

# Old Meets New in Central New York

- Lighting projects will upgrade structures dating to the mid 1800s
- ARRA grant will help City to save nearly \$8,600 on utility costs, annually

An 1837 structure houses the City of Norwich Police Department, while the City Hall and City Court offices are located in renovated train depots dating to 1880. Even as the historical significance of the City's municipal buildings is laudable, the energy efficiency opportunities in these structures are many.



With the aid of a \$31,320 grant awarded by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, six city buildings will complete lighting retrofit projects. "The ARRA grant allows us to be able to take on all of these projects at once," says Mr. Joseph Maiurano, Mayor of Norwich. "We will be able to start realizing energy savings right away."

## Looking Ahead

Nestled into the scenic hills of Central New York, Norwich has long been home to industry and artisans alike. While a sense, and look, of history pervades this city of nearly 8,000, the focus of the city government is pointed toward the future.

"Our projects show that the city itself, in its buildings, is doing something to reduce energy cost," says Mr. Maiurano. He points to the creation of the [www.renewnorwich.org](http://www.renewnorwich.org) website as a tool that will help families and business to do the same. With funds from a second ARRA grant awarded by NYSERDA, Norwich launched the 'Renew Norwich' campaign, which introduced many energy efficiency-focused initiatives, including the establishment of the website to serve as a reference point for incentives, rebates, and energy savings tips available to the community of Norwich.

## Well Timed Savings

LED Exit signs, occupancy sensors, compact fluorescent bulbs, exterior light photocells, and nearly 1,000 T8 lamps and 500 T8 ballasts will combine to save the City 107,391 kWh per year. With estimated annual savings of \$8,594, the City will reduce current utility costs 15%. The payback period for the city is approximately four years. After completing an energy audit and equipment inventory prior to applying for the grant, the City was well prepared to pinpoint precisely the locations at which the ARRA monies could be best used.

"As a town, we knew we needed to do something in regards to energy efficiency, but we didn't know what, or how. Through energy auditing and going through the ARRA process, we gave ourselves a direction," Mr. Maiurano notes. "One goal of the website is to meet a similar need of families and businesses. The site offers information to help take the next step in implementing efficiency projects and upgrades."

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act – Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant

The City of Norwich received this award from the [U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program](#). The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program provides grants to states and directs funding to State Energy Offices from technology programs in DOE's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. States use grants to address their energy priorities and to adopt emerging renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies. EECBG is distributing \$3.2 billion of funding to the states and U.S. territories and through competitive offerings under the [2009 Recovery Act](#).