ECLEG DEC18'12 AM 9:26

# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

December 18, 2012

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

**Re: Naming Buffalo River Natural Habitat Parks**

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Environment and Planning authorizing the County Executive to officially name three County-owned Buffalo River natural habitat parks located in the City of Buffalo. The names are as follows: Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact Thomas R. Hersey, Jr., Deputy Commissioner, at the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

Enclosure

cc: Maria R. Whyte
Thomas R. Hersey, Jr.

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
**From:** Department of Environment and Planning
**Re:** Naming Buffalo River Natural Habitat Parks
**Date:** December 17, 2012

## SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Legislature approve the attached resolution prepared by the Department of Environment and Planning (DEP) authorizing the County Executive to officially name three County-owned natural habitat parks on the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo. The names are as follows: Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park were never named in accordance with Erie County's established process for naming its facilities and properties.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In 1996, DEP's Buffalo River Habitat Restoration Demonstration Project targeted County properties located on Seneca Street where it intersects the Buffalo River, at the foot of Smith Street on the River, and at the Bailey Avenue peninsula formed by the confluence of the Buffalo River and Cazenovia Creek for improvement. The goal of the project was to improve, restore and protect urban habitat, specifically along the Buffalo River. The Smith Street and Bailey Avenue sites were developed under this project. In 2001, funding was secured to restore the Seneca Street property. All three sites are currently County-owned parks.

## CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park will not have official names.

## STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

None.

# A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
## Department of Environment and Planning

RE: Naming Buffalo River Natural Habitat Parks

WHEREAS, the process for naming an Erie County facility or property is for the Department that supervises and controls the facility or property to request and receive authorization from your honorable body; and

WHEREAS, the County owns a natural habitat park located on Seneca Street where it intersects the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, that is unofficially known as the Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, the County owns a natural habitat park, located at the foot of Smith Street on the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, that is unofficially known as the Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, the County owns a natural habitat park located at the Bailey Avenue peninsula formed by the confluence of the Buffalo River and Cazenovia Creek, in the City of Buffalo, that is unofficially known as the Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment & Planning wishes to name the park located on Seneca Street where it intersects the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, the Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment & Planning wishes to name the park located at the foot of Smith Street on the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, the Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment & Planning wishes to name the park located at the Bailey Avenue peninsula formed by the confluence of the Buffalo River and Cazenovia Creek, in the City of Buffalo, the Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the natural habitat park located on Seneca Street where it intersects the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, shall henceforth be known as the Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the natural habitat park located at the foot of Smith Street on the Buffalo River, in the City of Buffalo, shall henceforth be known as the Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the natural habitat park located at the Bailey Avenue peninsula formed by the confluence of the Buffalo River and Cazenovia Creek, in the City of Buffalo, shall henceforth be known as the Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry may install signage to identify the Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; the Bailey Peninsula Natural Habitat Park; and the Red Jacket River Front Natural Habitat Park as County-owned properties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office; the County Attorney; and the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning, Rath Building, 10th Floor.