SUSPENSION

COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 9, 2016

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

Re: Proposed Metal Detecting Regulations

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed is a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum requesting authority to regulate metal detecting within the Erie County Parks System.

Should your honorable body require further information, I encourage you to contact Daniel J. Rizzo, Commissioner, at the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/med
Enclosure

cc: Daniel J. Rizzo, Commissioner, Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry
Re: Proposed Metal Detecting Regulations
Date: May 9, 2016

SUMMARY

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry is requesting authorization to regulate metal detecting within the Erie County Parks System. As metal detecting gains popularity, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry is receiving numerous requests for metal detecting permits.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

Regulations would give constituents who wish to partake in metal detecting policies to follow. These policies would help to protect our parks and their integrity.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Currently the Erie County Parks System does not have any sort of regulations in place in regards to metal detecting. The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation authorize the use of metal detectors within the State Parks System under various terms and conditions. The Erie County Parks System would like to enforce similar regulations.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Without metal detecting regulations in place, park patrons will be unable to partake in a recreation activity that is becoming increasingly popular. The activity would be offered at no cost to the County.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Regulations will be put into place allowing metal detecting in the Erie County Parks System.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY

RE: Proposed Metal Detecting Regulations

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry receives numerous requests each year for metal detecting permits, due to metal detecting becoming an increasingly popular recreational activity; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry would like to allow metal detecting and to set regulations in relation to this activity; and

WHEREAS, regulations may include, but not be limited to, prohibiting the use of metal detectors in the County of Erie's four (4) Heritage Parks, requiring all personal property found in value of $10.00 or more to be returned to the owner or deposited to Parks personnel and regulations on the size of digging tools; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation has similar regulations set in place; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Forestry is hereby authorized to allow metal detecting and set regulations related to the activity within the Erie County Parks System; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Erie County Executive, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Assistant County Attorney, Kristen Walder, of the Law Department.