

# SPECIAL RULES

June 9, 2026

Time Started:

Attendance: Hoffman, Loveridge, Herrington, Fleming, Nichols

Staff:

## Agenda

<b>RESOLUTION</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
G/276/26	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICA 250 GRANT FUNDING FOR THE RENSSELAER COUNTY TOURISM DEPARTMENT

# RENSSELAER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Introduced by Legislator(s) Hoffman

Sent To: \_\_\_\_\_ Committee \_\_\_\_\_ Date June 9, 2026

Resolution No. G/276/26

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF AMERICA 250 GRANT FUNDING FOR THE RENSSELAER COUNTY TOURISM DEPARTMENT

**WHEREAS,** The Rensselaer County Legislature has been presented with this Resolution by the County Executive; and

**WHEREAS,** Rensselaer County has been awarded \$15,000 in New York State America 250 funding to support commemorative activities related to America's 250th Anniversary; and

**WHEREAS,** Acceptance of this funding will support programs and events that highlight the County's historical contributions and promote public awareness of the America 250 celebration; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED,** That the Rensselaer County Legislature hereby authorizes the acceptance of \$15,000 in America 250 grant funding; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That all expenditures shall comply with applicable grant guidelines, procurement policies, and state and federal regulations; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That any programs, positions, expenditures, or agreements funded under this resolution shall terminate upon discontinuance of said funding; and be it further

**RESOLVED,** That the 2026 Rensselaer County Adopted Budget shall be and is hereby is amended as follows:

### 2026 GENERAL FUND REVENUE

<u>CODE/DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>REVISED</u>
A.6411.37151 State Tourism Grant Funds	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

**2026 GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS**

<u>CODE/DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>CHANGE</u>	<u>REVISED</u>
A.6411.04791 Regional Tourism	\$0.00	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00

; and, be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the County Executive, or designee, is authorized to execute the grant agreement subject to approval by the County Attorney; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That acceptance of this grant is in the best interest of the County and supports tourism and community engagement at no cost to local taxpayers.

**Resolution ADOPTED by the following vote:**

**Ayes:**

**Nays:**

**Abstain:**

**June 9, 2026**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Legislature

Sent to County Executive \_\_\_\_\_

Received from County Executive \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Legislature



\_\_\_\_\_  
Executive Action

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_  
Veto Message Attached and Returned to Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
County Executive

## Ciccarelli, Vito

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**From:** Zara Pyle <Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2026 11:13 AM  
**To:** Ciccarelli, Vito  
**Subject:** RE: NY 250 Funding Agreement Letter

**Warning: Unusual sender** <zara.pyle@nysed.gov>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Good morning,

Thank you so much for your completed form, I am recording your response.

If you need the other email in the future, it is [NYS250@nysed.gov](mailto:NYS250@nysed.gov), I unfortunately made a typo in the original email/document.

Sincerely,  
Zara Pyle  
Project Assistant – NYS 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission  
New York State Education Department (NYSED)  
[Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov](mailto:Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov)

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**From:** Ciccarelli, Vito <VCiccarelli@renscony.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 30, 2026 11:00 AM  
**To:** Zara Pyle <Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: NY 250 Funding Agreement Letter

Hello Zara, the email provided keeps kicking back to me – so I've attached it to this one.

Vito Ciccarelli  
Rensselaer County Director of Tourism & Events  
518 270-2673  
[tourism@rensco.com](mailto:tourism@rensco.com)  
#ItsHereInRensselaer

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**From:** Zara Pyle <Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 28, 2026 4:58 PM  
**To:** Zara Pyle <Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: NY 250 Funding Agreement Letter

**Warning: Unusual sender** <[zara.pyle@nysed.gov](mailto:zara.pyle@nysed.gov)>

You don't usually receive emails from this address. Make sure you trust this sender before taking any actions.

Good afternoon,

I need to make you all aware of a typo in the letter and the body of the email below. **The email to send the form should read [NYS250@nysed.gov](mailto:NYS250@nysed.gov).** I apologize for this error, any forms that have already been submitted to my email address are still accepted and valid.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Zara Pyle

Project Assistant – NYS 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission

New York State Education Department (NYSED)

[Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov](mailto:Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov)

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**From:** Zara Pyle

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 27, 2026 2:29 PM

**Subject:** NY 250 Funding Agreement Letter

Good afternoon,

We hope you and your community are doing well. I also want to apologize for the delay in sending this agreement.

Attached please find the NY 250 County Agreement Letter, which outlines the terms and conditions associated with your county's NY 250 allocation. As the agreement notes, county allocations are being calculated using a K–12 enrollment formula, and we are in the final stages of the funding process and expect to disburse allocations as soon as we can.

**As a final step, please review the agreement and sign, date, and notarize it. Please then promptly scan the completed document and submit it electronically to [NY250@nysed.gov](mailto:NY250@nysed.gov).** If your county/city plans to subgrant some or all funds to other local entities, the agreement also clarifies that the primary designated entity identified in your NY250 County Allocation – Designation and Plan form is responsible for maintaining the required records and ensuring compliance with NYSED requirements.

We look forward to working with you, or your designee, as you plan and implement local NY 250 commemoration activities.

Thank you again for your partnership and support.

Sincerely,

Zara Pyle

Project Assistant – NYS 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission  
New York State Education Department (NYSED)  
[Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov](mailto:Zara.Pyle@nysed.gov)

### Confidentiality Notice

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## New York State 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission

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### County Agreement Letter

#### Introduction

Thank you for your continued participation in and enthusiasm for bringing the NY 250 Commemoration to your county. Your county is set to be allocated X based on a K-12 enrollment formula. We are in the final stages of the funding process and will be disbursing your allocation soon. As a final step, please read this document carefully and agree to the terms outlined within. Please sign, date, and notarize this document, and promptly scan it and send it to NYSED electronically, via NY250@nysed.gov. Thank you.

#### Agreement Terms

It is understood that our county/city may retain funds for countywide/citywide work and/or sub-grant some or all of funds to other local entities (e.g. municipal historians, heritage organizations, schools, libraries). In the case of such sub-allocations, it will be the responsibility of the primary designated entity, as specified in our NY250 County Allocation – Designation and Plan form, in our county/city to maintain records to adhere with all fund administration and reporting requirements as set forth by NYSED.

Name: VITO CICCAROLI  
Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

I agree

After funding is disbursed, it is understood that your county/city must:

Fully cooperate with and participate in marketing and social media activities with the NY 250 Commission and NYSED for all funded activities;  
Submit a short close-out report summarizing the grant/subgrant activities and activity outcomes within 60 days of project completion or by September 2, 2026, whichever is earlier.

Name: VITO CICCAROLI  
Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM  
I agree



New York State 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission

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It is understood that your county/city will:

Periodically provide status updates for the NY 250 Commission;  
publicly post how your county/city is spending NY 250 funds.

Name: Vito Ciccarielli

Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

I agree

It is understood that your county/city will

Utilize funds allocated for the creation of events, commemorations, activities,  
and historical commemoration events related to the NY 250 and Unfinished  
Revolution that foster community/civic engagement. Any questions about the  
applicability of such events for funding can be directed to NY250@nysed.gov.  
Keep funded events and activities open to the public;  
Keep funded events and activities free to the public.

Name: Vito Ciccarielli

Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

I agree

It is understood that

Your county/city must publicize our events on the NY 250 and I Love NY  
websites

Your county/city must engage in co-branding with NY 250 (using NY 250  
logo)

If your county/city maintains social media accounts or sites, you should "tag"  
NY 250 and/or NYSED social accounts and consent to cross-promotion of  
events

Name: Vito Ciccarielli

Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

I agree

It is understood that

Funding can be used for staffing and other costs associated with local 250  
events, including incidentals (e.g. insurance, security)

Any selection of vendors should adhere to NYS M/WBE requirements where  
applicable

Funding can be used for commission/purchasing/restoring of art or other  
historic documents, licenses, paintings, artwork

Name: Vito Ciccarielli

Title: DIRECTOR OF TOURISM

I agree



New York State 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission

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It is understood that

Your county/city will consider exploring partnerships with local school districts and BOCES. Contact information for your local BOCES can be found at <https://www.boces.org/contact-a-boces/>.

Your county/city will consider reaching out to other local historical and arts organizations within your county/city to explore collaborations.

Name: Vito Ciccarelli

Title: Director of Tourism

I agree

Final Agreement

Name (Please Print): Vito Ciccarelli  
Signature: [Handwritten Signature]  
Date: 11/30/26  
Notary: Michelle T. Burton

MICHELLE T. BURTON  
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW YORK  
QUALIFIED IN RENSSELAER COUNTY  
REGISTRATION NO. 01BUS224014  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 17, 2026



# New York State 250<sup>th</sup> Commemoration Commission

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MICHELLE T. BURTON  
NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW YORK  
QUALIFIED IN RENSSELAER COUNTY  
REGISTRATION NO. 0480324014  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JUNE 17, 20

Sp. Rules - BU

PURCHASED SERVICES			
Subtotal - Code 40			\$15,000
Description of Item	Provider of Services	Calculation of Cost	Proposed Expenditure
Fireworks Show	Santoros Fireworks		\$9,000
Rev. War Reenactment	2nd Continental Artillery Group		\$500
Sub Grant	Hart Cluett Museum		\$3,000
Sub Grant	Crailo State Historic Site		\$1,000
Sub Grant	Knickerbocker Mansion		\$1,500