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COUNTY OF ERIE

CHRIS COLLINS
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

April 26, 2011

Immediate Consideration Requested

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street-4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

RE: Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway Funding Agreement

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a resolution and accompanying memorandum requesting approval to enter into an agreement with WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. to provide funding for signage along the Byway. Funding from the County will be part of the matching funds necessary to release a federal grant for this project.

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,

CHRIS COLLINS
Erie County Executive

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Environment and Planning
Re: Western New York Southtowns Scenic Byway Funding Agreement
Date: April 26, 2011

SUMMARY

WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization whose mission is to promote the scenic beauty, history and cultural heritage of southern Erie County. This resolution seeks authorization to enter into an agreement with WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. to provide matching funds in the amount of \$5,000 in order to release a \$66,000 federal grant to install signage along the Byway.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Funds are available within the Department of Environment & Planning's 2011 Budget.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. assists in the promotion of cultural tourism in Western New York. After a competitive process, WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. has been awarded a \$66,000 federal grant to install signage to identify the Byway and its many attractions; however, this grant requires the Byway to provide \$16,600 in matching funds to release the federal funds to complete the signage project. WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. has raised \$11,600 of the matching funds. The \$5,000 matching grant from the County will bring the total matching funds to the \$16,600 necessary for the release of the federal funds.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Without the matching funds from the County, the federal grant will be lost, and along with it an opportunity to promote cultural, historic and scenic tourism in Western New York.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will enter into an agreement with WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. to provide the \$5,000 in funding and adjustments will be made to E&P's 2011 Budget.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

RE: Western New York Southtowns
Scenic Byway Funding Agreement

WHEREAS, WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization whose mission is to promote the scenic beauty, history and cultural heritage of southern Erie County; and

WHEREAS, through these efforts, it assists in the promotion of cultural tourism in Western New York; and

WHEREAS, the promotion of tourism is an important economic engine to the Western New York economy; and

WHEREAS, after a competitive process, WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. has been awarded a \$66,000 federal grant to install signage to identify the Byway and its many attractions; and

WHEREAS, this grant requires the Byway to provide \$16,600 in matching funds to release the federal funds to complete the signage project; and

WHEREAS, WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc. has raised \$11,600 of the money necessary to release the funds necessary for the signage project; and

WHEREAS, without the full \$16,600, the federal grant will be lost, and along with it an opportunity to promote cultural, historic and scenic tourism in Western New York.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to act on behalf of the County and enter into a contract with WNY Southtowns Scenic Byway, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$5,000, to provide matching funds necessary to release the full amount of the \$66,000 federal grant for a signage project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the funding source for said agreement is from the 2011 Budget, as follows:

Fund Center 16200, Environment and Planning

<u>Appropriations</u>	<u>Increase/Decrease</u>
516020 Professional Services, Contracts & Fees	\$5,000
516030 Maintenance Contracts	(\$5,000)

RESOLVED, that this Authorization take effect immediately; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be directed to send certified copies of this resolution to the County Executive, the Director of the Division of Budget and Management, the Comptroller, the Department of Environment and Planning and the County Attorney.