

Department Name	Economic Development, Conservation and Planning
Account(s)	8020

Department Function
The mission of the Department of Economic Development, Conservation and Planning is to create economic opportunity for residents of Albany County through policies, practices and projects that focus on creating private sector employment and related infrastructure. In doing so, the Department will promote a balance between economic growth, natural resource conservation, and sound land use planning throughout the County. The Department serves residents, businesses, local governments and other County agencies by providing advice and assistance with economic development projects, environmental regulatory compliance, land use planning, Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping support, and other technical assistance. The Department provides support to the Advance Albany County Alliance LDC (local development corporation) to promote private sector businesses and employment. Additionally, the Director serves as Chief Executive Officer of the Alliance.

Current Year Highlights
In 2022, Albany County passed the Sustainable Technology and Green Energy (STAGE) Act, which establishes a green economic development plan to retain and grow businesses in the renewable energy sector within Albany County and attract new ones. The new legislation allows for the creation of financial incentives and establishes rules and regulations that are geared towards the creation of green jobs and innovation. Additionally, the Department of Economic Development, Conservation, and Planning: • Supported the Plug Power project at Vista Technology Campus – a \$100 million investment creating 1,600 new jobs. • Assisted the African American Cultural Center in purchasing 106 South Pearl Street to begin to address food insecurity in the City’s South End. • Pursued off shore wind opportunities resulting from the designation of the Ports of Albany and Coeymans by NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority) for supply chain manufacturing. • Initiated projects in partnership with Capital Region Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM) to control and provide education on invasive species in County parks and preserves.

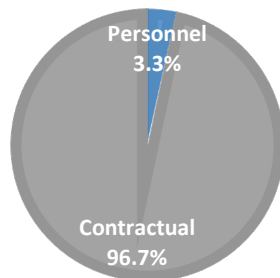
Next Year Projects
The Department will take the lead in implementing the STAGE Act including providing funding to support renewable energy businesses, fostering inter-municipal agreements, and working with local development agencies that lend themselves to green economic development. Additionally, the Department will organize our annual volunteer opportunities to help control invasive species in County parks and preserves and work with the Department of Public Works on other improvements to enhance natural resource management and recreational opportunities.

Link to Website	www.albanycounty.com/edcp
-----------------	--

Department Name	Economic Development, Conservation and Planning
Account(s)	8020

Financial Charts

FORECASTED COSTS, BY TYPE



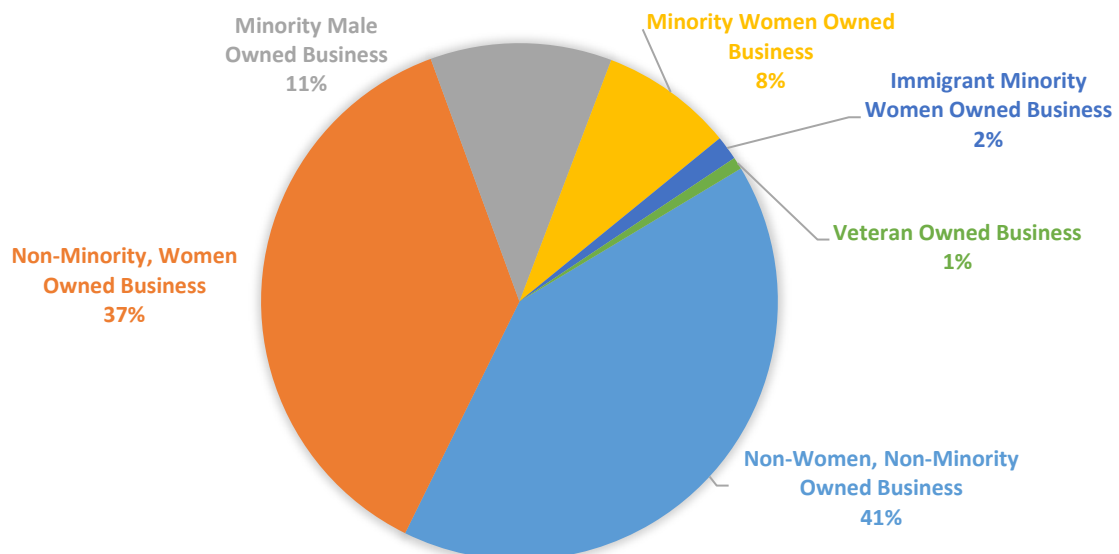
FORECASTED REVENUES, BY TYPE

EDCAP's forecasted annual expenses for 2023 are contractual, with the largest portion attributable to the new STAGE Act Program. This program has dual purposes. First, it will establish rules and regulations that are geared towards the creation of green jobs and innovations and, second, it will administer financial incentives to organizations growing locally in this sector.

The 2023 Budget has a forecasted County Share of \$8.0 million for EDCAP.

Programmatic Highlights – COVID Relief Grant Program

GRANT AWARDS, BY AWARDEE TYPE



Final grant awards for the Albany County COVID Relief Grant Program took place in 2021, with the County providing 132 grants to local businesses, totaling \$660,000 (\$5,000 per award).