Recommendation to Amend the Erie County Charter
Erie County Charter Revision Commission of 2016

Amednment to Recommendation Introduction No 163A

The text of Recommendation Intro. No. 163 is striken and replaced with the following: 36

Introduced on the Report of the Special Committee on Consolidation and Conformity.

Sponsored by Commission members Nair/Galie

The Erie County Charter Committee Revision Commission of 2016 does hereby recommend that new section 1004 be inserted to read as follows:

Section 1004. Erie County Environmental Management Council

1004.1 Declaration of policy.

1004.2 Establishment of the Erie County Environmental Management Council; membership.

1004.3. Powers, duties and functions of the council.

1004.4 Compensation and expenses.

1004.5. Effective date.

Section 1004.1. Declaration of policy. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that the management and conservation of our environment is essential to the health and well-being of the people of the county. Local understanding of the importance of all aspects of the environment is necessary for the most wise and balanced use of our natural resources. Local and inter municipal participation is imperative in the planning and control of activities which influence the ecological balance of the county and the natural and functional beauty of its surroundings.

The Llegislature, therefore, deems it in the best interest of the County that a county environmental management council be responsible for reviewing and advising local and state government on present and proposed methods and plans for preserving, enhancing, and using the environment for the protection and benefit of all the people, and for fostering unified action on environmental problems among local governments and among public and private agencies and organizations operative within the County.

Section 1004.2. Establishment of the Erie County Environmental Management Council; membership. There is hereby established, pursuant to article 47 of New York State Environmental Conservation Law and New York Municipal Home RuleLaw a county environmental management council, to be known as the Erie County Environmental Management Council, hereinafter called the Council. The Council shall be appointed by the County Executive, subject to the confirmation of the Legislature, and shall consist of twelve members at large and one member recommended to the county executive by and from each town, village or city environmental or conservation management council established by the official governing body of such town, village or city. The term of all members shall be two years. Vacancies on the Council shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment except that a vacancy occurring through circumstances other than by expiration of term of office shall be filled only for the remainder of the unexpired term. In addition, the Commissioner of Environment and Planning, and the Commissioner of Health, shall be ex officio voting members of the Council.

The County Executive shall appoint one member of the Council as chairman thereof. The Council shall meet at least four times each year. The Council shall adopt rules and procedures for its meetings, shall keep accurate records of its meetings and activities, and shall file the annual report as provided in section sixteen hundred twenty two of this law.
Amended by Local Law No. 2 1977.
Amended by Local Law No. 16 1974.
Amended by Local Law No. 1 1972.

Section 1004. 3. Powers, duties and functions of the Council. The Council shall review and investigate ecologically sound methods of planning the use of the county's resources. In conjunction with the deputy commissioner of environmental compliance it shall prepare an annual recommendations report based on that investigation, and transmit same to the County Executive and the Legislature. The report shall include a section on the needs of those living in areas of urban or rural poverty where the impact of environmental degradation may be more severe.

The Council shall keep an index of all open areas within the county, with the plan of obtaining information pertinent to sound ecological utilization of such areas including land owned by any municipality within the county. It shall keep an index of all open marsh lands, swamps, and all other wet lands in a like manner, and may recommend a program for their ecologically suitable utilization

The Council shall develop and maintain an inventory of natural resources within the county and such other environmental information as may be appropriate. Said inventory shall include wetlands and open spaces and may include, but not be limited to, factors relating to geology, soils, slope, water resources, vegetation, wildlife habitat unique natural areas, and scenic, historic, and archaeological sites.

The Council shall advise and make recommends ions to the County Executive and the legislature as they may director as may be deemed appropriate on matters affecting the preservation development, and use of the natural and human made features and conditions of the County insofar as they have a bearing on environmental quality and on the effects of human activities and development on environmental quality.

The Council shall develop, recommend and assist in the conduct of a program of public information in the County which shall be designed to increase understanding of the environmental problems and issues and to foster support for their solutions.

The Council shall develop, recommend and assist in the conduct of a program to improve the coordination and effectiveness of public and private projects and activities in the County in accord with the purposes of this law, working in cooperation with the environmental or conservation commissions in the cities, towns, and villages within the county and with other public and private agencies, focusing particularly on those matters relating to environmental quality which require intergovernmental action.

The Council shall maintain liaison with the county planning board, local and regional planning agencies, regional water resources planning and development boards, environmental management councils or their equivalents in counties adjacent to the County of Erie, and other such public and private regional bodies in the United States and Canada affecting the conservation of environmental quality, with the purpose of improving coordination of planning and activities. Section 1004.4. Compensation and expenses. Unless otherwise provided by recommendations of the County Executive and resolution of the Legislature, the members of the Council shall receive no compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for their expenses actually and necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

Section 1004.5. Effective date. This local law shall take effect immediately.

Introducer's Memorandum to
Recommendation Intro. No. 163

Sponsored by Commission Member Peter Galie

The intent and purpose of this recommendation is to move the Environmental Management Advisory Board into Article 10.

Recommendation to Amend the Erie County Charter
Erie County Charter Revision Commission of 2016

Recommendation Intro. No. 163 A

Recommendation No. 36

	YES	NO	NOT PRESENT	ABSTAIN
Todd J. Aldinger	✓			
Joseph T. Burns		✓		
Tara Cadmus	✓			
Diana K. Cihak		✓		
Keith E. Dash	✓			
Kenneth J. Farrell	✓			
Peter J. Galie	✓			
Christina G. Holdsworth	✓			
Timothy M. Hudson	✓			
Matthew J. Kibler		✓		
Peter M. Kooshoian		✓		
Rashied McDuffie	✓			
Cheryl Meyers-Buth		✓		
Sibu S. Nair	✓			
Tiffany R. Perry		✓		
David Pollack	✓			
Myra E. Robinson-Moses		✓		
Mary A. Stang-Cooke	✓			
Jeanne M. Vinal		✓		

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