SUSPENSION

COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 10, 2015

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

RE: OPEN ITEM/PLACEHOLDER – Black Rock Canal Park Phase II Construction

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find enclosed a suggested resolution and accompanying memorandum regarding establishment of an Open Item/Placeholder on the agenda of the Legislature's Economic Development Committee, relative to the following item:

- Black Rock Canal Park Improvements – Phase II Construction

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Thomas Dearing, Deputy Commissioner, 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
Thomas J. Dearing, Deputy Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Environment and Planning
Re: OPEN ITEM/PLACEHOLDER –Black Rock Canal Park Improvements – Phase II Construction
Date: February 10, 2015

SUMMARY

Bids for Phase II of construction for the improvements at the Black Rock Canal Park have been received and construction is ready to begin. In order to utilize approximately $525,000 in New York State and New York State Power Authority funds for this phase, work needs to be started this year. In order to expedite the contract approval process an open item is being requested for placement on the Economic Development Committee agenda.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no County funds involved with this open item.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

This open item will assist Erie County in adhering to the general timetable for construction established by the New York State Department of Transportation and New York State Power Authority. Early construction will also minimize closure of the boat launch area and lessen potential impacts to scheduled family fishing day events.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This construction phase includes revamping the main parking and boat launch areas and the development of a promenade along the river's edge, new LED lighting, landscaping islands and uniform parking for cars and boat trailers. Contract approval from the Erie County Legislature will be required prior to initiation of any construction work. The open item will expedite the approval process.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Should approval of the attached resolution not be given, project initiation would be delayed.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION

This open item would be placed on the appropriate Legislative Committee agenda as a place holder.

SUSPENSION

A RESOLUTION BY SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

RE: OPEN ITEM/PLACEHOLDER – Black Rock Canal Park Improvements – Phase II Construction

WHEREAS, Erie County has approximately $525,000 in New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and New York State Power Authority funding (NYSPA) for the construction of the Black Rock Canal Park Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, NYSDOT and NYSPA have established a timeline for the completion of said use of funds for the Black Rock Canal Park Improvements Project: and

WHEREAS, Erie County is desirous of minimizing the disruption to boat launch and fishing activities within the park due to construction activity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that an Open Item be established in the Economic Development Committee of this Legislature for the purpose of considering prerequisite resolutions pertaining to the construction of the Black Rock Canal Park Improvements – Phase II; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive; the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning; the County Comptroller; the County Attorney; and the Director of the Division of Budget and Management.