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COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 19, 2016

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

**RE: November 2014 Winter Storm “Knife”
FEMA Disaster DR 4204
Consultant Services - Project Worksheet (PW) 371
Roads, Culverts and Bridges - Erie County**

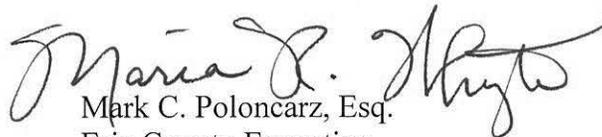
Dear Honorable Members:

As a result of the November 2014 “Knife” snowstorm, Erie County’s transportation infrastructure sustained widespread damage. Consulting firms CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) were retained to inspect, assess and document the damages to structures and roadways respectively and estimate the cost of repairs. This information was relayed to FEMA and formed the basis for FEMA PW 371 which lists the work eligible for FEMA assistance and the associated estimated costs.

The attached resolution requests authorization to amend the current contracts with CHA and CPL to include design engineering services, preparation of bid documents and construction phase services.

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

Sincerely,



Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP:br/dab

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Public Works, Office of the Commissioner
Re: November 2014 Winter Storm "Knife"
FEMA Disaster DR 4204
Consultant Services - Project Worksheet (PW) 371
Roads, Culverts and Bridges - Erie County
Date: May 19, 2016

SUMMARY

Erie County's transportation infrastructure incurred widespread damage during the November 2014 "Knife" snowstorm. Once the County was deemed eligible for assistance from FEMA under its Public Assistance Program, the County engaged engineering firms CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) to document and assess the damages and estimate the cost of needed repairs to structures and roads respectively. This information was submitted to FEMA by the County and forms the basis for Project Worksheet (PW) 371 which lists FEMA eligible work and the associated estimated costs. This resolution requests authorization to amend CHA's and CPL's existing contracts to include design engineering and construction phase services for structures and roadways respectively. As both CHA and CPL are familiar with the sites, have all the documentation and have been involved from the outset they are in the best position to efficiently and economically provide the requested services.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Both CHA and CPL are currently under contract with Erie County for the damage inspection, assessment, documentation and initial cost estimate phases of the project and there are balances in both contracts which can be applied to the requested work. This resolution requests the addition of \$125,000 to CHA's contract for a total not to exceed amount of \$225,000. This resolution also requests the addition of \$125,000 to CPL's contract for a not to exceed amount of \$275,000. FEMA covers 75% of eligible costs and for this disaster and New York State is covering the remaining 25%. Erie County must in the first instance pay for all costs and then apply for reimbursement to FEMA and NYSDHSES. Funds to pay the first instance costs are available in SAP Fund 251, Fund Center 1231010, GL 516020.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Both CHA and CPL are currently under contract with Erie County for the damage assessment and initial cost estimate phases of the project, have performed all the field work required for the initial assessments, documented all of the damages and estimated the cost of repairs. Their work is the basis for PW 371. CHA and CPL are familiar with all the sites, the work required and are in the best position to efficiently and economically provide the necessary engineering services.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The damage to the County's transportation infrastructure was widespread throughout the track of winter storm "Knife". As part of the process of securing FEMA assistance CHA and CPL were engaged to inspect the affected areas, assess storm related damages, document the damages and estimate repair costs. Their work was submitted to FEMA and provided the basis for FEMA PW 371.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The County will potentially lose the opportunity to effect the required repairs with FEMA and New York State picking up the cost and the repairs will either not be done or completed at 100% County expense.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

CHA's and CPL's current contracts will be amended to include design and construction phase services and the firms will be requested to begin the preparation of the necessary bid documents for structural and roadway work respectively.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
DIVISION OF HIGHWAYS

RE: November 2014 Winter Storm "Knife"
FEMA Disaster DR 4204
Consultant Services - Project Worksheet (PW) 371
Roads, Culverts and Bridges -Erie County

WHEREAS, the November 2014 "Knife" snowstorm caused widespread damage to Erie County's transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, FEMA has approved Project Worksheet (PW) 371 listing transportation infrastructure work eligible for reimbursement under FEMA's Public Assistance program as a result of the "Knife" snowstorm (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the consulting firms of CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL) performed the post storm inspection, assessment and documentation of the damages for structures and roadways respectively and developed the cost estimates on which PW 371 is based: and

WHEREAS, both CHA and CPL are still under contract with the County for the inspection, documentation, and estimate phase of the work and are intimately familiar with the work required; and

WHEREAS, it is desired to amend the current engineering services contracts for both CHA and CPL to include design and construction phase engineering services; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that 75% of the cost of the engineering services contracts for both CHA and CPL will be eligible for full reimbursement from FEMA and that the remaining 25% of the engineering services contract costs will be eligible for full reimbursement from New York State

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized and directed to execute all necessary contract amendments for the November 2014 Winter Storm "Knife", FEMA Disaster DR 4204, Consultant Services - Project Worksheet (PW) 371 Project with CHA Consulting, Inc. (CHA) and Clark Patterson Lee (CPL); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller's Office be authorized to make payments to CHA and CPL respectively from SAP Fund 251, Fund Center 1231010, GL Account 516020 for an amount not to exceed the adjusted contract amounts of \$225,000.00 for CHA and \$275,000.00 for CPL; and be it further

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

