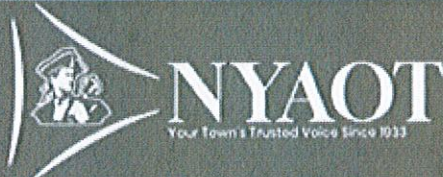


june 2025

# et cetera

A member-focused, digital round-up  
of breaking news and timely updates



## Upcoming Training Events

### 2025 Fall Planning & Zoning School Dates & Locations

Join us for a mix of training from NYAOT staff and industry professionals on important topics pertaining to planning and zoning board member positions. Breakfast provided at each location. Sessions begin at 8 a.m. and end at noon. See below for full listing of sessions.

#### Sept. 2 | Binghamton

Holiday Inn, Johnson City Meeting Room  
2-8 Hawley St., Binghamton, NY 13901  
To register for this school, click [here](#).

#### Sept. 13 | Lake George

Fort William Henry Hotel & Conference Center  
48 Canada St. Lake George, NY 12845  
To register for this school, click [here](#).

#### Oct. 1 | East Aurora

The Roycroft Campus  
39 South Grove St., East Aurora, NY 14052  
To register for this school, click [here](#).

#### Oct. 9 | Kingston

The Venue Uptown, Best Western Plus  
503 Washington Ave., Kingston, NY 12401  
To register for this school, please click [here](#).

### Session Titles & Topics:

Sunshine & Scrutiny: What Planning & Zoning Officials Need to Know about OML and FOIL | New York's Freshwater Regulations - Wetlands & Wetlands of Unusual Importance | Navigating ORES at the Local Level (except for Kingston) | Agritourism & Local Land Use (**Kingston only**) | Home Rule Meets the Affordable Housing Rule - Navigating NYS Funding Incentives through Strategic Zoning

## Big EMS Win for Towns

The biggest news out of the past week or so was the NYS Senate passing S1515, which exempts emergency medical services (EMS) from the real property tax cap — a top priority for NYAOT. **Stay tuned for full details as this legislation awaits the governor's signature.**

Executive Director Chris Koetzle praised the move, saying:

"This legislative session, NYAOT made our priorities clear: strengthening emergency medical services (EMS) and reforming the property tax cap to better reflect the realities facing local governments. We advocated tirelessly for legislation that safeguards both first responder services and taxpayers, and we're proud to share that our efforts paid off.

Both the Senate and Assembly passed legislation to exempt EMS from the property tax cap, a significant step forward for towns struggling with the escalating costs of providing critical services. This exemption would give local governments the flexibility needed to invest in life-saving EMS without being penalized by arbitrary fiscal constraints.

NYAOT extends its sincere thanks to Senate and Assembly leadership, bill sponsors Senator Rachel May and Assemblymember Donna Lupardo, and to our members whose advocacy helped move this legislation forward.

We now urge the governor to sign the bill into law and give towns the tools they need to protect public health and safety."

## ARPA Reporting Deadline Approaching

Don't forget: ARPA reports are due June 30, 2025. The Treasury Department has said it will begin seeking recoupment of funds starting July 2025 for noncompliance.

If you're still experiencing issues with the Treasury's reporting portal—even after contacting them—NYAOT strongly suggests the town keep detailed records of every attempt and reach out to your federal representatives. Documentation is your best defense.