JUNE 4, 2009

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 7

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

CHAIR MARINELLI PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

- 1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:
- a. COMM. 8M-8 (2009)

SENECA ONE REALTY LLC: "Copy of Resolution Asking the NYS Legislature to Reject Gov. Paterson's "Sweep" of NY Power Authority Funds as a Hidden Tax on Power Customers" (6-0)

b. COMM. 9E-31 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE: "Sherwood Greenway - Town of Tonawanda: Receipt of Deed Conveyance for NYS Dept. of Transportation" (6-0)

c. COMM. 9M-26 (2009)

ECIDA: "Letter Requesting Confirmation of Attendence for Annual Membership Meeting - May 11, 2009" (6-0)

d. COMM. 9M-29 (2009)

ECIDA: "Copy of 2008 Annual Audited Financial Statements" (6-0)

e. COMM. 9M-36 (2009)

NFTA: "NFTA Board Minutes for Meeting Held 3/23/09" (6-0)

f. COMM. 10M-1 (2009)

NFTA: "NFTA - Notice of Proposed Rulemaking" (6-0)

2. INTRO 4-8 (2009)

MARINELLI, MILLS, KOZUB, MILLER-WILLIAMS, AS AMENDED WALTER, KONST, GRANT, MAZUR, IANNELLO, RATH, KENNEDY, WROBLEWSKI & REYNOLDS

WHEREAS, the Empire Zone Program provides tax benefits to businesses for a ten-year period in return for creating jobs and investing in New York; and

WHEREAS, the 2009-2010 Executive Budget Proposal makes drastic changes to the New York State Empire Zone Program that will devastate the economic development efforts of New York's county governments; and

WHEREAS, these sweeping changes include:

- significantly expanding the basis for Empire Zone decertification;
- requiring all business enterprises to be recertified by the Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development prior to qualifying for their 2008 zone benefits;
- requiring that all existing zone businesses meet or exceed a 20:1 ratio of actual wages, benefits and capital investments for at least a three-year period;
- limiting new certifications to firms that are strictly defined manufacturing enterprises, financial services or a somewhat ambiguous "extraordinary projects" category;
- removing the "economic circumstances or unforeseen conditions" exception as a means to prevent decertification;
- terminating the authority to designate new Empire Zones or increase zone areas after April 1, 2009; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the new cost-benefit ratio requirement alone could jeopardize more than 2,000 businesses with removal from the program; and

WHEREAS, in total, these proposals will have a destructive effect on economic development across New York State, especially in areas where the Empire Zone Program has been the primary incentive used to encourage numerous business attraction and expansion projects; and

WHEREAS, while the Executive Budget Proposal does create a new \$50 million New York Growth, Achievement and Investment Strategy (GAINS) and allocates \$50 million in research and development grants through the expansion of existing programs; these actions do not outweigh the disastrous changes proposed to the Empire Zone Program, which must be overturned during the budget negotiation process; and

WHEREAS, the current Empire Zone Program has existing mechanisms to ensure that companies are accountable and that counties realize these benefits; and

WHEREAS, in times of national recession, it is critical that the State and counties do all they can to attract jobs and not kill these job-creating opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature urge the State Legislature to reject the sweeping changes to the New York State Empire Zone Program proposed in the 2009-2010 Executive Budget Proposal; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be conveyed to Governor David Paterson, the Western New York Delegation to the State Legislature and all others deemed necessary and proper. (6-0)

3. INTRO 5-14 (2009)

KENNEDY, WHYTE, KOZUB, WROBLEWSKI, AS AMENDED REYNOLDS & LOUGHRAN

WHEREAS, the recently approved federal stimulus package includes approximately \$8 billion for high-speed rail; and

WHEREAS, New York State is uniquely poised and prepared to accept these funds for the development of high-speed rail between Albany and Buffalo, as well as Buffalo and Niagara Falls; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1970, there have been numerous studies assessing the viability of this project and validating that New York State is in a shovel-ready position to put this federal investment to immediate use as there is sufficient room on the existing Empire Corridor for a third track and time-consuming land acquisition is not necessary; and

WHEREAS, experts project that the entire project could be completed in three to five years, reinvigorating commerce throughout Upstate by shortening the five hour trip from Buffalo to Albany to 3 ½ hours; and

WHEREAS, construction of the high-speed rail line would immediately create up to 12,000 construction jobs and increase state economic output by nearly \$2 billion, including Upstate's ability to access the millions of tourists who visit Niagara Falls annually; and

WHEREAS, the opportunity for job sharing among the cities of Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse is a probable outcome, according to the Center for Governmental Research; and

WHEREAS, the Upstate New York Congressional Caucus regards this initiative as the new "Erie Canal" for the 21st Century in terms of its economic development impact.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Eric County Legislature go on record in full support of the development of a high-speed rail corridor linking Niagara Falls, Buffalo and Albany as a forward-thinking economic development strategy; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this Honorable Body believes that the investment of federal stimulus funds for the development of high-speed rail in Upstate New York would provide the federal investment an expeditious return-on-investment from the economic activity that will certainly take place; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be provided to U.S. Senators Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillebrand, the WNY Congressional Delegation, the WNY Delegation to the NYS Legislature, Governor David A. Paterson, Speaker Sheldon Silver, Senate Majority Leader Malcolm Smith and all others deemed necessary and proper. (6-0)

4. COMM. 10E-7 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Eric County 2008-09 Bridge Clearing Project – PIN 5758.10 (the Project) is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the appointment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal funds and 20% Non-Federal funds; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the Non-Federal share of the costs of the Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI) and Construction & Construction Inspection phases of this project: PIN 5758.10; and

WHEREAS, the NYSDOT will provide 80% of funding through Federal aid to accomplish bridge washing; and

WHEREAS, the total 2008-2009 Project is \$485,000.00 and the County is required to provide the local share portion for the Project in the amount of \$97,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the 2009 Adopted Budget included \$90,000.00 as "pay-as-you-go" funding in Fund 210, \$7,000.00 to be used for the 2008-2009 project and \$83,000 as a set aside for the 2009-2010 required County share for the bridge project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature of the County of Erie hereby authorizes the County of Erie to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and Non-Federal shares of the cost of the Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI) and Construction & Construction inspection phases of the Project or portions thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the sum of \$97,000.00 in non-federal local share is hereby appropriated from B.00192 - 2008 Bridge Maintenance Program and made available to cover the cost of participation in the above phases of the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby provide authorization to establish the following budget amendments in Capital Fund 420 project B.00192 - 2008 Bridge Maintenance,

	Current Budget	Increase	Adjusted Budget
Revenue			
414000 Federal Aid	\$360,000	\$28,000	\$388,000
486000 Interfund Subsidy	90,000	90,000	180,000
	\$450,000	\$118,000	\$568,000
Expense			
Capital Projects Expense	\$450,000	\$118,000	\$568,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the event the amount required to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and Non-Federal shares of the cost of the project's Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI and Construction & Construction Inspection phase) exceeds \$485,000.00 the County of Erie shall convene its Legislature as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive of the County of Erie be and is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal Aid on behalf of the County of Erie with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the Municipality's first instance funding of Project costs and permanent funding of the local share of Federal-Aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in Connection with the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ten (10) certified copies of this resolution be forwarded 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, the Office of the County Attorney, and the Office of the Comptroller.

(6-0)

5. COMM. 10E-9 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, a Project for the Intersection Improvement of CR 37, Greiner Road and CR 279, Shimerville Road in the Town of Clarence, Erie County, PIN 5756.85 (the "Project") is eligible for funding under Title 23 U.S. Code, as amended, that calls for the apportionment of the costs such program to be borne at the ratio of 80% Federal Funds and 20% Non-Federal funds or the ratio of 90% Federal funds and 10% Non-Federal funds, depending on the Federal Aid Funding Program; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie previously appropriated \$170,000.00 (\$34,000.00 non-Federal share) for the Project's Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidental phases via County Resolution Comm. 13E-42 on June 24, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie desires to advance the Project by making a commitment of 100% of the Non-Federal share of the increased costs of the Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI), Right-of-Way Incidentals, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction and Construction Inspection phases of the Project, PIN 5756.85 in the amount of \$1,305,250.00 (\$152,050.00 non-Federal share).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature of the County of Erie hereby approves the above-subject project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Legislature of the County of Erie hereby authorizes the County of Erie to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and Non-Federal shares of the cost of the Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI), Right-of-Way Incidentals, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction and Construction Inspection phases of the Project or portions thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the required, non-Federal share sum of \$118,050.00 is hereby appropriated from B.00125 2004-2006 Signal & Intersection Improvement Projects (in addition to \$34,000.00

previously appropriated for the non-Federal share of the project's Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI) and Right-of-Way Incidentals phases via County Resolution No. 13E-42 adopted on June 24, 2004; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Project's revenue and appropriations be equally increased to reflect the supplemental agreement in the total amount of \$1,305,250.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that in the event the amount required to pay in the first instance 100% of the Federal and Non-Federal shares the cost of the project's Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI), Right-of-Way Incidentals, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction and Construction Inspection phases exceeds the amount appropriated, and/or 100% of the full Federal and Non-Federal shares of the cost of the Preliminary Engineering (Design I-VI), Right-of-Way Incidentals, Right-of-Way Acquisition and Construction and Construction Inspection phases exceeds \$1,305,250.00 the County of Erie shall convene its Legislature as soon as possible to appropriate said excess amount immediately upon the notification by the New York State Department of Transportation thereof; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive of the County of Erie is hereby authorized to execute all necessary Agreements, certifications or reimbursement requests for Federal-Aid and/or Marchiselli-Aid on behalf of the County of Erie with the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the advancement or approval of the Project and providing for the administration of the Project and the municipality's first instance funding of project costs and permanent funding of the local share of Federal-Aid and State-Aid eligible Project costs and all Project costs within appropriations therefore that are not so eligible; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be filed with the New York State Commissioner of Transportation by attaching it to any necessary Agreement in connection with the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that ten (10) 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, Management and Finance, and the Office of the Comptroller. (6-0)

6. COMM. 10E-11 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning administers the Federal Community Development Block Grant program on behalf of thirty-four municipalities comprising the Erie County Community Development Consortium; and

WHEREAS, said Consortium receives approximately \$3,500,000 annually from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

WHEREAS, said funds must primarily benefit low and moderate income households within the Consortium; and

WHEREAS, the Consortium municipalities are desirous of having access to a professional planning firm having skill in household income survey techniques which can be utilized to determine the CDBG eligibility of certain proposed projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Stuart I. Brown Associates, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the purpose of undertaking household income surveys within neighborhoods comprising the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Consortium; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the source of said funds shall be Project Number J.00 507.1.9 for the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office; the Comptroller's Office; the Director of Budget and Management, and the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning, Rath Building, 10th Floor.

(6-0)

7. COMM. 10E-12 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the County has no interest in continuing ownership of a permanent easement for drainage purposes located at 2245 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York; and

WHEREAS, the original reason for taking the easement in 1952 no longer exists; and

WHEREAS, that said easement is identified as Parcel 3 on Map SK151-4 and described in Liber of Deeds 5288, Page 168 on file in the Eric County Clerk's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that permanent easement Parcel 3 on Map SK151-4 located on the property at 2245 Walden Avenue, Cheektowaga, New York, SBL 102.16-2-2.1 be terminated such that the County shall no longer have maintenance jurisdiction over the easement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that five (5) certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Office of the Commissioner, and one copy each to the New York State Department of Transportation, the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget and Management, and the Office of the Comptroller.

(6-0)

8. COMM. 10E-13 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) is currently performing annual and biannual inspections of County-owned bridges; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these inspections Erie County was cited with numerous yellow and red flags which restricts access to the traveling public and requires the County to respond to NYSDOT with a plan of action as soon as practicable; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works – Division of Highways determined that Clough, Harbour & Associates, a legislatively approved Term Agreement consultant via Comm. 14E-19 adopted July 17, 2008, has the appropriate experience in construction management, technical services, and construction inspection of bridges; and

WHEREAS, in order for the Department of Public Works – Division of Highways to urgently respond to these cited County bridge deficiencies with bridge repairs and construction during the 2008 construction season and while the legislative body is in recess, it requires authorization to award construction contracts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive be allowed to execute a contract to Clough, Harbour & Associates for an amount not to exceed \$200,000.00, from 2008 Preservation of Bridges, Culverts and Dams (County-wide) Fund B.00191; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works – Division of Highways is authorized to requisition for purchase orders for bridge repair and construction through the Department of Purchase approved Highways Material Bid or through an open competitive bidding process during the 2009 Legislative recess; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the cumulative award of bridge repair and construction contracts will not exceed \$800,000.00 from 2008 Preservation of Bridges, Culverts, and Dams (County-wide) Fund B.00191; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature be provided with an informational item upon return from recess that includes a report of progress, vendors awarded, and contract amounts from the Department of Public Works – Division of Highways; and be it further

RESOLVED, that five (5) certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Office of the Commissioner, and one copy each to the New York State Department of Transportation, the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, the Office of the Comptroller, and the Department of Purchase.

(6-0)

9. COMM. 10E-14 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the existing roof system at the Correctional Facility located in Alden, New York is twenty-five plus years old and is leaking, causing damage to the building interior spaces and systems; and

WHEREAS, your honorable body has previously authorized the County Executive to enter into an Agreement with the firm of E I Team, Inc. for providing Professional Architecture/Engineering Services for design and construction for Phase I. The County now wants to proceed with the full project scope; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive is requesting authorization from your honorable body to issue an Amendment to E I Team, Inc. for providing Design and Construction Documents for the Roof Replacement Project at the Correctional Facility for the full scope of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive be authorized to issue an Amendment to E I Team, Inc. for providing Professional Design and Construction Document Services for the Erie County Correctional Facility – 2008 – Roof Replacement Project, Phase II, for the full scope of the project including security fencing and cameras for an amount not to exceed \$185,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller's Office be authorized to make payment for the above from SAP Project A.00315 – 2007 – ECCF Roof Replacement for an amount not to exceed \$185,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Division of Real Estate and Asset Management, and one copy each to the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Office of the Comptroller. (6-0)

10. COMM. 10E-15 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the existing Highway building facilities are over 40 years old, are showing signs of deterioration and need to be evaluated to determine what corrective measures are needed to maintain the buildings and provide a safe working environment; and

WHEREAS, your honorable body has previously authorized a General Architectural/Engineering Term Agreement with the firm of Lauer-Manguso & Associates; and

WHEREAS, the County Executive is requesting authorization from your honorable body to issue an Agreement amendment to Lauer-Manguso & Associates for providing Professional Services to evaluate the existing Highway facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive be authorized to issue an Agreement amendment to Lauer-Manguso & Associates for providing Professional Services to evaluate the existing Highway facilities for an amount not to exceed \$36,655.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller's Office be authorized to make payment for the above from SAP Project A.00309 - 2007 - Code Compliance and Building Reconstruction for an amount not to exceed \$36,655.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Division of Real Estate and Asset Management, and one copy each to the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Office of the Comptroller. (6-0)

11. COMM. 10E-16 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, Erie County, through the Department of Environment and Planning, serves as the administrative agent for the Erie County/Town of West Seneca Community Development Block Grant Consortium (Consortium); and

WHEREAS, the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has required that an allocation of \$878,421 be made to Erie County for the purpose of carrying out projects eligible under the federal Community Development Block Grant Program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive, on behalf of the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Consortium is hereby authorized to execute an agreement with HUD to undertake the CDBG-R Program in an amount not to exceed \$878,421; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive on behalf of the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Consortium is hereby authorized to execute any and all agreements with HUD, local governments, property owners receiving housing assistance, non-profit, and for-profit agencies, necessary to implement the above program with the exception that any proposed agreement that transfers all or a portion of the administrative functions of the grant from Erie County to a sub-recipient or contractual agency shall require approval from the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Consortium and the Erie County Legislature; and be it further

RESOLVED, that said funds shall be established in SAP Fund Account 290, J.00709; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office; the Comptroller's Office; the Director of the Division of Budget and Management; the County Attorney; and the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning, Rath Building, 10th Floor. (6-0)

12. COMM. 10E-17 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, your honorable body has approved funding in the 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009 adopted as amended capital budgets for exterior restoration work, including but not limited to roofing, masonry, brick, trim and iron work at the Erie Community College – City campus main building (old Post Office); and

WHEREAS, your honorable body has approved funding in the adopted as amended 2006 capital budget for upgrading the elevators and making them code and ADA compliant at Erie Community College – North and South campuses; and

WHEREAS, New York State has approved all of the above projects and will reimburse the County for 50% of the total costs; and

WHEREAS, your honorable body has previously approved General Architectural/Engineering agreements for Professional Services with the firm of Trautman & Associates; and

WHEREAS, Requests for Proposals were received for the Erie Community College – City campus exterior restoration work and Flynn Battaglia Architects, PC was selected as having the necessary expertise and manpower to prepare the design and construction documents for this historical building restoration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to enter into Agreements for Professional Architectural/Engineering services with the firms of Trautman Associates for an amount not to exceed \$47,000.00 and Flynn Battaglia Architects, PC for an amount not to exceed \$500,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller's Office be authorized to make payments for all the above from the following SAP accounts:

E.00065 – 2006 – Exterior Building Renovations (Buffalo) ECC \$500,000.00 E.00064 – 2006 – Elevator Safety Upgrades – ECC \$47,000.00

for a total amount not to exceed \$547,000.00; and be it further

RESOLVED, that two certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Division of Real Estate and Asset Management, and one copy each to the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, Erie Community College – Chief Financial Officer, and the Office of the Comptroller.

(6-0)

13. COMM. 10E-18 (2009)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning serves as the administrative agent for the Erie County Community Development Block Grant Consortium and the Erie County/Town of West Seneca/Town of Hamburg HOME Investment Partnership Consortium; and

WHEREAS, a major responsibility of the Department as the administrative agent is the preparation of the five-year Consolidated Plan inclusive of an Annual Action Plan, and submittal of same to the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and

WHEREAS, preparation of the 2010-2014 Consolidated Plan and Action Plan must be completed on or about February 14, 2010 so as not to jeopardize federal CDBG, HOME and ESG funds; and

WHEREAS, funding for the five-year Consolidated Plan and Action Plan will be made available through federal Community Development Block Grant monies available to Erie County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Eric County Executive, on behalf of the Eric County Community Development Block Grant Consortium and Eric County/Town of Hamburg HOME Consortium, is hereby authorized to execute any and all agreements with the Homeless Alliances of Western New York, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$8,338 for the purpose of preparing the Homeless Section of the five-year Consolidated Plan and Annual Action Plan; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the source of funding shall be the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) within the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning budget; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive; the County Comptroller; the County Attorney; the Director of the Division of Budget and Management; and the Commissioner of the Department of Environment and Planning. (6-0)

TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY CHAIR