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RECEIVED
ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATORS SWANICK, PEOPLES, KUWIK, FITZPATRICK, HOLT, FISHER, OLMA, DEBENEDETTI, DUSZA, MARINELLI, GREENAN, CHASE, MARSHALL, PAULY, WEINSTEIN, RANZENHOFER & LARSON

JAN 3 2010 5b

**RE: MUTUAL ASSISTANCE FOR SNOW REMOVAL IN MUNICIPALITIES
THROUGHOUT ERIE COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the past several days have seen various municipalities throughout Erie County hit with several inches or feet of lake-effect snow, and

WHEREAS, each municipality in Erie County maintains responsibility for the removal of accumulated snow along streets owned and maintained by that particular municipality, and

WHEREAS, similarly, Erie County must dispatch from highway barns located throughout Erie County its highway employees and equipment to remove snow along county-owned roadways, and

WHEREAS, lake-effect snow is peculiar in that where some municipalities receive a tremendous amount of snow at a particular time, other municipalities in other parts of Erie County may receive little or no snow, and

WHEREAS, individual municipalities very often have the wherewithal to withstand lake-effect snowstorms and remove accumulated snow along local and residential streets; however, the ability to keep roads clear is severely hampered when lake-effect snowstorms occur on consecutive days or within closely-spaced time periods, and

WHEREAS, once the county's roadways are cleared, rather than allowing its equipment to sit idle within a highway barn, the county should make its resources available to other individual municipalities who are struggling through emergency circumstances with respect to snow removal, and

WHEREAS, Erie County currently has in existence an agreement whereby the county's Deputy Commissioner for Highways may authorize the use of county snow removal resources to individual municipalities experiencing difficulty in the removal of large amounts of accumulated snow along local roadways, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature wishes to reaffirm its support for this cooperative effort,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby state its concern for the safety and well being of residents throughout Erie County with respect to the removal of accumulated snow along residential, primary and secondary roadways throughout Erie County, and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the interest of ensuring the safety and well being of local residents, this Honorable Body does hereby support existing agreements amongst the county and individual municipalities to dispatch Erie County's snow removal resources upon request to assist individual municipalities experiencing emergency circumstances in the removal of accumulated snow from local roadways, and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution should serve as authorization toward the continuance of said existing agreement to assist individual municipalities, upon request, in the removal of accumulated snow, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Division of Highways is hereby requested to issue an annual report to the County Legislature cataloguing instances where the county provides such assistance to individual municipalities, including notations as to the type of assistance offered and the date(s) assistance was provided and the cost to county taxpayers of such assistance, and

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to County Executive Dennis Gorski and to Erie County Deputy Commissioner – Highways David Comerford.

CHARLES M. SWANICK

CRYSTAL D. PEOPLES

EDWARD J. KUWIK

MICHAEL A. FITZPATRICK

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JEANNE Z. CHASE

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WILLIAM A. PAULY

BARRY A. WEINSTEIN, MD

MICHAEL H. RANZENHOFER

DALE W. LARSON

Fiscal Impact: To be Determined.