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COUNTY OF ERIE

CHRIS COLLINS

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

October 14, 2011

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

**RE: Licensing Agreement – US Coast Guard
Buffalo Outer Harbor Grove**

Honorable Members:

Attached is a resolution and memorandum from the Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry authorizing the County of Erie to enter into a ten-year licensing agreement with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) to operate and maintain the grove area adjacent to their Buffalo Outer Harbor facility.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

CHRIS COLLINS
Erie County Executive

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Re: Licensing Agreement – US Coast Guard
Buffalo Outer Harbor Grove
Date: October 14, 2011

SUMMARY

It is recommended that the Erie County Legislature approve the attached resolution prepared by the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry (EC Parks) authorizing the County of Erie to enter into a ten-year licensing agreement with the United States Coast Guard (USCG) to operate and maintain the grove area adjacent to their Buffalo Outer Harbor facility.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The licensing agreement will be at no charge to the County of Erie.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The licensing agreement would open up valuable waterfront access to the residents of Erie County. The additional grove would offer passive recreational opportunities as well as picnicking along the Buffalo Harbor.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The USCG is in the process of restructuring their operation on the Buffalo Outer Harbor. The USCG wishes to open the grove area to the general public through a local government operation. They have contacted Erie County Parks as the logical operator of the grove.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

If the licensing agreement is not approved, Erie County residents will not be able to enjoy the beautiful view and lake front access this historic property provides.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will enter into a ten-year licensing agreement with the USCG.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
ERIE COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY

RE: Licensing Agreement –
US Coast Guard
Buffalo Outer Harbor Grove

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry (EC Parks) has been contacted by the United States Coast Guard (USCG) as a potential operator of its Buffalo Outer Harbor Grove; and

WHEREAS, this property would offer Erie County residents a new and unique experience that provides a scenic vista, passive uses and picnicking near downtown Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, Attachment A to this resolution highlights the area to be licensed to the County; and

WHEREAS, the USCG will license the property to Erie County for a period of 10-years at no cost.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into a licensing agreement and execute any other necessary documents with the USCG to operate the grove adjacent to their Buffalo Outer Harbor facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the licensing agreement is for a period of 10-years at no charge to Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the clerk of the legislature be instructed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, the Erie County Executive, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance and the Erie County Department of Law.

