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## COUNTY OF ERIE

**CHRIS COLLINS**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

March 3, 2011

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

**RE: Handicapped Parking Education Fund**

Honorable Members:

The Erie County Office for the Disabled is continuing its efforts toward achieving the goal of county-wide education, training, and enforcement of handicapped parking. Using revenue from the handicapped parking surcharge, the Office for the Disabled would like to secure training for the Director, to ensure that the County is aware of all applicable rules, regulations, laws and statutes.

The attached resolution requests authorization to appropriate funds from the mandatory surcharge imposed for violations relating to handicapped parking spaces which are required to be dedicated to funding handicapped parking education programs.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Office for the Disabled. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chris Collins", is written over the printed name.

CHRIS COLLINS  
Erie County Executive

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Office for the Disabled  
**Re:** Handicapped Parking Education Fund  
**Date:** March 3, 2011

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### **SUMMARY**

The Erie County Office for the Disabled is continuing its efforts toward achieving the goal of county-wide education, training, and enforcement of handicapped parking. The 45<sup>th</sup> National ADA Conference will provide a forum to learn about the new rules, regulations, laws and statutes. Using revenue from the handicapped parking surcharge and with approval from the New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, the Office for the Disabled would like to allocate funds for the Director to attend this conference to ensure County compliance.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funds are available from the mandatory surcharge imposed for violations relating to handicapped parking spaces. These surcharges are required to be dedicated to funding handicapped parking education programs and related initiatives.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Erie County Office for the Disabled has been working for over ten years to educate and bring public awareness of handicapped parking laws to all residents of Erie County. Additional information and training provided at the conference will enhance the informational and educational components of the Office for the Disabled, resulting in increased compliance and cooperation.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

As specified in the New York State Laws of 1999, Chapter 497, Article 45 1809-b and 1203-g, every county shall establish a handicapped parking education program for the purpose of providing education, advocacy and increased awareness of handicapped parking laws. In order to fund these initiatives, the statute provides for the imposition of a mandatory surcharge for violations relating to handicapped parking spaces, a portion of which are remitted to the County. These monies must be used to fund handicapped parking education programs and related initiatives.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The Office for the Disabled will be under equipped to effectively carry out their mission and goals for 2011.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Appropriate budgetary adjustments will be made and funds will be allocated to cover costs associated with training of the Director for handicapped parking awareness and education.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
OFFICE FOR THE DISABLED

RE:   Handicapped Parking Education Fund

WHEREAS, the Office for the Disabled has been conducting a county-wide effort focused on handicapped parking education, advocacy and enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the educational program is designed to promote parking availability for persons with disabilities through the cooperative efforts of the Erie County Office for the Disabled, efforts of law enforcement, other government agencies, the business community, as well as all forms of media, and involves informational and educational components, as well as enforcement efforts designed to increase compliance and cooperation; and

WHEREAS, as specified in the New York State Laws of 1999 of the Vehicle and Traffic Laws, Chapter 497, Article 45 1809-b and 1203-g, every county shall establish a handicapped parking education program for the purpose of providing education, advocacy and increased public awareness of handicapped parking laws; and

WHEREAS, in order to fund educational programs and related initiatives, the statute provides for the imposition of a mandatory surcharge for violations relating to handicapped parking spaces, a portion of which are remitted to the County. These monies must be used to fund handicapped parking education initiatives, training and enforcement programs; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Office for the Disabled, with approval from the New York State Commission on Quality of Care and Advocacy for Persons with Disabilities, support the transfer of fine revenue to the Erie County Office for Disabled, for the purpose of funding attendance at the 45<sup>th</sup> National ADA Conference; and

WHEREAS, funds are available in prior year reserves, Account 310030, Reserve-Handicapped Parking Education.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby provide authorization to appropriate funds from Account 310030, Reserve-Handicapped Parking Education, for this educational purpose as follows:

Office for the Disabled  
Fund Center 16100

ACCOUNT	REVENUE	<u>Increase</u>
406890	Handicapped Parking Surcharge	\$3,350.00
ACCOUNT	EXPENSE	<u>Increase</u>
510100	Out of Area Travel	\$1,500.00
510200	Training and Education	<u>\$1,850.00</u>
		\$3,350.00

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Erie County Executive, the Comptroller's Office, the Commissioner of Personnel, the Director of the Office for the Disabled, and the Director of Budget and Management.