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## COUNTY OF ERIE

**CHRIS COLLINS**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

January 21, 2011

The Honorable  
Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street – Fourth Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Erie County Indoor Air Quality Grant Program**

Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution from the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning authorizing the County Executive to execute a Contract with the New York State Department of Health, accept funds and establish a budget for the Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Collins".

**CHRIS COLLINS**  
Erie County Executive

## MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
From: Department of Environment and Planning  
Re: Erie County Indoor Air Quality Grant Program  
Date: January 21, 2011

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### **SUMMARY**

It is recommended that the Legislature approve the attached resolution prepared by the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning (ECDEP) to authorize the County Executive to execute a five-year contract with the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) to accept \$274,462 in grant funding and establish a budget for the Erie County Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Program.

The funding will allow the ECDEP to continue to provide indoor air quality and radon risk reduction services to Erie County residents. Services will be delivered by the current JG-7 regular part-time IAQ program staff.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The NYSDOH will provide Erie County with \$274,462 over a five-year period. A grant budget will be established for program revenues and expenditures. Funds received from the NYSDOH will cover the personal, fringe and non-personal expenditures of the program.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The contract with the NYSDOH will allow Erie County to continue an Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program. The program provides residents, home builders, building inspectors and real estate agents with radon risk reduction information including low-cost radon test kits. The Program also provides residents with assistance and information on carbon monoxide safety, mold abatement and risk reduction for indoor air pollutants which are known asthma triggers. In 2011, Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program staff will work with the Roswell Park Cancer Institute to host a conference for primary care physicians to increase awareness of health risks associated with radon.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The US Environmental Protection Agency has placed Erie County in Zone 1, the highest risk for radon incidence. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer after smoking. Since 1990, the Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program has worked to reduce the risk to Erie County residents from naturally occurring, cancer causing radon gas through the sale of low cost radon test kits, education and outreach to residents, home contractors, building inspectors and real estate agents.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Without the requested authorization, Erie County will forfeit \$274,462 in awarded funding from the NYSDOH and will not be able to continue an Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

The contract with the NYSDOH will be executed, a budget will be established, funds will be accepted and the Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program will continue to deliver services for the next five-years.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

RE: Erie County Indoor Air Quality Grant Program

WHEREAS, Erie County applied to the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) to continue coordination of an Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program; and

WHEREAS, Erie County was awarded \$274,462 from the NYSDOH State Indoor Radon Grant (SIRG) Program to continue the Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program through June 30, 2015; and

WHEREAS, a current regular part-time JG-7 staff position in the Department of Environment and Planning will continue to provide services to residents, real estate agents and home builders under the Indoor Air Quality Program once the NYSDOH contract is executed and the budget established.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to execute a contract with the NYS DOH and establish a budget for the Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the revenue from the NYSDOH is hereby appropriated in a grant account in the Department of Environment and Planning (Business Area 162, Fund 281) as follows:

Erie County Indoor Air Quality Program – 2010/15  
Grant Period: (07/01/10-06/30/15),  
SAP Grant Account #162SIRG-1015

REVENUES

Account	Description	Budget
407500	State Aid – NYSDOH	\$274,462
422010	Minor Sales – Radon Testing Kits	\$ 5,000
479000	County Share Contribution	<u>\$ 40,500</u>
TOTAL REVENUE		\$319,962

APPROPRIATIONS

Account	Description	Budget
500020	Regular Part-Time Wages	\$183,918
502000	Fringe Benefits	\$101,544
505800	Medical and Health Supplies	\$ 5,000

516020	Professional Svcs., Contracts and Fees	\$ 24,000
505000	Office Supplies	\$ 4,000
510000	Local Mileage	<u>\$ 1,500</u>
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS		\$319,962

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to implement any budget amendments as required to comply with federal and state approved funding requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive; the County Comptroller; the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the Commissioner of Personnel; the Director of the Division of Budget and Management; and the County Attorney.