



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**  
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 5, 2014

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**Re: Buffalo Niagara Convention Center – 2014 – Miscellaneous Renovations –  
A/E Fees**

Dear Honorable Members:

The attached resolution seeks authorization for the County Executive to enter into a Contract Amendment with the firms of BHNT Architects and DiDonato Associates, for providing professional A/E services for the 2014 Miscellaneous Renovation projects at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner John C. Loffredo at the Department of Public Works. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/dab  
Enclosure

cc: John C. Loffredo, Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Public Works  
**Re:** Buffalo Niagara Convention Center (BNCC) – 2014 – Miscellaneous Renovation Work-A/E Fees  
**Date:** May 5, 2014

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### **SUMMARY**

The Director of the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center has requested that the County, through the Department of Public Works, proceed with the design and construction of the BNCC-2014-Miscellaneous Renovation projects so that the work can be performed during the summer months when the Convention Center is a low point for event bookings.

The work will include painting of the Exhibit Hall concrete columns, dividing air-door, blocking out the upper perimeter band of windows in the Exhibit Hall, installing new alcove draperies, installing backflow prevention devices on the incoming domestic and fire service water lines; design of a new ceiling system, including lighting, PA system and sound control for the Ballroom and repairs to the loading dock trench drains.

In addition, this resolution will include the design of various backflow prevention devices at several other County facilities as required by the City of Buffalo Water Dept. and NYS Dept. of Health.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funds for the project are currently available from the approved and adopted 2013-2014 capital budget. The SAP project accounts are:

- A.13003 – 2013 Buffalo Niagara Convention Center Rehabilitation
- A.14004 – 2014 Countywide Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Improvements (Countywide)

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The Ballroom carpet was previously replaced and the Ballroom ceiling is a continuation of the Ballroom renovations. During the 2010 renovations to the Exhibit Hall area, painting of the dividing air-wall, concrete columns and blocking out the high perimeter windows were eliminated due to budget constraints. This resolution will provide for these projects.

The concrete trench drains at the north and south entrances to the loading dock are crumbling and caving in. The condition poses a health and safety hazard and the drains need to be reconstructed. The County has also been cited by the City of Buffalo Water Authority that a backflow prevention device must be installed in the domestic and fire service water lines.

The Agreement Amendments to BHNT Architects and DiDonato Associates will provide the design services for these projects.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The County has also been cited by the City of Buffalo Water Authority that a backflow prevention device must be installed in the domestic and fire service water lines.

The Agreement Amendments to BHNT Architects and DiDonato Associates will provide the design services for these projects.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

This work is a continuation of the multi-phased or the years of improvements and upgrades to the facility. The improvements need to continue so Erie County can continue to have a premier Convention Center.

The summer months are the best time for the work to be performed when the BNCC has the least amount of events booked.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

Painting the air wall and concrete columns will enhance the new finishes in the Exhibit Hall. Blocking out the high bay windows will eliminate the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center personnel's need to manually insert black cardboard in the windows, which is a health and safety concern working off a lift. If the BNCC is not improved and made a state-of-the-art facility, prospective conventioners will book events elsewhere, and Erie County will not gain the economic benefits.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon Legislative approval, the County Executive will enter into Agreement Amendments with the firms of DiDonato Associates and BHNT Architects for providing professional A/E services.

### **COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE REVIEW**

The proposed legislation has been reviewed by the Comptroller's Office and is related to an authorized capital project for which there are sufficient appropriations for the action proposed.



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GREGORY GACH  
Deputy Comptroller  
Comptroller's Office

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RE: Buffalo Niagara Convention Center – 2014 –  
Miscellaneous Renovations – A/E Fees

WHEREAS, the Director of the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center has requested that the County, through the Department of Public Works, proceed with the 2014 Capital Renovation projects at the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, your Honorable Body has previously authorized the County Executive to enter in a General Architectural/Engineering services agreement with the firm of DiDonato Associates and BHNT Architects for providing professional design and construction document services on Erie County projects; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive is requesting authorization to issue an Agreement Amendment to the firm of DiDonato Associates and BHNT Architects for providing design and construction document services for the Buffalo Niagara Convention Center-2014-Capital Renovation projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to execute an Agreement with the firm of DiDonato Associates for providing professional A/E design and Construction document services for the BNCC-2014-Capital Renovation projects and for design services for installation of backflow prevention devices to be installed at several County owned facilities for an amount not to exceed \$53,000.00, including a design contingency; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to execute an Agreement Amendment with the firm of BHNT Architects for providing professional design and construction services for the BNCC-2014 Capital Renovation projects for an amount not to exceed \$80,000.00 including a design contingency; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller's Office be authorized to make payment for all the above from SAP project account:

A.13003 – 2013 Buffalo Niagara Convention Center Rehabilitation	\$103,000.00
A.14004 - 2014 Countywide Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Improvements	<u>\$ 30,000.00</u>
For an Amount Not To Exceed	\$133,000.00

;and be it further

RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Commissioner's Office, and one copy each to the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget and Management and the Office of the Comptroller.

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER REVIEW

DATE: 5-1-2014

PROJECT TITLE: A.14004 2014 COUNTYWIDE MECHANICAL ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING IMPROVEMENTS (COUNTYWIDE)

1) IS THE REASON FOR THIS CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: YES X NO

IF NO, RETURN THIS REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT

IF YES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VERIFICATION

2) PROJECT AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION

TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES \$ 0

TOTAL PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS \$ 0

LESS: TOTAL EXPENDITURE TO DATE \$ 0

TOTAL COMMITMENTS \$ 0

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS AS OF DATE OF REQUEST \$ 0

LESS: CONTRACT AMOUNT: 30,000.00

NET AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS \$ (30,000.00)

COMMENTS: COMMENTS: \$500,000.00 project A.13003 cash balance. Legislature also approved project A.14004 which has not yet been set up on SAP and bonds/premium of \$450,000 is expected to be received in 2014.

These two Projects to fund two contracts as follows:

DiDonato Associates 53,000, BHNT Architects 80,000 for total \$133,000.

A.13003 103,000 A.14004 30,000 Total 133,000.

REQUEST APPROVED:

REQUEST DENIED

DATE:

Comm. 10E-15

PROJECT TITLE: A.13003 2013 BUFFALO NIAGARA CONVENTION CTR. REHAB

1) IS THE REASON FOR THIS CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_

IF NO, RETURN THIS REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT

IF YES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VERIFICATION

2) PROJECT AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION

TOTAL PROJECT REVENUES \$ 500,000.00

TOTAL PROJECT APPROPRIATIONS \$ 500,000.00

LESS: TOTAL EXPENDITURE TO DATE \$ 0.00

TOTAL COMMITMENTS \$ 540.00

AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS AS OF DATE OF REQUEST \$ 499,460.00

LESS: CONTRACT AMOUNT: 103,000.00

NET AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS \$ 396,460.00

COMMENTS: \$500,000.00 project A.13003 cash balance. Legislature also approved project A.14004 which has not yet been set up on SAP and bonds/premium of \$450,000 is expected to be received in 2014.

These two Projects to fund two contracts as follows:

DiDonato Associates 53,000, BHNT Architects 80,000 for total \$133,000.

A.13003 103,000 A.14004 30,000 Total 133,000.

REQUEST APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

REQUEST DENIED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: 5/1/14

TO: GREGORY GACH, COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING RULE 55

CONTRACT APPROVAL CHECKLIST  
CONFIRMATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS IN CAPITAL PROJECTS

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT

COMPLETE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 5

1. CONTRACTOR'S NAME

DiDonato Associates  
BHNT Architects

2. AMOUNT OF CONTRACT

DiDonato Associates \$53,000.00  
BHNT Architects \$80,000.00

3. PROJECT NUMBER

A.13003 – 2013 BNCC Rehabilitation  
A.14004 – 2014 Countywide Mechanical,  
Electrical & Plumbing Improvements

4. PROJECT TITLE

Buffalo Niagara Convention Center – 2014 –  
Miscellaneous Renovations A/E Fees

5. DEPARTMENT CONTACT

Funding questions: Jeffrey P. Zack, PE at x8824  
Letter pickup: Diane Bukowski at x8301

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

COMPLETE ITEMS 6 AND 7

6. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

A.13003 \$ 499,460.00  
B.14004 \$ 0 . \$450,000 Bond Sale is pending

7. PERFORMED BY

Don Ueban

Date Sent to Comptroller's Office:

April 30, 2014

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