

February 14, 2002

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 3

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT LEGISLATOR GREENAN. CHAIRMAN
DeBENEDETTI PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

AS AMENDED

1. Item Page -2001 (Intro. 18-12)
**HOLT, DeBENEDETTI, GREENAN, KUWIK, FISHER, PEOPLES, DUSZA,
SWANICK, MARINELLI, CHASE, McCARVILLE, WEINSTEIN,
RANZENHOFER, LARSON, SCHROEDER & DALE**

WHEREAS, the city's vacancy rate ranks third in the nation, and

WHEREAS, according to the 2000 U. S. Census the population in the city has
diminished by 11% over the past 10 years, and

WHEREAS, although this has had a tremendous impact on the East Side of the
city, the long term effect would devastate the entire city of Buffalo, and

WHEREAS, residential development in the downtown area will generate a mass
market for enhanced living attraction, increase opportunities for small business
development, and

WHEREAS, the long-term effect will produce employment opportunities, create a
circulation of revenue, which will increase the standard of living.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature supports the residential
development in downtown Buffalo in efforts to revitalize our economy.
(5-0) Legislator Greenan absent. Chairman DeBenedetti present as Ex-Officio Member.

AS AMENDED

2. Item Page -2002 (Comm. 4E-23)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, The County of Erie, desires to participate in the retention and
expansion of Rich Products Corporation in the City of Buffalo and Erie County; and

WHEREAS, The company was considering options for its frozen food operations;
and

WHEREAS, The expansion of the activity in Buffalo will be the preferred
alternative for new work which will promote the retention of existing jobs and the
creation of approximately 40 new jobs; and

WHEREAS, The offer of job training for existing and new employees at the Erie County facilities was important to Rich Products Corporation's decision to stay and grow in Erie County; and

WHEREAS, The Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Investment Board is expected to approve funding in the amount of approximately \$355,000.00 for this project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, That the County Executive is authorized to enter into contracts with the Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Development Consortium, in amounts not to exceed a total of \$355,000.00, for the purpose of providing job skills training to existing and new employees of the Rich Products Corporation; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the source of these funds shall be \$355,000.00 available in the Regionalism/Economic Development Fund, DAC 110 904 303 830 1299, which will be transferred to a separate subaccount under Agency Payments monitored by the Department of Environment and Planning, General Fund 110, Project 922, Department 302, Account 830; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning and the Buffalo and Erie County Workforce Investment Board will file a written report with the Erie County Legislature by July 1, 2002 in the status of the aforementioned project and be it further

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

(5-0) Legislator Greenan absent. Chairman DeBenedetti present as Ex-Officio Member.

3. Item Page -2002 (Comm. 4E-55)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

(A)

WHEREAS, The City of Buffalo, the County of Erie, the Erie County Industrial Development Agency and the Buffalo Bisons have had continuing negotiations regarding the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said negotiations the County of Erie has explored various alternatives to assist or replace the City of Buffalo in the operation, management, repair, continuing maintenance and ownership and/or leasing of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities to induce the Buffalo Bisons to continue its operations thereat; and

WHEREAS, the continued operations of the Buffalo Bisons in the City of Buffalo, the County of Erie and the State of New York will benefit the people of such city, county and state by advancing recreation, trade and commerce therein; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. A9069 and Senate Bill No. S5463, now pending before the New York State Legislature, would declare participation by the County of Erie in the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the City of Buffalo to be for a public and governmental purpose, and would authorize the County of Erie to enter into one or more operating agreements and take such other action found to be necessary or appropriate for the operation, management, repair, continuing use and maintenance, and ownership and/or lease of such sports stadium and ancillary facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT A HOME RULE REQUEST IS MADE TO THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

To the Legislature:

Pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution, the County of Erie requests the enactment of Senate Bill No. S5463 entitled "AN ACT to authorize the participation of the county of Erie in the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the city of Buffalo"

It is hereby declared that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation and that the facts establishing such necessity are as follows:

The Local government does not have power to enact such legislation by local law.

Other facts as set forth in the following explanation establish such necessity.

The operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities is vital to the continued operation of the Buffalo Bisons, a Triple A minor league affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, whose presence in the City of Buffalo and County of Erie benefits the residents hereof by providing and promoting recreation, entertainment, trade and commerce.

Such request is made by the chief executive officer of such municipality concurred in by a majority of the total membership of the local legislative body.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be directed to forward copies of this home rule request, certified by the Erie County Executive and the Clerk of the Erie Legislature, two copies to the New York State Senate and two copies to the New York State Assembly.

(5-0) Legislator Greenan absent. Chairman DeBenedetti present as Ex-Officio Member.

(B)

WHEREAS, The City of Buffalo, the County of Erie, the Erie County Industrial Development Agency and the Buffalo Bisons have had continuing negotiations regarding the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the City of Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said negotiations the County of Erie has explored various alternatives to assist or replace the City of Buffalo in the operation, management, repair, continuing maintenance and ownership and/or leasing of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities to induce the Buffalo Bisons to continue its operations thereat; and

WHEREAS, the continued operations of the Buffalo Bisons in the City of Buffalo, the County of Erie and the State of New York will benefit the people of such city, county and state by advancing recreation, trade and commerce therein; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill No. A9069 and Senate Bill No. S5463, now pending before the New York State Legislature, would declare participation by the County of Erie in the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the City of Buffalo to be for a public and governmental purpose, and would authorize the County of Erie to enter into one or more operating agreements and take such other action found to be necessary or appropriate for the operation, management, repair, continuing use and maintenance, and ownership and/or lease of such sports stadium and ancillary facilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT A HOME RULE REQUEST IS MADE TO THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

To the Legislature:

Pursuant to Article IX of the Constitution, the County of Erie requests the enactment of Assembly Bill No. A9069 entitled "AN ACT to authorize the participation of the county of Erie in the operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities in the city of Buffalo"

It is hereby declared that a necessity exists for the enactment of such legislation and that the facts establishing such necessity are as follows:

The Local government does not have power to enact such legislation by local law.

Other facts as set forth in the following explanation establish such necessity.

The operation of a sports stadium and ancillary facilities is vital to the continued operation of the Buffalo Bisons, a Triple A minor league affiliate of the Cleveland Indians, whose presence in the City of Buffalo and County of Erie benefits the residents hereof by providing and promoting recreation, entertainment, trade and commerce.

Such request is made by the chief executive officer of such municipality concurred in by a majority of the total membership of the local legislative body.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature be directed to forward copies of this home rule request, certified by the Erie County Executive and the Clerk of the Erie Legislature, two copies to the New York State Senate and two copies to the New York State Assembly.
(5-0) Legislator Greenan absent. Chairman DeBenedetti present as Ex-Officio Member.

MICHAEL H. RANZENHOFER
CHAIRMAN