



Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

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For Immediate Release

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Groundbreakings Mark Esperance's Storm Resiliency



Esperance, NY – A pair of projects to install a new fire/rescue facility and an auxiliary building to ensure the preservation of critical documents, archives and records advanced July 31 at a groundbreaking ceremony kicking off the projects by Esperance community leaders and the Governor’s Office of Storm Recovery (GOSR).

The \$1,627,828 development of the Esperance Firehouse Rescue Facility for the Village of Esperance will include the construction of a 5,400 square foot standalone facility to be built adjacent to the existing multi-use structure, which currently houses both the Firehouse Rescue Facility and the Village Hall. The firehouse project will enable a more effective and timely response effort to future emergency events, reducing the risks to residents, and increasing the resiliency of the Village and Town. The new facility will be large enough to accommodate fire trucks, an area for staging equipment and assembling flood pumps, an area for the firefighters to change, storage area, radio room, and office space. The building that currently serves as the firehouse will be converted into an emergency shelter for first responders and a storage facility for emergency supplies. Construction began in June and will be completed in late 2017.

“Continuity of critical government services after a disaster remains essential to the safety, well-being and ability of residents and businesses to recover,” said **GOSR Executive Director Lisa Bova-Hiatt**. “This project’s primary goal is to assure continued government operations so people can quickly access the resources needed to literally weather the storm and quickly begin the recovery process once it passes.”

The \$536,650 development of the Esperance Auxiliary Building involves the construction of an auxiliary municipal building outside the flood plain. The objective of the new 896 square foot building is to ensure town services can continuously operate during and following storm events, and to provide flood safe storage for vital records. Construction is expected to begin this Fall and be completed in late 2017.

Established in June 2013, GOSR coordinates Statewide recovery efforts for Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Through its NYRCR Program – as well as its NY Rising Housing Recovery, Small Business, Infrastructure and Rebuild By Design (RBD) programs – GOSR invests \$4.4 billion in federal CDBG-DR funding to better prepare New York for future extreme weather events. *More information about GOSR and its programs is available online at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/>.*

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Photos

Top, from left, Jonathan Biber, GOSR program manager; Gail Browning, Mayor Charles Johnston, Amanda Hansen, NY Rising Community Reconstruction program director; Town of Esperance Supervisor Earl VanWormer, Elizabeth Bartosik, Steve Kirk and Fire Chief Matt Deffer.

Bottom, from left, Charlie Stanton, Amanda Hansen, NY Rising Community Reconstruction program director; Esperance Town Supervisor Earl VanWormer, Mayor Charles Johnston and Fire Chief Matt Deffer.

