

# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY IDA

**A Message from Corey Wiktor, Executive Director of the Cattaraugus County IDA for the week of May 11, 2020:**

Apologies for not issuing a stakeholder communication last week as we had to tend to business with a virtual meeting of the Cattaraugus County IDA. Despite the significant business disruptions of the coronavirus, the CCIDA was fortunate to receive requests for approvals for applications for projects with a total capital investment of almost \$50 million! You can read more about these projects [here](#).

While this is tremendous news for Cattaraugus County, we know that businesses are extremely anxious to reopen their operations. Our elected officials have been working very hard to lay out the case for reopening on May 15 even if Erie and Niagara counties do not meet New York State's listed [criteria](#) or [beginning a phased reopening of society](#).

As we all know, the shutdown of our economy is having significant impacts on our county and other local governments, particularly with regards to sales tax revenue. With good weather and summer fast approaching, getting businesses opened is critical to start the process of generating tax revenues so that our government leaders can maintain services. [Our Congressman Tom Reed is fighting for us in Washington](#) to help alleviate these devastating financial impacts to our local governments.

Along these lines, despite the initial flurry and run on various federal financial assistance programs, there is still the opportunity for your business to secure funding, including the Payroll Protection Program and [others](#). It's not too late to apply for these programs which in many instances the loans can turn into grants if your business fulfills the criteria. I would encourage any business that has not applied to look into these opportunities.

If you recall, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership and other chambers of commerce across the region, including the Greater Olean Chamber of Commerce reached out to the business community in order to assess the impacts of the coronavirus the results of which can be read [here](#). Along these lines, our friends at the [Greater Olean Chamber](#) continue to provide timely updates regarding resources for businesses impacted by the virus

Finally, I wanted to share a [good news item](#) with you! New York State has recently launched a new initiative – Nourish New York – where farms and food companies in upstate will be able to send their products to food pantries in downstate. While we may from time to time get frustrated with the schism between upstate and downstate, we are especially during this crisis, one state.

As always, stay positive, stay healthy and stay safe!

Corey