



Rep. Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District



The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in Niagara Falls

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act was passed on February 17, 2009 to cushion the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression and lay a new foundation for economic growth. One year later we see its impact on Niagara Falls and Niagara County.

More than **\$377 million in contracts, grants, and loans** was awarded to recipients in the 28th Congressional district in 2009. Recipients in greater Niagara Falls area were awarded over **\$50 million**.

Over 50 projects have been funded in the greater Niagara Falls area in New York's 28th district. Here is a sample of projects:

- **Road & Bridge Construction** **\$ 74,300,000**
 - The 4-county Western New York region received \$74.3 million for road and bridge repair and construction projects.

- **Local Schools** **\$ 11,272,479**
 - Local schools have received over \$11 million in education funding to keep teachers in the classroom, implement innovative reforms, and better serve students with disabilities.
 - Recipients include the school districts of Niagara Falls, Grand Island, Newfane, Porter Lewiston, and Wilson.

- **Village of Barker** **\$ 743,000**
 - The Village of Barker received over \$700,000 from New York to replace waterlines throughout the Village.
 - The current waterlines are 100 years old, and unquestionably inadequate. They do not allow for the proper water pressure for fire fighting and lead is present in many of the pipe connections.

- **Niagara County** **\$ 900,000**
 - Niagara County received nearly \$1 million from the Environmental Protection Agency to fund Brownfield's clean-up.

- **Niagara University** **\$ 131,567**
 - Niagara University received over \$130,000 to fund its federal work study program.

A full list of projects reported by the recipients of the funding is available at www.recovery.gov or can be provided by Slaughter's office.

But there's more than just these projects funded.

- The Ways and Means Committee in the House of Representatives reported that approximately **243,000 families in NY-28** have benefited from the Making Work Pay Tax Credit.
- Since the Recovery Act's passage one year ago, **Niagara County groups, governments, and institutions have been awarded \$98,164,774 in contracts, grants, and loans.**

The funds for some of the most critical programs in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, including food stamps, unemployment insurance, and Medicaid assistance.

New York State will receive at least \$31 billion over the course of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

As of November 2, 2009, New York had projected that over the two-year implementation period of the Recovery Act, [Niagara County](#) will receive:

- **\$53.5 million in Direct Assistance to Individuals**
 - \$12 million in Food Stamps
 - \$41.5 million in Unemployment Insurance
- **\$44.4 million to County Governments and Schools**
 - \$16.4 billion in Medicaid Assistance
 - \$28 million in Education Assistance*
- **\$30 million in Major Infrastructure Programs**
 - \$2.5 million in Weatherization Grants
 - \$5.7 million in Clean Water and Drinking Water Grants
 - \$21.8 million in Highway Projects

* Education funding is 2009 figure.

Background on the Recipient Reporting Process

The projects listed on Page One come from data submitted by the project recipients. Some things to note as you look at recipient reported data (as opposed to data submitted by the agencies handing out the money):

- The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act is comprised of three components:
 - \$288 billion in Tax Benefits
 - \$275 billion in Contracts, Grants, and Loans
 - \$224 billion in Entitlements
 - Total: \$787 billion

- As of January 29, 2010:
 - \$92.8 billion of \$288 billion in Tax Benefits have been distributed
 - \$74.4 billion of \$275 billion in Contracts, Grants, and Loans have been paid out
 - \$105 billion of \$224 billion in Entitlements have been paid out

The recipient reported data and jobs numbers made available on www.recovery.gov on Saturday, January 30, 2010 reflects the synthesis of a \$54 billion of Recovery Act spending in the 4th quarter of 2009 (October 1st-December 31st).

Recipient reports only include data on spending associated with the \$275 billion contracts, grants, and loans, a third of the overall Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

For example, unemployment insurance and Medicaid assistance, two critical Recovery Act programs, are categorized as entitlement programs, and not included in recipient reported data.

Also, Recovery Act funding allocated to the State Fiscal Stabilization Fund and other Department of Education Recovery Act programs, was doled out to states to avoid teacher layoffs and invest in education, and is not included in prime recipient reported data. In that instance, New York State was required to report to the Recovery Accountability and Transparency Board, not individual schools in the district.

Also, recipient reporting only accounts for direct jobs, i.e. a job whose salary was directly paid for with Recovery Act dollars.

* Note* The White House Council of Economic Advisors and others have estimated that total jobs created when considering the effect on suppliers, distributors, neighboring businesses and general economic stimulus totals about 2 million jobs.