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# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 17, 2013

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

**Re: Proposed Agreement with Western Chapter, NYS Horse Council**

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed, please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum from the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry requesting authorization to enter into an agreement for the maintenance aspects of designated horseback riding trails throughout several Erie County Parks and Forestry areas.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact Troy P. Schinzel at the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/med  
Enclosure

cc: Troy P. Schinzel, Commissioner

## MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
From: Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry  
Re: Proposed Agreement with Western Chapter, NYS Horse Council  
Date: May 6, 2013

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### **SUMMARY**

The Erie County Parks Department wishes to enter into an agreement for maintenance of designated horseback riding trails at three (3) Erie County Parks and/ or Forestry Areas with the Western Chapter, NYS Horse Council.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

There are no fiscal implications.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Western Chapter of the NYS Horse Council would like to continue to assist the County in maintaining riding trails in Erie County parks.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

Erie County Parks has horseback riding trails at the Bureau of Forestry Property on Genesee Road, Sgt. Mark A, Rademacher Memorial Park/ Hunters Creek and Boston Forest. The Western Chapter of the NYS Horse Council currently assists with some maintenance of these trails.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Parks Department labor needed for other maintenance tasks throughout the parks may need to be allocated towards horseback riding trail maintenance.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Agreements will be signed between Western Chapter, NYS Horse Council and the County of Erie. Western Chapter, New York State Horse Council will be responsible for sharing in the maintenance aspects of these designated horseback riding trails.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY**

**RE: Proposed Agreement with  
Western Chapter, New York  
State Horse Council**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry currently permits horseback riding on designated trails at three Erie County Park and Forestry Areas; and**

**WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry is finding it increasingly difficult to maintain horseback riding trails due to lack of staffing; and**

**WHEREAS, the Western Chapter, New York State Horse Council is willing to enter into agreements with the County to take over some of the maintenance aspects of these horseback riding trails, including, but not limited to, repairs, signage, mapping and trail volunteer days.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT**

**RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Western Chapter, New York State Horse Council for the purpose of permitting the maintenance of these designated horseback riding trails located within the Erie County Parks System; and be it further**

**RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Erie County Executive, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry and Assistant County Attorney, Kristen Walder, of the Law Department.**