching, plowing, and other routine upkeep. Major projects, including the planned improvements along East Second Street, fall under the jurisdiction of NYSDOT. These state roads are vital transportation links, handling high traffic volumes and connecting various regions

The planned improvements include resurfacing nearly three miles of East Second Street, enhancing road smoothness and durability. Additional upgrades involve modernizing traffic signals to improve flow and safety, repairing the closed drainage system to prevent water accumulation, replacing worn signage for clearer communication, and updating pedestrian infrastructure such as sidewalks, ramps, and crosswalk markings to enhance accessibility.

The proposed addition of bike lanes to East Second Street will not be part of the upcoming road improvement project. In January 2024, the Jamestown City Council voted to reject the idea of incorporating bike lanes along the route. The original proposal included removing parking spaces on the south side of East Second Street between East Fourth Street and Tiffany Avenue to create space for bike lanes, with a shared lane on the north side. After careful consideration, the City Council determined that the proposal raised concerns about safety, parking availability,

and potential negative effects on local businesses. As a result, the bike lane proposal was not approved, and it will not be included in the scope of the project.

The project is scheduled to commence in early 2025, with an anticipated completion date in 2026. NYSDOT is committed to minimizing disruptions during construction, including avoiding full road closures. Public engagement has been an integral part of the project, with a meeting held at the Prendergast Library in September 2024, where residents learned about the planned improvements and voiced their concerns.

This collaboration between the City of Jamestown and NYSDOT reflects a shared commitment to enhancing transportation infrastructure and ensuring the safety and well-being of the community.

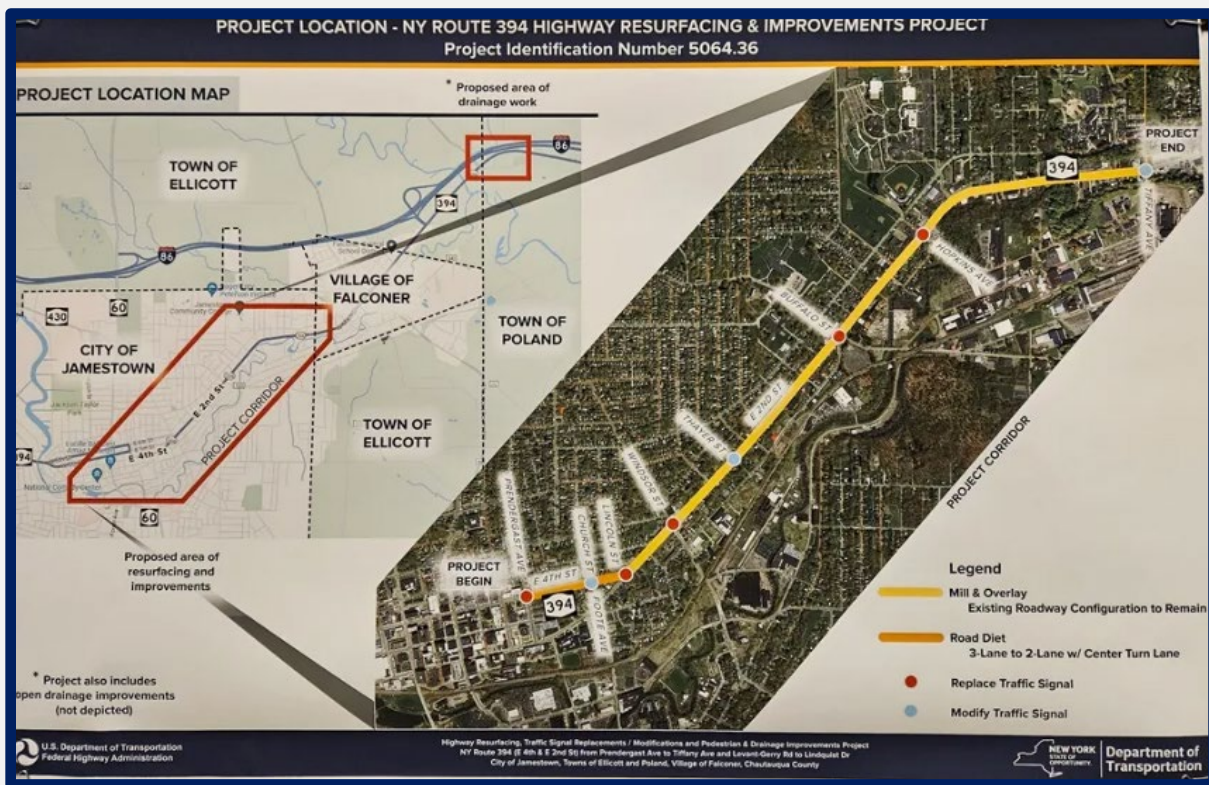


Image Credit: New York State Department of Transportation

IMPROVED SECURITY & LIGHTING BRING SAFER PARKING GARAGES TO JAMESTOWN

In 2024, the City of Jamestown significantly improved the safety and security of its parking garages by installing security cameras and enhanced lighting. These upgrades addressed concerns from 2023 about vehicle vandalism and safety risks. The Cherry and Spring Street garages had seen reports of vandalized vehicles deterring downtown employees from parking there. In February, the



A side view of the Spring Street Ramp at night.

City Council approved the installation of over 40 cameras and high-quality lighting, costing nearly \$250,000. The brighter lighting now makes the ramps much safer, especially at night.



The Spring Street Ramp entrance shines bright at night, showcasing the new cameras and enhanced lighting that have significantly improved safety and security.

Since the upgrades, criminal activity has noticeably decreased, creating a more secure environment for residents and employees. This investment has provided peace of mind and demonstrates Jamestown's commitment to public safety and community well-being.

UPDATING ALTERNATE PARKING IN JAMESTOWN: ALIGNING WITH WEATHER & PUBLIC INPUT



The current alternate parking regulations in effect for the City of Jamestown.

The City of Jamestown is considering updates to its alternate parking regulations in response to changes in weather patterns and feedback from the community. Traditionally, alternate parking has been enforced from October 1st through March 31st to accommodate snow removal and ensure that streets remain clear for traffic. However, in recent years, weather patterns have shifted, with snow not arriving as early in the season as it once did. This has led to a growing concern that the current start date of October 1st may no longer be the most practical or effective for managing winter parking.

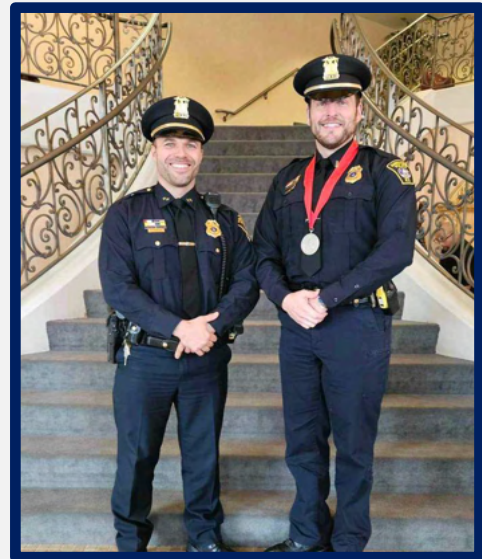
By moving the alternate parking requirement to November 1st, the City aims to better align the policy with current weather trends. The later start date will help ensure that the regulation is implemented when snow and colder temperatures are more likely to affect the city, making it more relevant to the actual conditions on the ground. This adjustment will also give residents more flexibility in managing their vehicles in the fall when snow is less likely, ultimately reducing unnecessary disruptions.

The change is also a response to significant public input, as many residents have expressed frustration with the early October start date. The City is actively reviewing these concerns and is committed to ensuring that the alternate parking regulations better reflect the realities of modern weather patterns. As part of this update, the City plans to update signage to clearly communicate the new dates and ensure that residents are well-informed.

In short, the proposed change is a proactive step to adjust the City’s parking policies to better meet the needs of the community while ensuring that snow removal and public safety remain a priority.

LIEUTENANT MATT BENTLEY: A HERO IN ACTION AT THE HIGH-RISE FIRE

Lieutenant Matt Bentley of the Jamestown Police Department was honored with the Adult Good Samaritan Hero Award, presented by National Grid, during the Red Cross Real Heroes of Western New York event on October 25th. Lt. Bentley's swift and decisive actions during the 7th-floor apartment fire at the High-Rise Senior Citizen Apartment Building on 5th Street exemplified true heroism. Faced with a rapidly escalating situation, he acted quickly to ensure the safety of the residents, coordinating the evacuation of the entire building and providing critical assistance during the emergency. We are incredibly proud of Lt. Bentley's unwavering commitment to protecting our community and his remarkable bravery in the face of danger. His actions during this incident underscore the best of what it means to serve and safeguard Jamestown's residents.



Deputy Police Chief Scott Forster & Lieutenant Matt Bentley at the Red Cross Real Heroes of Western New York event.



March 11, 2024 – A tragic fire occurred on the 7th Floor of the High-Rise Senior Apartments on West 5th Street, resulting in the loss of one resident's life.



Lieutenant Matt Bentley receiving his medal for Adult Good Samaritan Hero.

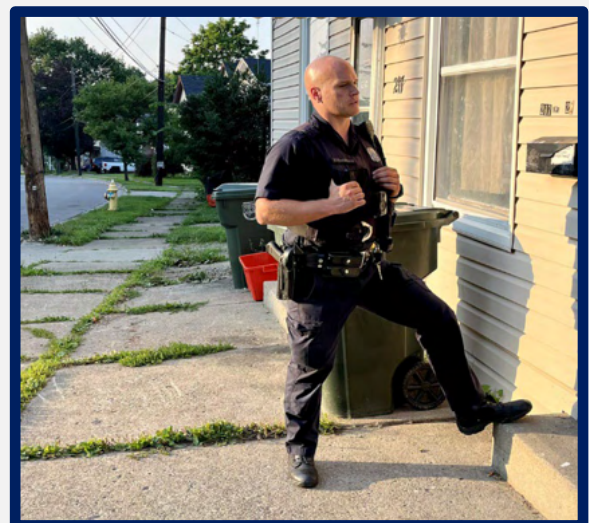
ADDRESSING PUBLIC SAFETY THROUGH THE NUISANCE OFFICER PROGRAM



Nuisance Officer Zach Sandberg of the Jamestown Police Department.

In 2024, the Jamestown Police Department (JPD) achieved significant progress in addressing public safety concerns and improving the quality of life in the city. A key achievement was the success of the Nuisance Officer program, led by Officer Zach Sandberg. Through proactive efforts, the program effectively tackled issues such as blight and various nuisance-related complaints, including loud music, illegal burning, reckless driving, and littering. Officer Sandberg issued over 80 citations for loud exhaust, 50 for loud music, and 20 for housing and property violations, including trash and unregistered vehicles. Officer Sandberg's hard work ensured that offenders were held accountable, making neighborhoods safer and more livable for residents.

In 2025, we are actively interviewing and hiring new officers. Once these positions are filled, we look forward to having Officer Sandberg return full-time to the Nuisance Officer role, where he can continue his focused efforts on addressing blight and nuisance-related concerns. His dedicated work has proven invaluable in improving the quality of life for our residents, and we are eager to see the positive impact of his return to this critical position.



**Nuisance Officer Zach Sandberg speaking with a constituent.
Image Credit: [postjournal.com](https://www.postjournal.com)**

DECREASED CALLS FOR SERVICE: A POSITIVE TREND

The Jamestown Police Department (JPD) experienced a notable decrease in the number of calls for service in 2024, with 37,394 calls compared to 41,412 in 2023—a decrease of approximately 10.7%. On average, daily calls dropped from 113 in 2023 to 102 in 2024.

This reduction can be attributed to a variety of factors, including the receipt of additional funding and grants, such as the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) grant. These funds have enabled the JPD to implement targeted enforcement strategies, such as micro hot spot policing and increased patrols in high-crime areas. The proactive approach to addressing crime and nuisance-related issues has contributed to a safer environment and a decline in calls related to incidents like reckless driving, loud disturbances, and property violations.



Mayor Ecklund presenting a proclamation to members of the Jamestown Police Department in honor of National Police Week, recognizing their dedication and hard work in serving our community.

ENHANCING COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH THE GUN INVOLVED VIOLENCE ELIMINATION (GIVE) PROGRAM

The Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) Initiative, launched by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), is a pivotal element of the state's strategy to reduce gun violence in communities outside of New York City. The program aims to eliminate gun violence through a comprehensive approach that combines targeted enforcement, enhanced law enforcement operations, and strong community collaboration. The City of Jamestown has greatly benefited from this initiative, receiving \$261,315.00 in funding this year.



**JPD Officer Maggio connecting with local youth at a JPD-sponsored Tarp Skunks game, part of a community engagement initiative funded by the GIVE Grant.
*Image Credit: facebook.com/tarpskunks***

These funds are allocated for various purposes that enhance the City's efforts in combating gun violence. They support overtime pay for officers involved in focused enforcement operations, personnel costs for hiring additional staff or supporting current employees, necessary investigative equipment, specialized officer training, and community engagement initiatives that strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the residents. This funding enables the Jamestown Police Department (JPD) to

implement a multi-faceted approach to reducing gun violence, incorporating both law enforcement and community-driven strategies.

Furthermore, several agencies throughout Chautauqua County have also received significant GIVE funding, including the District Attorney's Office (\$298,584), the Sheriff's Office (\$95,815), and the County Probation Department (\$26,300). In partnership with these agencies, the Jamestown Police Department has significantly bolstered community safety through joint patrols. This collective effort allows officers from various agencies to collaborate closely with JPD officers, pooling resources, intelligence, and expertise to proactively address crime in high-risk areas. Together, they conduct inspections of parolees and probationers, track emerging crime trends, and focus on locations with heightened criminal activity. These partnerships have not

only resulted in multiple arrests but also promoted a more unified approach to law enforcement. By working in tandem, these agencies have improved their ability to track and identify criminals, enabling a more strategic and efficient deployment of resources. This ongoing collaboration plays a critical role in fostering a safer and more proactive environment for Jamestown and its surrounding communities.

The City's Department of Development (DOD) plays a vital role in the GIVE initiative, working alongside law enforcement agencies during targeted details to address code violations. By tackling unsafe conditions, structural neglect, and other hazards that can destabilize neighborhoods, DOD enhances housing standards while supporting efforts to reduce crime. This collaborative approach reflects the City's commitment to a comprehensive public safety strategy—one that holds property owners accountable and improves the overall quality of life for residents.

With the continued support of the GIVE program, the City of Jamestown and its partners in Chautauqua County have made significant strides in reducing gun violence. Collaborative efforts among law enforcement agencies, community organizations, and residents have strengthened relationships and fostered a unified approach to addressing crime. Looking ahead, the ongoing focus on targeted enforcement, proactive policing, and community engagement will be essential to sustaining public safety and ensuring a brighter, safer future for the community. The success of the GIVE program is a testament to the power of collaboration, demonstrating the commitment to reducing gun violence, fostering trust, and enhancing the quality of life for everyone in Jamestown.



An assault rifle, two handguns, and five high-capacity magazines seized this past year, contributing to the reduction of gun violence in our city.

LEVERAGING THE LAW ENFORCEMENT TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER HARDWARE (LETECH) GRANT

The Law Enforcement Technology Equipment and Computer Hardware (LETECH) grant, provided by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS), supports law enforcement agencies in acquiring advanced technology to improve public safety and operational efficiency.

In May 2024, the Jamestown Police Department (JPD) received \$285,400 through this program. The funding enabled JPD to acquire 44 surveillance cameras, 3 license plate readers, and 3 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) for enhanced monitoring, search and rescue, and crime scene assessments. It also supported software upgrades for 51 computers and added 3 patrol vehicle printers for seamless on-the-go documentation.



A glimpse of the JPD's drone equipment, with some items funded through grants like the LETECH grant.

A portion of the grant, \$36,098.99, was allocated to drone equipment, further boosting the department's capabilities in responding to critical incidents. These tools streamline investigations, improve efficiency, and enhance the department's ability to address modern law enforcement challenges.

This funding highlights Jamestown's dedication to leveraging advanced technology to enhance public safety, ensuring improved protection and service for both officers and the community. It reflects the City's commitment to maintaining safety and fostering greater public trust in law enforcement. We are eager to continue receiving this critical support, as the Governor has pledged to sustain and expand this vital initiative, further strengthening public safety efforts.

EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JAG GRANT ENHANCES SAFETY & EQUIPMENT AT JPD

The Jamestown Police Department (JPD) received a \$16,754 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to enhance public safety and operational capabilities. Funds will be used to purchase disposable nitrile gloves, essential for officer safety when handling hazardous substances like fentanyl, and portable barricades for managing special events, emergencies, and crime scenes.

The JAG Program supports critical criminal justice initiatives, highlighting the City of Jamestown’s commitment to equipping officers with the tools needed to meet modern law enforcement challenges and ensure officer and community safety.

POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES (PTS) GRANT ENHANCES ROAD SAFETY EFFORTS



**Nuisance Officer Zach Sandberg
addressing a traffic violation during a routine stop.
*Image Credit: postjournal.com***

The Jamestown Police Department (JPD) was awarded a \$8,556 grant from the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee to enhance traffic enforcement and safety. Funds will support seat belt mobilization campaigns, promoting compliance and reducing injuries during accidents.

The grant also targets speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving to prevent accidents and improve road safety. This funding demonstrates the City of Jamestown’s dedication to safer streets, responsible driving, and the overall well-being of its community.

ACQUISITION OF THE BEARCAT ARMORED VEHICLE

The addition of a new Bearcat armored vehicle in the Jamestown Police Department's fleet, made possible through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds, significantly strengthens the department's ability to respond to high-risk situations and enhances overall public safety. Built to provide critical protection during operations such as active shooter incidents, hostage rescues, and high-risk warrant executions, the Bearcat enables officers to approach dangerous environments with heightened security. Its armored design and superior maneuverability reduce the potential for injury, ensuring officers can execute tactical operations more effectively. By elevating the department's tactical capabilities, the Bearcat has been an essential resource, enabling the Jamestown Police to safeguard the community with greater safety, precision, and efficiency.



The Jamestown Police Department's new Bearcat.



The Jamestown Police Department's SWAT team in action with the Bearcat this past spring.

Image Credit: postjournal.com

CELEBRATING THE 2024 CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY GRADUATION: A NEW ERA OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2024, the Jamestown Police Department (JPD) successfully hosted the 2nd session of the Citizens Police Academy, an initiative designed to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the community. This program offered participants a comprehensive look into the daily operations of the department, covering a range of topics such as criminal investigations, use of force, traffic enforcement, patrol procedures, and community policing. Participants had the opportunity to engage in meaningful

discussions with officers, gaining firsthand knowledge of the challenges law enforcement faces while also providing valuable feedback that helps the department better serve the public.



The 2024 Citizens Police Academy class proudly poses with Police Chief Timothy Jackson and Deputy Police Chief Scott Forster, holding their well-earned certificates of completion.



Participants engaging in an exercise at the Citizens Police Academy.

The second class of the newly revived Citizens Police Academy marks a significant milestone, following more than 20 years without the program. This program has proven to be an essential tool for building trust and transparency between the JPD and the community it serves. Graduates of the academy developed a deeper understanding of police work and the importance of collaboration in ensuring public safety. With the success of this year's session, the JPD is excited to begin recruiting for the next class in 2025 soon, continuing to engage residents and strengthen the bond between law enforcement and the community. We encourage all interested residents to participate in this valuable program, which provides the tools needed to actively contribute to a safer, more informed Jamestown.

***STRENGTHENING THE JAMESTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT: FOCUS
ON MANPOWER, GRANTS, & TRAINING FOR 2025***

As we look ahead to 2025, the Jamestown Police Department's primary focus will be on strengthening its workforce to ensure an effective and responsive force. This is particularly critical as the department continues its efforts to combat crime and ensure public safety across the city. To this end, the department anticipates the hiring of five new officers, with funding allocated in the 2025 City budget. This expansion will enhance the department's capacity to manage daily responsibilities and maintain a visible law enforcement presence, ultimately contributing to a safer environment for Jamestown residents.

The department is also committed to securing vital grant funding to bolster its crime-fighting initiatives. With 94% of the department's \$7 million budget—\$6.6 million, devoted to salaries, the remaining funds for operating costs and equipment are limited. These grants play a critical role in enhancing resources, acquiring new equipment, and supporting proactive crime prevention strategies. They also promote collaboration with various local and state agencies. In 2025, the department will continue to utilize GIVE (Gun Involved Violence Elimination) funding to support key initiatives, including micro hot spot policing and increased patrols. These initiatives will allow for a more targeted approach in high-crime areas, ensuring officers are visible and present, which is essential for maintaining safety and reducing crime throughout Jamestown.



Additionally, the department is eagerly anticipating the completion of a new indoor training range, set to be installed in 2025. This facility will provide valuable training opportunities for officers, improving their preparedness and skill sets, and enhancing their ability to respond effectively in various situations. With a strong focus on increasing manpower, securing necessary funding, and expanding training capabilities, the Jamestown Police Department is well-positioned to continue its vital work in ensuring the safety and security of the community in the years to come.

JAMESTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT: STRENGTHENING SKILLS & READINESS



Jamestown Firefighters drafting water from the Chadakoin River last summer.

In 2024, the Jamestown Fire Department demonstrated its commitment to excellence by completing over 11,900 hours of department-wide training. This included the required 100 hours of in-service training for each member. Beyond these requirements, several firefighters participated in advanced courses and seminars across the state, including specialized training at the New York State Academy of Fire Science in Montour Falls. The department also

welcomed 12 new firefighters, each undergoing an intensive 15-week training program at the New York State Fire Academy, which provided 643 contact hours per recruit.

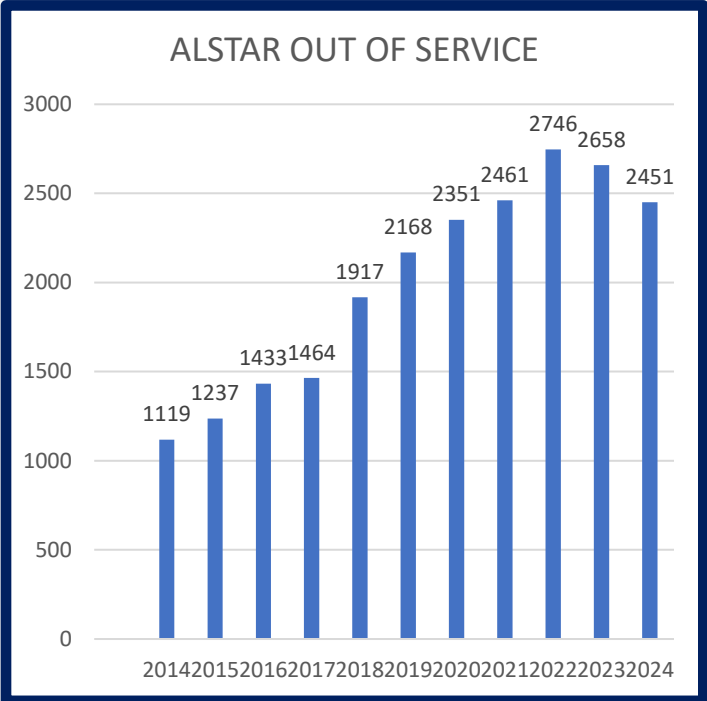
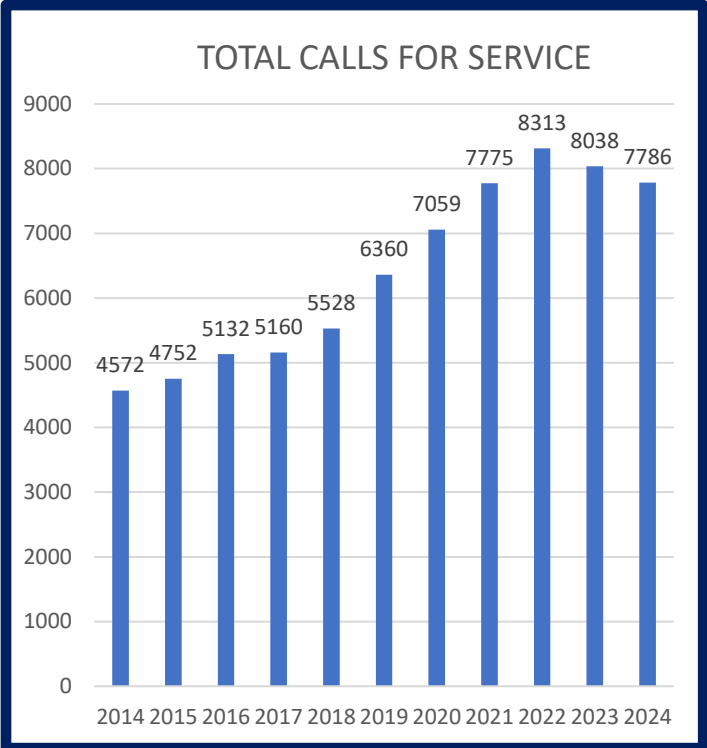


Engine 4 conducting a training exercise at the Chadakoin River.

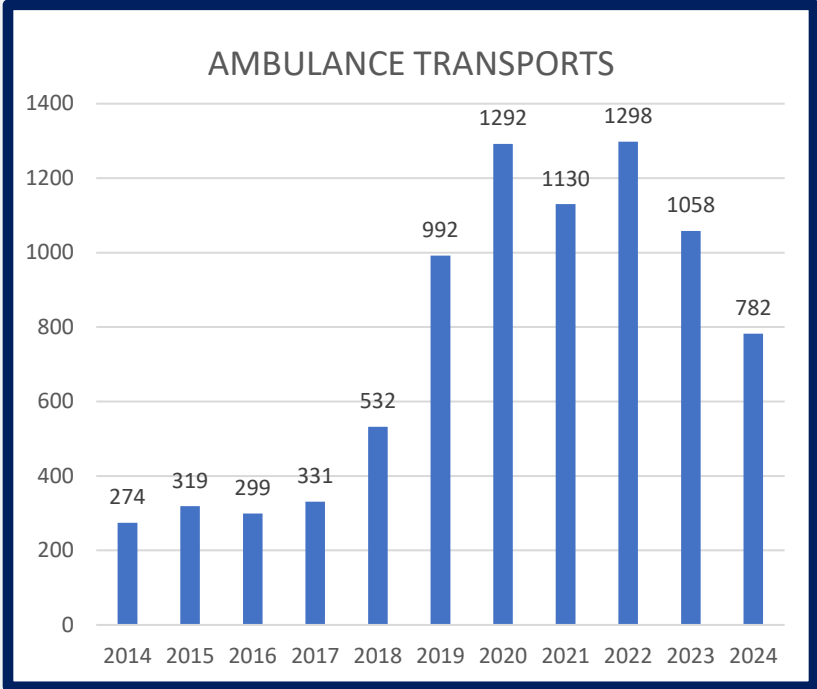
2024 SERVICE CALLS & AMBULANCE TRANSPORTS: A YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2024, the Jamestown Fire Department (JFD) responded to 7,786 calls for service, averaging 21 calls per day. This represents a 3.1% decrease from 8,038 calls in 2023 and a 6.3% drop from 8,313 in 2022. Ambulance transports also declined considerably, with 782 in 2024 compared to 1,058 in 2023, marking a 26.1% reduction.

While the public may feel that emergency services are busier than ever due to the complexity and visibility of certain incidents, the data shows an overall decrease in call volume across both the Jamestown Fire Department (JFD) and the Jamestown Police Department (JPD). Calls for service in both departments have declined, indicating that while it may feel like response demands are increasing, the actual volume of incidents has decreased. This suggests enhanced efficiency, proactive strategies, and evolving service needs allowing both emergency services and law enforcement to better allocate resources, reduce the strain on their systems, and maintain a strong focus on community safety.



These trends also reflect the broader shift towards prevention and early intervention, where both JFD and JPD can address issues before they escalate, contributing to a safer and more resilient community. Despite perceptions, the overall decrease in call volume demonstrates the effectiveness of proactive measures and operational adjustments that are helping the departments respond more efficiently to incidents when they do arise.



ADVANCING COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH FIRE PREVENTION & OUTREACH



Kindergarten Students learning about Fire Safety this past fall.

Fire prevention and community education remained a top priority in 2024. The department conducted on-site fire safety training for hundreds of children through partnerships with local schools, childcare centers, and youth organizations. Programs for older residents were also delivered at facilities such as Lutheran Social Services and senior living

complexes, ensuring that fire safety education reached all demographics.

Through federal grants like the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Grant Program (COPPGP), the department distributed over 1,000 CO and smoke detectors to residents. Partnerships with the Chautauqua Safety Village facilitated the provision of free car seats and additional safety equipment. These efforts, combined with fire prevention training for organizations such as STEL, New Vision Services, and the Resource Center, emphasized the department's holistic approach to community safety.

The department also prioritized recruitment and retention, delivering career presentations at regional educational centers and achieving national certification in child passenger safety. Public car seat inspection events further demonstrated the department's commitment to family and child safety. Additionally, 40 SCBA air packs were recertified as required, and a Department of Homeland Security FEMA AFG grant was secured to acquire new SCBA personal protective equipment.

FIRE INVESTIGATION EXCELLENCE: COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE & SAFETY



The expertise of the Jamestown Fire Department's fire investigators continued to grow in 2024. Three firefighters and one police officer advanced in their journey to become NYS/ProBoard-certified fire investigators, completing a 120-hour course and beginning the 80-hour field training required for certification. This extensive process, spanning about two years, reflects the department's high standards.

The team attended the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) conference in Saratoga Springs, which introduced innovative techniques and strategies for determining fire origins and causes. This

opportunity also fostered valuable relationships with local, state, and federal agencies.

In 2024, the department conducted 33 fire investigations, including cases of incendiary fires (7), accidental incidents (13), equipment failures (10), and improperly discarded smoking materials (2). Tragically, one fatality occurred during the year. Several cases remain under investigation, with two yet to be determined.



A house fire and subsequent investigation occurred on the 500 block of Crescent Street in October 2024.

EDDY MOBILE SCREENING: HELPING JAMESTOWN DETECT LUNG CANCER EARLY



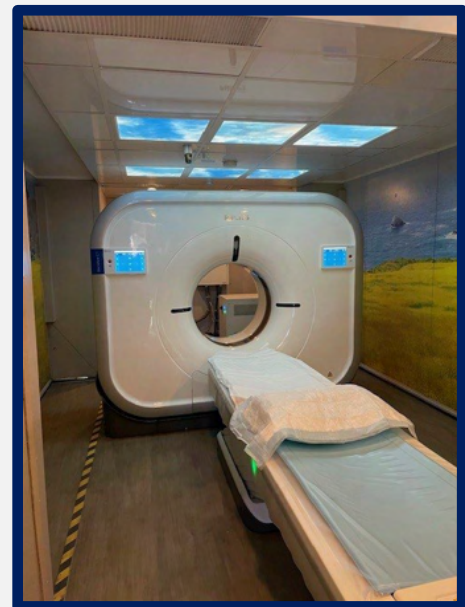
Dr. Mary Reid, MSPH, PhD, from Roswell Park, speaks at the Eddy Mobile Lung Cancer Screening event.

In July 2024, the City of Jamestown was proud to host the Eddy – Early Detection Driven to You – mobile lung cancer screening unit, provided by Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center, at Bergman Park. This groundbreaking initiative aimed to bring vital early detection services to our community, especially focusing on medically underserved populations. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths, but early detection through low-dose CT scans can save lives. Unfortunately, only a small percentage

of eligible individuals in New York State have accessed this life-saving test, and Eddy is working to change that by making screenings more accessible.

One of the key focuses of Eddy’s visit was the health and safety of our firefighters, who face increased respiratory risks due to hazardous exposures on the job. The Jamestown Fire Department played a crucial role in bringing Eddy to our city, ensuring that our dedicated first responders had the opportunity to undergo this critical screening.

The Eddy unit provided quick, painless screenings using low-dose CT scans that took just 30 seconds to perform. We thank our Parks team for facilitating the visit, ensuring a smooth experience for everyone involved. The Eddy screening event was a tremendous success, and we are excited to share that we are working on developing plans for the unit to return to Jamestown in 2025 for additional screenings, making early detection and cancer prevention an ongoing priority for our community.



The low-dose CT scanner within the EDDY Mobile Unit.

***AFTER YEARS OF PLANNING, JAMESTOWN'S SECOND AMBULANCE
HITS THE STREETS***

A major milestone was achieved in November 2024 with the deployment of Jamestown's long-anticipated second ambulance, addressing the city's growing demand for emergency medical services. This addition came after years of planning and operational delays, during which emergency calls surged dramatically, from 155 in 2013 to over 1,200 annually. The prolonged process, marked by challenges and setbacks, resulted in lost revenue and reliance on mutual aid for much of 2024.



Jamestown's Second Ambulance.

Discussions about the need for a second ambulance began in early 2022, leading to the City Council's approval of additional firefighter positions to support the expanded EMS operations. Despite initial plans to swiftly purchase the ambulance, the funding resolution was not passed until April 2023, when \$250,000 in ARPA funds were allocated for the initiative. Though intended to be operational by the end of 2023, delays extended the timeline, leaving the city with limited capacity throughout much of 2024.



The rear compartment of Jamestown's newest Ambulance.

With the second ambulance now fully operational, Jamestown's emergency response capabilities have significantly improved. Residents benefit from faster response times and enhanced service delivery, reducing reliance on outside mutual aid and ensuring critical care during emergencies. The addition also bolsters the City's financial outlook, as expanded EMS capacity captures more calls directly, generating revenue to support ongoing investments in public safety and community well-being.



The interior of Jamestown's newly introduced second ambulance.

This achievement marks a critical step forward for Jamestown, strengthening both its emergency services and its commitment to safeguarding the health and safety of its residents.



Director of Public Safety & Police Chief Timothy Jackson, Mayor Ecklund, Jamestown Firefighters, and Deputy Fire Chief Matthew Coon pose alongside Jamestown's two ambulances now in service.

SOUND THE ALARM: A LIFESAVING EFFORT IN JAMESTOWN



A volunteer installs a smoke detector during the Sound the Alarm Day of Action.

The City of Jamestown was honored to host the American Red Cross's Sound the Alarm initiative in 2024, a crucial event aimed at making our community safer. Through this program, volunteers installed free smoke alarms in homes that were without them, emphasizing the importance of fire safety and family escape plans. Smoke alarms are a simple yet life-saving tool; studies have shown that homes with working smoke alarms significantly increase the chances of surviving a fire, providing essential time for escape and reducing the likelihood of serious injury or death. During the Sound the Alarm Day of Action, volunteers worked tirelessly to install a total of 350 smoke alarms in 90 homes throughout the city, ensuring that more families have access to life-saving protection.

The event's success highlights the importance of community involvement in safeguarding our neighborhoods. With Jamestown being disproportionately affected by home fires, this initiative not only provided crucial resources but also fostered a sense of unity and shared responsibility. We extend our deepest thanks to the American Red Cross for selecting Jamestown as their Signature City and to all the volunteers and participants who made this event a success. As we look ahead to next year, we are excited to continue this life-saving effort and look forward to another potential Sound the Alarm Day of Action in 2025.



Red Cross staff members sign in volunteers for the Sound the Alarm Day of Action in Jamestown.

POWER, WATER & COMMUNITY: BPU'S 2024 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

In 2024, the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) made significant advancements in infrastructure, sustainability, and operational improvements. The BPU completed Phase 2 of the \$5 million Water Infrastructure Improvement Act (WIIA) project, supported by a \$3 million Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) grant. This critical water main replacement work enhanced service on West Virginia Boulevard, Glenview Avenue, West 18th Street, and Mercury Lane/Lasalle Avenue. Additionally, the BPU was awarded an Engineering Planning Grant to address inflow and infiltration improvements in Sewer Shed #7 on the City's west side. As part of its commitment to public health and regulatory compliance, the BPU achieved 96% completion of the EPA-mandated Lead Service Line Inventory, with full completion anticipated in early 2025.

Further enhancing its water and wastewater systems, the BPU received a NYSERDA Flex Tech grant to analyze the engineering requirements for a new Cassadaga Water Pump House Station near Falconer. A similar grant application was submitted to study potential water system expansion into surrounding towns. In the Wastewater Division, over 4,000 feet of wastewater mains were successfully slip-lined, and improvements were made to pump and lift stations at Orr Street and Foote Avenue. The Wastewater Treatment Plant also underwent a critical digester clean-out, ensuring continued efficiency and reliability.

On the labor front, the BPU strengthened its workforce through new four-year contracts with both IBEW 459 and IBEW 106 employees. A salary range evaluation study conducted with JER HR group was completed, further solidifying the organization's commitment to fair and competitive employment practices.



BPU Employees gather for a group photo.



The new EV Chargers now available on East 2nd Street.

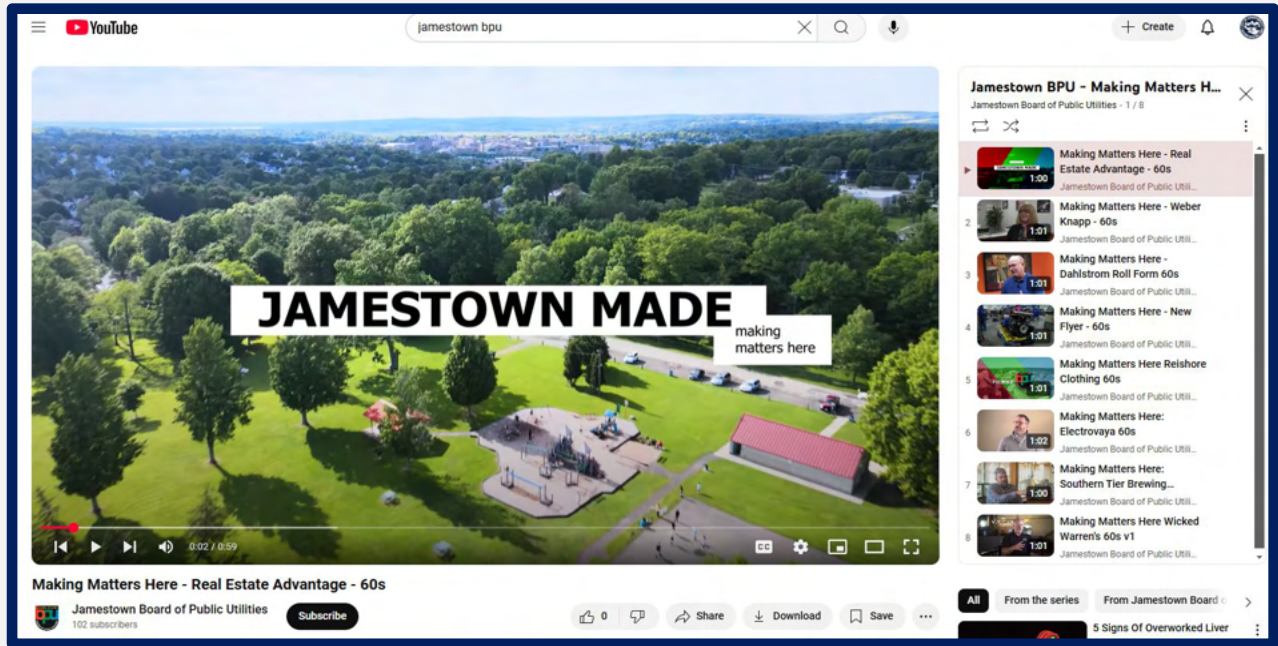
The BPU also achieved significant milestones in energy innovation and sustainability. A finalized contract with the Department of Energy (DOE) advanced the \$23.4 million Jamestown Community Microgrid project. Additionally, nearly \$30 million was awarded for the JBPU Fiber/Broadband initiative,

supporting enhanced connectivity in the region. To promote sustainable transportation, the New York Power Authority installed fast-charge electric vehicle (EV) chargers on East 2nd Street, and a grant-supported EV engineering study was completed for the Jamestown Public Schools Bus Garage and Fleet. Further progress was made with the completion of a two-year NYSERDA Just Transition District Heat engineering study, which led to the launch of the Retool District Heating project. Repairs to the current District Heating system included main replacements and valve installations, ensuring greater efficiency and reliability.

In power generation and distribution, several projects were completed to improve reliability, including electric distribution system upgrades and power plant enhancements. The BPU successfully generated electricity for its customers and achieved off-system sales throughout the year. Blackstone Advanced Technologies was added as an SC-6 Flex Rate customer, further supporting local economic growth. Additionally, the BPU wrapped up the multi-year NYSERDA \$750,000 Accelerate the Southern Tier grant project.

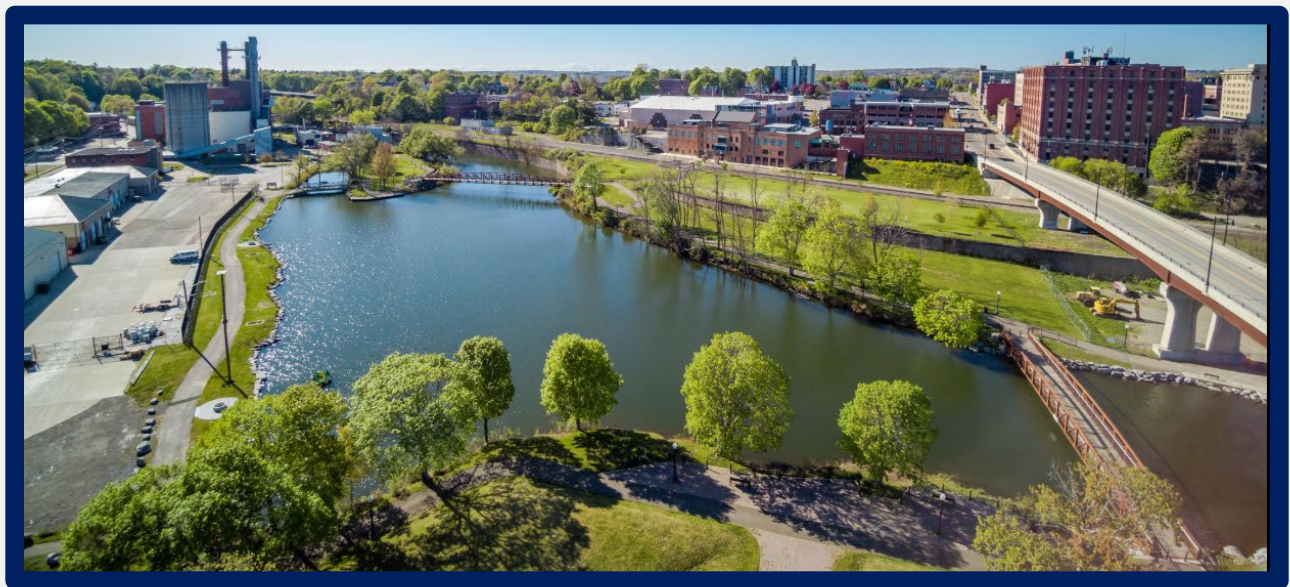


Blackstone Advanced Technologies recently signed a renewed SC-6 flex rate agreement with the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities for an additional 3 years.



The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities YouTube page.

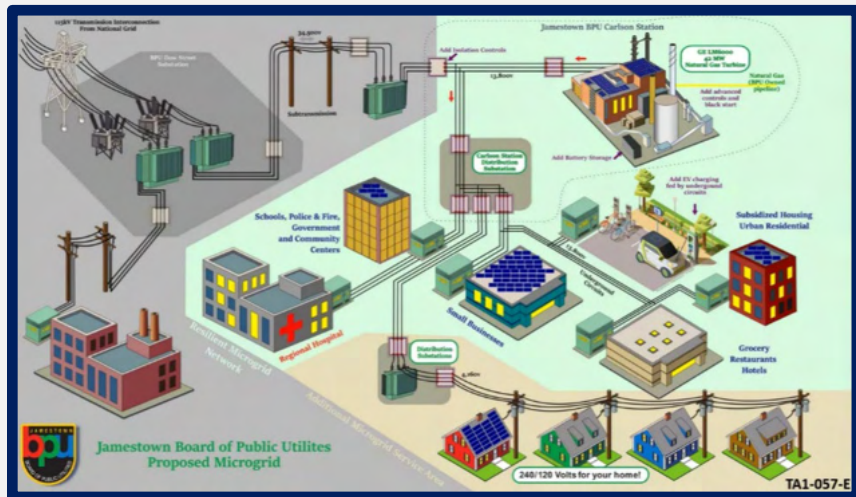
To celebrate local innovation and manufacturing, the BPU produced short videos highlighting businesses such as Reishore Clothing, Electrosvaya, Southern Tier Brewing, and Wicked Warren's as part of the "Making Matters Here" series. These initiatives demonstrate the BPU's commitment to fostering a thriving local economy while continuing to prioritize infrastructure improvements, environmental sustainability, and reliable delivery service.



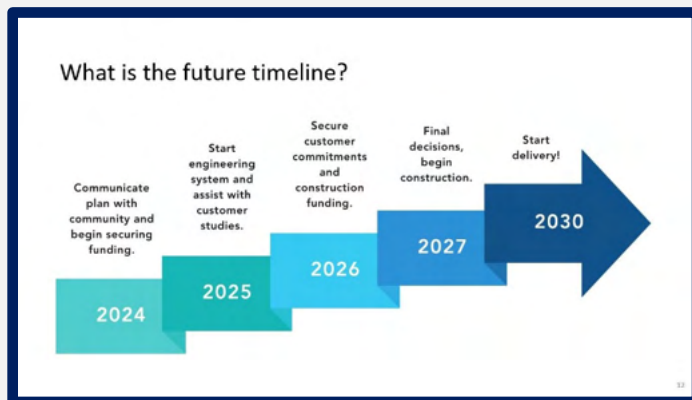
2025 PRIORITIES: ADVANCING INFRASTRUCTURE & INNOVATION

The Jamestown Board of Public Utilities (BPU) has outlined an ambitious agenda for 2025, focusing on transformative projects and strategic planning to modernize infrastructure and enhance services for the community.

A key focus will be the initial implementation of the Department of Energy's Jamestown Community Microgrid project, an innovative step towards energy resilience. Additionally, the BPU will commence the make-ready work and planning necessary for the rollout of the Fiber/Broadband project, aimed at improving digital connectivity across the city.



The proposed BPU Microgrid, supported by a \$17.4 million federal grant, will soon begin its initial implementation, marking an exciting milestone for this project.



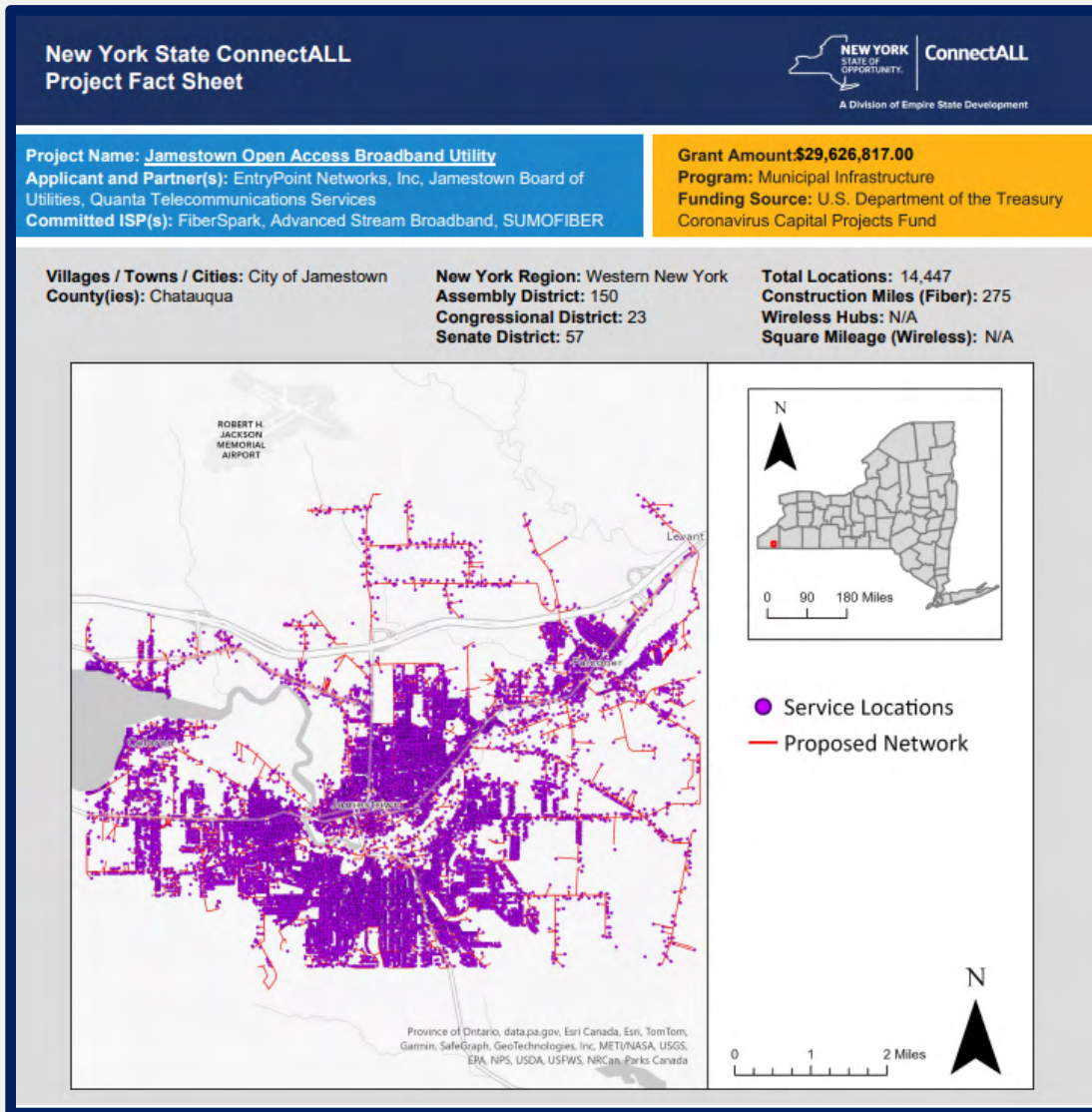
The BPU timeline for the Retool District Heating Project.

On the engineering front, the BPU intends to secure design funding for the first phase of the Retool District Heating project while also completing the engineering study for a new Cassadaga Pump House Station. Plans to finalize the Water System Expansion study will help identify opportunities to extend services to surrounding areas, ensuring long-term water supply sustainability.

In the realm of wastewater management, the Sewer Shed #7 engineering analysis will be completed, laying the groundwork for future infrastructure improvement projects that address inflow and infiltration issues. The installation of a new fueling station is also planned, providing essential support for city operations.

Grant acquisition will remain a priority, as the BPU continues to seek and secure funding to advance key initiatives. Additionally, efforts to finalize a new labor contract with Teamsters 264 employees will underscore the BPU’s commitment to fostering strong relationships with its workforce.

Through these priorities, the BPU aims to build on past successes while positioning Jamestown for a future of innovation, sustainability, and enhanced quality of life for its residents.



The BPU was awarded \$29.6 million for the Jamestown Open Access Broadband Utility project.

Image Credit: New York State ConnectALL



“People Over Politics”

**Accountability, Integrity,
Transparency, People First!**