

Area gets \$10.8 million boost

Two-dozen jobs created in Millbrook and Amenia to support infrastructure and science stimulus projects

By Olesia Plokhii

After following the money line from Washington and Albany to the Millbrook region, *The Millbrook Independent* found more than \$10.8 million in grants being injected into the Dover, Amenia, and Millbrook area since February of last year.

According to recovery.gov, a government website that tracks federal stimulus money, Millbrook was the recipient of \$1.8 million in federal aid, Amenia of \$5.2 million and Dover of \$2.8 million since February to December 2009. The funds for all three areas cover school aid and road repairs, with Millbrook's Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies in addition receiving more than \$450,000 from the National Science Foundation to fund research.

Millbrook's \$1.8 million stimulus paycheck from Capitol Hill was padded earlier this month by a \$600,000 grant the village received from the New York Department of State for research and repair of the village's water and sewage treatment plant.

In February of this year, the town of Washington was awarded \$100,000 in Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for handicapped accessibility

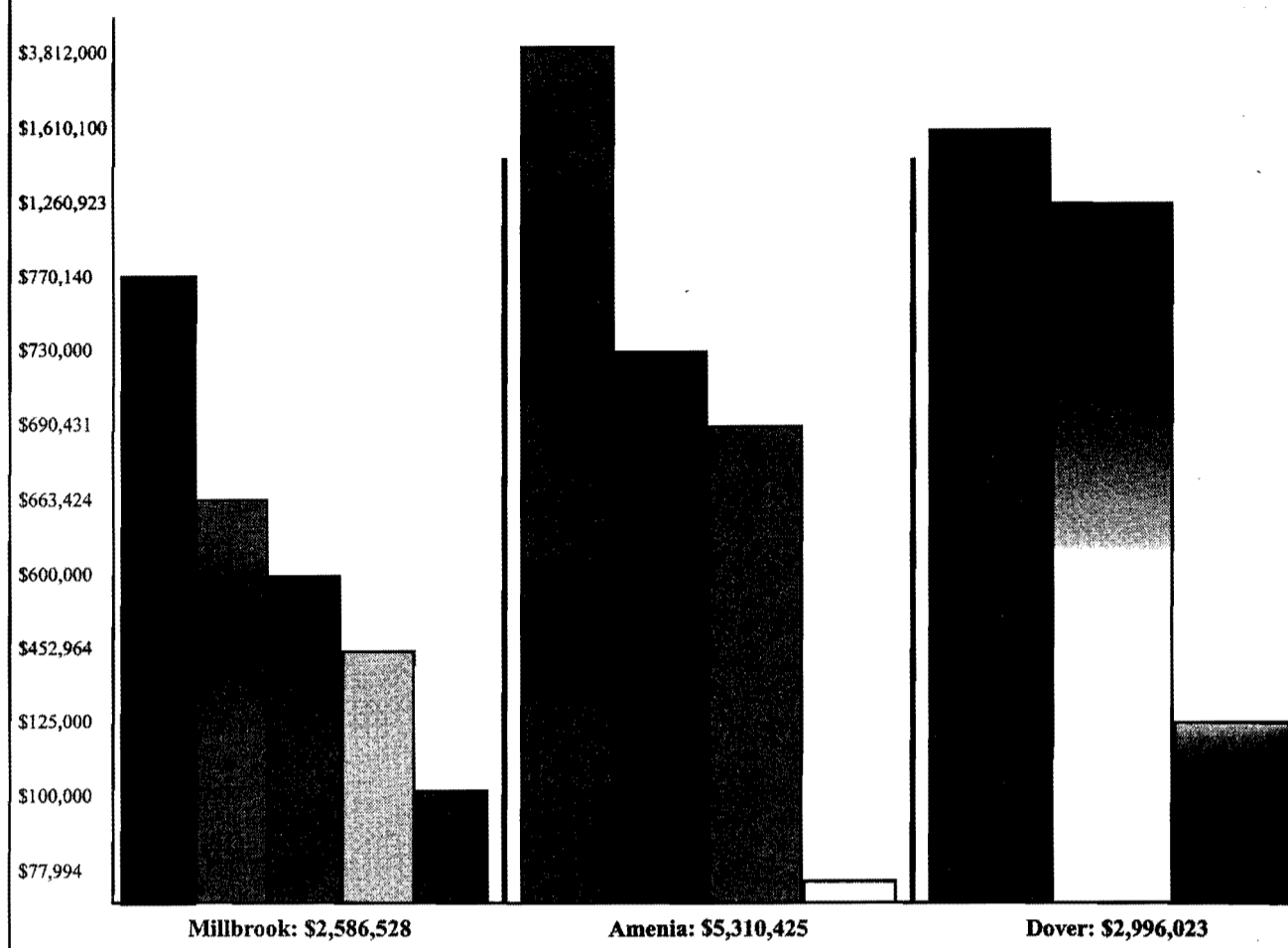
improvements while Dover received \$125,000 in CDBG. Just this month, Amenia pocketed \$77,994 in energy efficiency stimulus aid from the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority. All together, stimulus, federal, and state aid and grants have pumped more than \$10.8 million into the three towns in little more than 14 months.

While two jobs have been created at Cary in way of research support from two stimulus grants, Amenia's \$3.8 million grant to repave state roadway that travels through Putnam, Columbia, and Dutchess Counties, a project already well underway, has created more than 12 positions.

The website, which gives progress reports on the use of federal money given from February to December 2009, reports that while most of the projects have not begun, some are already more than half completed.

This region's share of the money pie represents a minute fraction of the \$182 billion from a projected total of \$787 billion distributed across the country in stimulus aid since February 2009, resulting in the creation of more than 608,000 jobs nationwide.

The \$10.8 million breakdown:



Legend

The below is a breakdown of Millbrook's, Amenia's, and Dover's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act monies, along with other federal and state grants.

| | | |
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| Millbrook: \$2,586,528 | Amenia: \$5,310,425 | Dover: \$2,996,023 |
| Highway and road repair: \$770,140 | Highway and road repair: \$3,812,000 | Lime Kiln Road rehab: \$1,610,100 |
| Millbrook Central School District: \$663,424 | Amenia Union's bridge replacement: \$730,000 | Dover Union Free School District: \$1,260,923 |
| Water and sewage plant: \$600,000 | Webutuck Central School District: \$690,431 | Road safety repair: \$125,000 |
| Cary research: \$452,964 | Energy efficiency: \$77,994 | |
| Handicap access improvements: \$100,000 | | |

TOTAL: \$10,892,976