

Projects Undertaken by IDA in 2013:

In order to strengthen economic development in Orange County, in 2013 the IDA undertook the following:

- In 2011, the IDA authorized a \$500,000 project expenditure over five years to the Newburgh Armory Unity Center, Inc. for restoring and improving the former Newburgh Armory, which was deeded in 2010 for \$1.00 from the State to the City of Newburgh. The Armory is worth several million dollars, but the City did not have the funds to restore and improve it as an asset. The IDA funds have been matched by the Kaplan Foundation. The Armory's submission to the IDA estimated that the reconstituted Armory will draw 15,000 to 25,000 tourists to Newburgh during its first year of operation after renovation. During the past year even before renovations 5,000 persons took advantage of Armory activities. The huge drill hall and the basketball court will host athletic events, trade shows, conventions, festivals, competitions, and games from the entire tri-State area. The many offices are being used by area clubs and for adult education classes. Aside from tourism-related activities there is another huge factor that the Newburgh Armory funds will contribute to economic development in the City, that is, crime reduction. The City needs recreation facilities such as the Armory to offset gang violence, drug use, teen pregnancy, and unemployment among the City's surging youth population. In 2012, the renovations were moving at such a rapid pace that the IDA amended its authorization to allow the funds to be disbursed as needed and not over five years as originally intended. In 2013, the funds were exhausted, and the Armory expanded its reach to include an advanced manufacturing training center. The Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing partnered with the Armory and set out to create a training curriculum. Working with local colleges – SUNY Orange and MSMC – the Center for Global Advanced Manufacturing applied for CFA funding, in addition to an IDA Project Expenditure. The IDA approved an expenditure of \$750K, to be paid directly to vendors, for the renovation of the building and equipping of the classrooms.
- Hudson Valley Economic Development Corporation received \$20,000 as the IDA's agent for its economic development projects in Orange County.
- Pattern for Progress, a regional planning organization, received \$17,000 as the IDA's agent to improve the quality of life and support business growth and retention in Orange County.
- Orange County's Newburgh-Stewart Empire Zone received \$5,000.
- Orange County's Foreign Trade Zone received \$25,000 to encourage companies with international requirements to locate or remain in Orange County.
- The Orange County Partnership received \$229,951.69 as the IDA's agent for external marketing.
- The IDA received the fourth of ten installments in the amount of \$55,527 from Orange County Community College toward repayment of an IDA grant for the College's successful business training and development program. The program was started in 2005 with an IDA grant in the amount of \$555,270.
- The Hudson Valley Film Commission received \$5,000 as the IDA's agent to attract film, video and media production companies to Orange County.
- The Rockland County Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAK) received \$28,000 as the IDA's agent to assist Orange County small businesses in accessing critical pathways to sell products and services to the federal government and its agencies.

- The Hudson Valley Food & Beverage Alliance received \$20,000 as the IDA's agent to implement its food and beverage sales and marketing program for the benefit of food and beverage companies located in Orange County.
- The Hudson Valley Agribusiness Development Corporation received \$25,000 as the IDA's agent to keep Orange County farms as viable agribusinesses through its various services and to promote tourism through its Incubator Without Walls and Hudson Valley Bounty Programs.
- The Orange County NY Arts Council received \$45,000 as the IDA's agent to increase and maintain film and video production in the Orange County, increasing the economic impact of the industry on the region. The Orange County NY Arts Council provides coordination and leadership while serving as the liaison between the film industry and Orange County municipalities, agencies, services, and businesses.
- The IDA authorized a \$150,000 project expenditure to the City of Middletown for the Paramount Theater Digital Performance Project which was used to furnish and equip the Paramount Theater with a digital camera projection system, electrical connections and lighting modifications to revitalize and modernize a popular tourist attraction in the City. This project was completed in 2013 and the Hoboken Film Festival held its annual event at the Paramount Theater and attracted many movie-goers from the NYC area.
- In 2012, the IDA authorized a \$55,000 project expenditure to the City of Port Jervis for studies and permit applications for a proposed Whitewater Park Project on the Delaware River. The proposed park would provide an economic boost to the City by increasing tourism, provide a valuable recreational facility and creating jobs. The project is currently at the permitting stage with the NYSDEC.
- The IDA authorized a three year, \$75,000 per year project expenditure commencing in 2013 to Mount Saint Mary's College to support the expansion of its business education program through the construction, reconstruction and improvement of the Dominican Center and Aquinas Hall to create a state-of-the-art learning center, business education classrooms and technology-equipped meeting rooms.
- Orange County Citizens Foundation received \$50,000 for the publication of the Quality of Life Report Card, to be used as a tool for attracting new businesses to Orange County.
- The Daughters of the American Revolution received assistance in the amount of \$6,000, paid directly to their vendors, for the renovation of the Old Stone Schoolhouse, the oldest schoolhouse in New York State. The aim in their renovation was to increase tourism to the historic destination.
- The IDA authorized a two year, \$25,000 per year project expenditure to Orange County Triathlon. The Newburgh Unity Armory Center, Inc., in conjunction with Wilkinson Enterprises, Inc. organized and conducted the Orange County Triathlon in the City of Newburgh in 2013 and will do so again in 2014. The event increased trade and recreational opportunities for the residents of Orange County, and provided an increase in tourism in the County by attracting out-of-state competitors and their families and friends. The event served to improve the quality of life in the City by boosting economic development in the City and County and attracted thousands of visitors and tourists.