

FY2010 Agriculture, Rural Development Subcommittee

Federal Funding Requests

Senator Charles E. Schumer

Chautauqua Lake Association; Lakewood, NY; \$350,000

This initiative will support Cornell University's research into the biological control of Eurasian Watermilfoil on Chautauqua Lake. Eurasian Watermilfoil is a noxious invasive sub aquatic weed that has infested lakes across the Northern United States. Chautauqua Lake has been infiltrated with the non-native aquatic nuisance weed, resulting in poor oxygenation, reduction of native species and total blockage of lake front access in many locations.

City of Batavia; NY; \$400,000

The proposed expansion would provide an opportunity for government and healthcare services to share existing and future infrastructure. Broadband development in this rural City will enhance economic development and public safety.

Community Health Care Services Foundation, Inc.; East Greenbush, NY; \$389,000

Funds would be used for a demonstration project to expand home telehealth services for New York's aging population. The project will provide home telehealth monitors and training to improve clinical management of chronic disease in aging home care patients.

Cornell University; Ithaca, NY; \$1,000,000

Dairy and Livestock Policy Special Research Grant: This grant is shared with Texas A&M, and is used to evaluate policy proposals of national significance to the dairy and livestock industries. Both USDA and Congress rely on this program for analysis of proposals that affect the dairy and livestock industries.

The Dairy and Livestock Policy Special Grant is a good use of taxpayer funds because the target audiences of the program are policy-makers in government and decision-makers and analysts in dairy cooperatives and other business interests involved in the dairy industry. The program works closely with USDA in analysis of dairy policy and regulatory and market stabilization efforts. The grant also enables researchers funded by the project to advise Congressional agriculture committee staff and members in policy development and analysis. CPDMP acts as an analyst, not an advocate, and does not take positions in support of or opposition to any particular program or alternative.

Cornell University; Ithaca, NY; \$1,000,000

Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium (NBCEC): These funds are used by the NBCEC – Cornell University, Colorado State University, and the University of Georgia - to develop sophisticated genetic evaluation techniques to assist beef producers in breeding cattle for select traits.

The National Beef Cattle Evaluation Consortium is a good use of taxpayer funds because unlike other livestock industries, the U.S. beef industry is not highly concentrated – it consists of more than 1 million businesses, farms, and ranches in all 50 states. The value of beef production is over \$100 billion, and demand for beef is increasing. The Expected Progeny Differences (EPDs)

determined by the NBCEC are the most important genetic tool for selective breeding available to seedstock (operations that produce breeding animals) and commercial producers (those that raise cattle for feedlots and eventual harvest) of beef cattle. Use of EPDs allows small cattle operations to stay competitive, and helps avoid the extreme concentration seen in other livestock sectors.

County of Otsego, Cooperstown, NY; Otsego County Telecommunications Open Access Model; \$10,000,000

Funds would be used to improve the overall telecommunications profile and replace its obsolete EMS communications backbone, Otsego County will develop a Municipal Based Open Access Fiber Optic Backbone, by installing nearly 200 miles of fiber optic cable.

The existing Emergency Services Telecommunication Systems backbone is beyond its useful life and in need of immediate replacement/repair. The current system is inadequate in bandwidth capacity, overall radio signal coverage and is prone to failure. This investment will attract private partners to make complementary investments and provide comprehensive broadband solutions in unserved / underserved areas. This project will provide a mechanism to assure that economic, technological, and logistical integrated broadband services are provided throughout the county on a nondiscriminatory basis.

Hudson Valley AgriBusiness Development Corporation; Hudson, NY; \$1,500,000

To be responsive to the needs of agricultural producers and agribusinesses within the Hudson Valley by providing necessary, funds would provide critical support for business technical assistance to enhance the profitability of farms and establish a revolving loan fund.

Southern Tier West Development Foundation; Salamanca, NY; \$3,600,000

This project entails constructing a fiber optic cable from Jamestown, NY to Whitesville, NY. This project will create a redundant loop across western New York as well as create competition for those entities that use a large amount of bandwidth.

The completion of the fiber construction project across Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties of New York State will provide the ability to access broadband across the region. This project will stimulate business development of both new and existing businesses.

St. John's Bread and Life; Brooklyn, NY; \$500,000

Funding would be used to support the delivery of varied social services and operational programs on site, the unique travelling Mobile Soup Kitchen, maintain technology for the Digital Choice Food Pantry and to purchase food, equipment, supplies.

As the largest provider of emergency food in Brooklyn, St. John's Bread and Life Program brings as an integral part of the community in Bedford-Stuyvesant, three key benefits to the American taxpayer. One, as an efficient, well run organization it delivers a wide array of social services in a cost effective manner. Two, these services, some 400,000 meals and 18,000 social-service clients served, are all done with the intent of moving people to self-sufficiency and to that end we have assisted our guests in procuring over \$3,000,000 in benefits, owed taxes, EITC and work related income. Third, as a safety net provider it prevents those hardest hit by the economic downturn from becoming more fragmented from the community.

**State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry (SUNY-ESF)
in Partnership with New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Division
of Lands and Forests, Syracuse, NY; \$500,000**

Funds would be used to proactively bait and kills/neuter Asian Long-horned Beetles before breeding /egg laying occurs.

Following 1996 Asian Long-Horned Beetle (ALB, *Anoplophora glabripennis*) discovery on hardwood trees in Brooklyn, New York, USDA declared an emergency in order to combat the infestation with draconian cut & burn regulatory/control actions. SUNY-ESF technology proactively baits and kills or neuters ALB before they breed. The project offers a pre-emptive and technical solution to avert an economic and environmental crisis in New York.