



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 3, 2016

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

**Re: Contract with the Erie County Industrial Development Agency for
Rehabilitation of a County Owned Railroad Bridge Over Rush Creek in
Hamburg**

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Environment and Planning authorizing the execution of contracts with the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) for the rehabilitation of a County owned railroad bridge which crosses Rush Creek in Hamburg. The Department of Environment and Planning anticipates contracting with the ECIDA which will then bid the project for construction.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Kenneth Swanekamp, Director of Business Assistance at the Department of Environment and Planning. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Poloncarz".

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/cw
Enclosure

cc: Thomas R. Hersey, Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Environment and Planning
Re: Contract with the Erie County Industrial Development Agency for Rehabilitation of a County Owned Railroad Bridge Over Rush Creek in Hamburg
Date: June 3, 2016

SUMMARY

The Department of Environment and Planning is requesting authorization for the County Executive to enter into contracts with the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA) for the purpose of construction services for rail bridge rehabilitation work on the County owned rail bridge over Rush Creek. The County of Erie desires to maintain this bridge to allow for safe rail traffic.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The proposed funding of an amount not to exceed \$250,000 will come from capital funds approved in the 2016 Erie County budget and the 2016 Consolidated Bond Resolution, Comm. 7E-34.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Some of the most important issues facing Erie County are the need to maintain all modes of transportation to industrial properties, to retain and increase employment and to encourage a higher level of private investment. Rail line 1246 from South Buffalo to Gowanda is a valuable short line railroad to provide service to industrial customers in the southtowns. The rail line must also provide safe passage for where the line crosses creeks and streams. In this case the bridge will be repaired, piers reconstructed and protected. Buffalo Southern Railroad, the operator of this line, has also pledged funds towards this project.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The ECIDA has staff that is experienced in subcontracting with contractors specializing in railroad construction. The ECIDA has already completed this type of work for other projects on the two County owned rail lines.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

If a resolution to enter into a contract is not approved, Erie County and the ECIDA will not be able to complete this work. The rehabilitation of this bridge will not take place and deterioration will continue.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Upon approval of the resolution, contracts will be prepared with the ECIDA and bidding for the rehabilitation of the bridge will occur.

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

The proposed item 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 requested.

Signed: Bryan Fiume

Date: 5/27/16

Name : _____

Title : _____

BRYAN FIUME
Associate Deputy Comptroller

2016 REHAB OF COUNTY RAIL LINE 1246 PIER

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING

RE: Contract with the Erie County Industrial Development Agency for Rehabilitation of a County Owned Railroad Bridge Over Rush Creek in Hamburg

WHEREAS, the County of Erie is interested in the fostering of business growth and job retention and creation within Erie County; and

WHEREAS, Erie County owns a short line railroad designated Line 1246 which runs from South Buffalo to Gowanda and passes over Rush Creek in Hamburg; and

WHEREAS, the Rail Line 1246 is leased to the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA), which in turn selects an operator for the rail line and manages day to day operation of the line; and

WHEREAS, Erie County is responsible for capital improvements to the rail line; and

WHEREAS, the rail bridge over Rush Creek has deterioration of stone masonry and wingwalls and Erie County desires to rehabilitate the rail bridge crossing over Rush Creek in Hamburg; and

WHEREAS, the ECIDA has extensive experience in contracting for construction projects; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie has allocated \$250,000 for rehabilitation of this bridge in the approved 2016 capital budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to enter into contracts with the ECIDA, other state and federal agencies, and consultants in amounts not to exceed a total of \$250,000, for the purpose of construction rehabilitation of the County owned rail bridge over Rush Creek in Hamburg; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the source of these funds shall be \$250,000 available in the approved 2016 Erie County Capital Budget and approved in the 2016 Consolidated Bond Resolution, Comm. 7E-34; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Department of Environment and Planning is authorized to effectuate payments for the project with ECIDA and its contractors in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 through approved 2016 bond funds; and be it further

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