

January 29, 2013

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
REPORT NO. 2

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT, EXCEPT LEGISLATOR RATH.  
CHAIR GRANT PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

1. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed:
  - a. COMM. 2M-6 (2013)  
**ALBERT DEBENEDETTI:** “Letter to Legislator Loughran Concerning Lease Agreement Between the Buffalo Bills & EC”  
(5-0)
2. INTRO 26-1 (2012)  
**DIXON, GRANT, HOGUES, AS AMENDED  
MARINELLI, LOUGHRAN  
& LORIGO**

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway was built in 1954 as an overhead roadway above the Buffalo River to permit shipping freight along the Buffalo River while promoting motor traffic to and from the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, at the time of its construction, Buffalo’s port received twenty million tons of cargo, necessitating the frequent raising and lowering of drawbridges along the route; and

WHEREAS, currently, the port receives less than two million tons of cargo annually; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway has been found to be “functionally obsolete” under federal highway standards, due to it lacking shoulders, a feature which causes it to be shut down completely for some accidents; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway is in need of significant repair; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway has been listed by the United States Department of Transportation as “fracture critical,” which means that failure of certain structural elements could lead to catastrophic failure; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway will cost over \$100 million over the next twenty years to maintain; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo Skyway is still a major connector of Buffalo and the southern half of Erie County, with an estimated 43,000 vehicles using the route daily; and

WHEREAS, there may be more cost effective ways to accommodate commuters who use the Buffalo Skyway; and

WHEREAS, New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Joan McDonald has directed her staff to conduct a plausibility review to identify critical issues facing the Buffalo Skyway.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature goes on record supporting the New York State Department of Transportation’s study of alternatives to the Buffalo Skyway; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be forwarded to New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Joan McDonald, Governor Andrew Cuomo and Congressman Brian Higgins.  
(5-0)

3. COMM. 2E-10 (2013)  
**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, Benderson Development Company, LLC, property owner at 3385 Union Road, Cheektowaga, New York, wishes to purchase a portion of highway property deemed no longer necessary by the Erie County Lands Advisory Review Committee (ARC); and

WHEREAS, Benderson Development Company, LLC, being the adjacent property owner to the existing highway property will compensate the County of Erie for the agreed upon price of \$19,500.00 for 0.128+ acre at the time of filing in the Erie County Clerk’s Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that for County purposes of transferring land no longer necessary for highway purposes, the County Executive is hereby authorized and directed to convey the following interest in the parcel of land herein described for and in consideration of the sum described herein for highway property, in the Town of Cheektowaga

PARCEL	OWNER	AREA	VALUE
4	County of Erie	0.128± acre	\$19,500.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that three (3) certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Division of Highways, and one copy each to the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Office of the Comptroller.  
(5-0)

4. **COMM. 2E-16 (2013)**  
**COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, Erie County, through the Department of Environment and Planning, serves as the administrative agent for the Erie County/Town of West Seneca Community Development Consortium and Erie County/Town of West Seneca/Town of Hamburg HOME Investment Partnership Consortium; and

WHEREAS, a major responsibility of the Department as the administrative agent, is the preparation of the annual program application materials, and submittal of same to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, on behalf of the Erie County Community Development Consortium and Town of Hamburg/Erie County HOME Consortium, is hereby authorized to submit this resolution to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) as supportive material to the 2013 Annual Action Plan having estimated dollar amounts as indicated.

1. Erie County Consortium Community Development Program: \$2,555,108
2. Emergency Solutions Program: \$207,863
3. HOME Investment Partnership Program: \$689,558
4. Town of Hamburg Community Development Program: \$376,275

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive on behalf of the Erie County Community Development Consortium and Town of Hamburg/Erie County HOME Consortium is hereby authorized to submit and execute any and all applications and agreements with HUD, local governments, property owners receiving housing assistance, non-profit, and for-profit agencies, which are necessary to implement the above programs with the exception that any proposed agreement that transfers all or a portion of the administrative functions of the program from Erie County to a sub-recipient or contractual agency shall require approval from the Erie County Community Development Consortium and the Erie County Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning is hereby authorized to execute any and all HOME Agreements with property owners participating in County housing programs assisted with federal HOME Investment Partnership funds; and be it further

RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive; the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the County Comptroller; the County Attorney; and the Director of the Division of Budget and Management.  
(5-0)

**THOMAS A. LOUGHRAN**  
**CHAIR**