



State of New York County of Broome Government Offices

Office of the County Executive
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Colesville Applies for Funding from Small Communities Fund
Town Partners with Animal Adventure Park for Planned Expansion Project
Project to Add New Safari Train and Area's Only Gem and Fossil Mining Sluice

(TOWN OF COLESVILLE, NY) Broome County Executive Jason Garnar announced today that the Town of Colesville has applied for funding from his Small Communities Fund. Town Supervisor Glenn Winsor submitted the application for a family-friendly expansive project at the world-famous Animal Adventure Park, located in the Town of Colesville.

"The Town of Colesville is thrilled to apply for this funding on behalf of Animal Adventure Park, one of the most accomplished and visited attractions in Broome County," said Glenn Winsor, Town of Colesville Supervisor, "We're so proud that this park calls Colesville home and we want to do whatever we can to support the great work of Mr. Patch and his team. Animal Adventure's success will facilitate residual success and growth for our town, county and beyond."

The Town of Colesville has applied for \$30,000 in funding for a brand-new Discovery Station and Community Event Center expansion. The funding is from County Executive Garnar's Small Communities Fund, which was a new initiative the County Executive included and funded in the 2018 county budget, unanimously approved by the Broome County Legislature.

"This is exactly what I designed this Small Communities Fund for - to support our small communities in Broome County and the businesses and organizations in these areas," said Garnar. "Today's announcement shows the power of partnerships with the Town of Colesville working with Animal Adventure Park for this expansion project."

The county's Hotel-Motel Committee has approved the Town of Colesville's funding application and it will be considered as a resolution by the County Legislature this month (July).

The Discovery Station and Community Event Center expansion at Animal Adventure Park will create an exciting new experience at the park in the Town of Colesville. This expansion will include the Safari Express Train Ride for adults and children, the area's only Gem and Fossil Mining Sluice and a new community event center which can hold over 200 guests.

“We’re very honored to be considered for this wonderful opportunity. At Animal Adventure Park, we think of our community as a partner, and we are committed to growing with Broome County. This funding would be used to continue expanding and improving park operations, and help us maintain an attractive, enjoyable destination that will bring visitors and tourism dollars to Broome County and the Town of Colesville for years to come,” said Jordan Patch, Owner of Animal Adventure Park.

Patch added that this new expansion will also bring jobs to Broome County, creating 11 positions. In addition, it will add greater interactive experiences and education opportunities for guests and attract even more visitors to Broome County.

Animal Adventure Park is a successful educational animal park that is federally licensed by the USDA. In 2017, AAP won the Tourism Excellence Award from the NYS Tourism Industry Association and welcomed more than 200,000 visitors to the park. The park features hands-on animal encounters and the world-famous giraffes, April, Oliver and Tajiri, in addition to a number of exciting new attractions, encounters, and exhibits.