



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 6, 2014

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

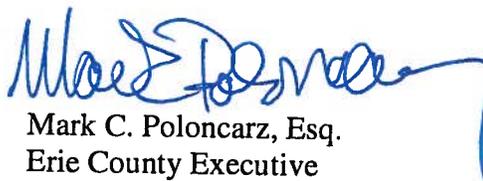
Re: Erie Community College – Academic Building – Environmental Impact Assessment – Approvals

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution pertaining to compliance with the environmental impact assessment procedures relative to the proposed new academic building for Erie Community College.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Thomas J. Dearing, Deputy Commissioner, at the Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/cw
Enclosure

cc: Maria R. Whyte, Commissioner DEP
Thomas J. Dearing, Deputy Commissioner DEP
John C. Loffredo, Commissioner DPW

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Environment and Planning
Re: Erie Community College – Academic Building – Environmental Impact Assessment – Approvals
Date: February 6, 2014

SUMMARY

The resolution seeks legislative approval of certain State Environmental Quality Review documents prior to their execution by the Erie County Executive. Said documents pertain to the proposed new Erie Community College (ECC) Academic Building at ECC-North Campus. ECC-North is the preferred alternative location, as recommended in the May 2013 report titled Program Needs Analysis and Space Utilization Assessment prepared by JMZ Architects and Planners, PC.

The proposed action of undertaking construction of the new building is now the subject of an environmental review as required by State law. It is expected that final County action will be taken only upon completion of the environmental review, including this activity by the Erie County Legislature.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The resolution does not involve any fund expenditures and thus, there are no fiscal implications to the proposed action.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Since Erie County is the lead agency, pursuant to the terms contained in the 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review Act, it is necessary for the Erie County Legislature to approve certain documents prepared as part of the SEQR process. The approvals are required prior to proceeding with any undertaking.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Erie County is the lead agency for the purposes of those reviews necessary under SEQR regulations. Work should not progress on final design and construction of the new academic building until a determination of environmental impact assessment or a findings statement is approved by the Erie County Legislature.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Erie County would be unable to complete the environmental reviews necessary to construct the building.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The Department of Environment and Planning will complete the required environmental analysis and prepare appropriate documents for consideration by ECC and County officials.

**A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING**

RE: Erie Community College – Academic Building – Environmental Impact Assessment – Approvals

WHEREAS, Erie County is assessing certain environmental impacts associated with the proposed new academic building at Erie Community College – North Campus; and

WHEREAS, said assessments are being conducted pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR); and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature is an involved agency in the funding and undertaking of the construction of the building.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that any determination of environmental significance and findings statement as so defined in 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR) shall require approval by the Erie County Legislature prior to their execution by the Erie County Executive or his designee; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office; the County Attorney; the Commissioner of the Erie County Department of Public Works; William Reuter, Chief Administrative and Financial Officer of Erie Community College; and the Commissioner of the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Rath Building, 10th Floor.