



ECLEG JUL13'15 AM10:58

COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 10, 2015

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

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION REQUESTED

Re: Acceptance and Distribution of FEMA Aid to Erie Community College

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Emergency Services seeking authorization for the County Executive to accept Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursements and any possible State reimbursements to Erie Community College (ECC) for damages to facilities and assistance provided to Erie County during the November 2014 winter storm Knife.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Dan Neaverth at the Department of Emergency Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark C. Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/jp
Enclosure

cc: Dan Neaverth, Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Emergency Services
Re: Acceptance and Distribution of FEMA Aid to Erie Community College
Date: July 10, 2015

SUMMARY

The Department of Emergency Services is seeking authorization for the County Executive to accept and distribute FEMA aid and possible forthcoming State aid received on behalf of Erie Community College (ECC) for damages to facilities and assistance provided to Erie County during the November 2014 winter storm Knife.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None to the County; positive for ECC.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

ECC incurred costs for damages to facilities and assistance to Erie County during the November 2014 winter storm Knife that FEMA aid will cover. FEMA aid covers 75% of the allowable claimed expenditures. The State may also cover the additional 25% of allowable claimed expenditures. By accepting the available aid and distributing it to ECC, they can be made whole for their storm related expenses.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

During November 2014, record amounts of snow fell in Western New York over a five day period. Erie County found it difficult to keep up with these record amounts. ECC provided assistance to Erie County and also incurred some damages during the storm. Erie County submitted ECC's expenditures to FEMA on their behalf. FEMA is reimbursing allowable expenditures at 75% and the State may reimburse the remaining 25% of the allowable expenditures.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The aid from the 2014 November Storm will not be accepted on behalf of ECC and they will not be able to be reimbursed for their costs.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will accept the available aid and be able to reimburse ECC.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

RE: Acceptance and Distribution of FEMA Aid to Erie Community College

WHEREAS, FEMA aid was made available to Erie County for the 2014 November Storm disaster at 75% of the total storm expenditures, along with the possibility of the remaining 25% being reimbursed by the State; and

WHEREAS, ECC assisted Erie County during the November Storm, incurred some damages to facilities and submitted backup for their expenditures to Erie County; and

WHEREAS, Erie County submitted the ECC claims consistent with FEMA guidelines to FEMA for reimbursement on their behalf and would like to be able to accept these funds and any possible forthcoming State funds, and distribute them to ECC; and

WHEREAS, ECC is solely responsible for subsequent FEMA audits and compliance issues and not the County of Erie; and

WHEREAS, ECC will be responsible for any reimbursements, repayments or liabilities subsequently identified by any audit, with no liability accruing to Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to accept Federal Emergency Management Agency and possible State aid reimbursements concerning the November 2014 winter storm on behalf of ECC for ECC Snow Plowing and Removal and ECC Damaged Facilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to make the necessary deposit of federal and/or potential future state funds into GL account 212100, fund 110, business area 167 and to make the reimbursements to Erie Community College from this same account; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Emergency Services, the County Comptroller and the County Attorney.