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COUNTY OF ERIE

CHRISTOPHER L. JACOBS
COUNTY CLERK

June 19, 2012

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

RE: E-Z Pass On-the-Go Retail Sales

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution requests authorization to allow the Erie County Clerk's Office to enter into a retail sales agreement with the New York State Thruway Authority to sell E-Z Pass Tags in the Clerk's Registrar Bureau and Auto Bureau. The proposed retail sales agreement provides that the Erie County Clerk can purchase E-Z Pass On The Go Tags at a unit price of $21 per tag, and authorizes their sale to the public at $25 per tag, retaining $4.00 as County revenue.

Additionally, we are seeking authorization to establish a separate change making fund within the Auto Bureau to adequately segregate monies received for the purchase of E-Z Pass Tags from Auto Bureau receipts.

In light of the recent decision of the New York State Thruway Authority to close the E-Z Pass Customer Service Center on Grand Island, we believe adding this service to our offices will be a convenient option for residents to purchase the tags.

Should your honorable body require further information, representatives from the Clerk's Office will be available to discuss. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER L. JACOBS
Erie County Clerk

Attachment

ERIE COUNTY HALL • 92 FRANKLIN STREET • BUFFALO, N.Y. • 14202 • PHONE: (716) 858-8865 • FAX: (716) 858-6550

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Christopher L. Jacobs, Erie County Clerk
Re: E-Z Pass On-the-Go Retail Sales
Date: June 19, 2012

SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Erie County Legislature authorize the Erie County Clerk to enter into a retail sales agreement with the New York State Thruway Authority to sell E-Z Pass Tags in the Clerk's Registrar Bureau and Auto Bureau. The proposed retail sales agreement provides that the Erie County Clerk can purchase E-Z Pass On The Go Tags at a unit price of $21 per tag, and authorizes their sale to the public at $25 per tag. The County will retain $4.00 as County revenue.

Additionally, we are seeking authorization to establish a separate change making fund within the Auto Bureau to adequately segregate monies received for the purchase of E-Z Pass Tags from Auto Bureau receipts.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Positive. The sale of these tags will generate $4.00 in revenue for every tag sold.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The New York State Thruway Authority contacted the Clerk's Office to initiate this agreement. After researching this program with other Counties that currently offer this service, it was determined that offering the sale of these tags to customers would be beneficial. It is a natural fit for customers doing business with our office, particularly when they are in the Auto Bureau. Recently, the NYS Thruway Authority announced the closing of the Grand Island E-Z Pass Service Center which is problematic for people living on the island. Selling the tags in the Clerk's Office, Auto Bureau and the Mobile DMV will give people an opportunity to purchase new tags at one of our convenient locations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

E-Z Pass is recognized as an efficient way to travel toll roads throughout the northeast and can be utilized by 2-axle passenger vehicles on all toll roads in 14 states, including New York. The Clerk's Office wants to encourage the purchase of E-Z Pass to facilitate the faster flow of traffic at toll plazas and reduce traffic congestion in those heavily traveled areas.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The Clerk's Office will not be able to sell the E-Z Pass Tags and revenue opportunity will be lost.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Clerk's Office will work with the NYS Thruway Authority to complete the Retail Sales Agreement and begin selling E-Z Pass Tags in our offices.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
ERIE COUNTY CLERK

RE: E-Z Pass On-the-Go Retail Sales

WHEREAS, the New York State Thruway Authority has extended an offer to allow the Erie County Clerk's Office to act as its agent in the sale of E-Z Pass on The Go Tags to the public; and

WHEREAS, the proposed retail sales agreement provides that the Erie County Clerk purchase E-Z Pass On The Tags at a unit price of $21.00 and authorizes their sale to the public at $25.00, with the County retaining $4.00 per tag sold; and

WHEREAS, the agreement is in the best interests of residents of the County as it affords them a convenient location to purchase E-Z Pass On The Go Tags; and

WHEREAS, in order to segregate these funds from NYS Department of Motor Vehicles receipts it is necessary to establish a change making fund within the Auto Bureaus to record and account for E-Z Pass sales separate from DMV transactions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Clerk's Office to execute a retail sales agreement with the New York State Thruway Authority to conduct retail sales of E-Z Pass on the Go Tags at its Registrar Division and Auto Bureau locations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the following budgetary adjustments are made to the 2012 Budget for the purchase and sale of E-Z Pass Tags:

Erie County Clerk's Office, Fund 110
Fund Center 11310

Revenue	
415185 E-Z Pass Tag Sales	$2,100
Expense	
505700 E-Z Pass Supplies	$2,100

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Clerk is authorized to establish a separate change making fund in the Auto Bureaus to allow for the segregation of funds between E-Z Pass sales and NYS DMV transactions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in accordance with Section 2.06 of the Erie County Administrative Code the Change-Making Fund in the County Clerk's Office (Auto Bureau) is increased by $800; and be it further

RESOLVED, that these funds will be allocated among the auto bureaus as follows:

BA 113 – Erie County Clerk - 117100 Petty Cash

Auto Bureau-Buffalo EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-Cheektowaga EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-Northtown EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-ECC South EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-Evans EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-Eastern Hills EZ Pass Change Fund	**$100**
Auto Bureau-Mobile EZ Pass Change Fund	**$200**
	$800

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Clerk, the Director of Budget and Management, the County Attorney and the County Comptroller.