



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

November 12, 2014

To All: Erie County Town Supervisors, Town Boards and Town Highway Superintendents

Dear Town Officials:

This letter serves to inform you of a new county policy pertaining to certain county roads. This policy will address needed repairs to residential type county roads and the unusually large amount of roads the county must maintain. In fact, Erie County's road system is 32% larger than the next largest county system (Onondaga) in New York State.

The main function of the county road system is to facilitate vehicular traffic between towns within the county. However, included in Erie County's 1,200 miles of road inventory are approximately 200 miles of low volume residential type roads which do not facilitate inter-town traffic. In fact, some of these roads are dead ends and isolated, segmented roads which do not connect to any other county road.

As a result, when competing for limited county repair funds, these roads are at a disadvantage when compared to major county roads with high traffic volume and which are main thoroughfares. The low volume residential roads however could compete more favorably with other low volume residential type town roads for repair funds.

This new policy will establish up to \$1,000,000 annually in the county's budget for repairs on any residential type county road(s) that a Town Board(s) wishes to be repaired with the understanding that the Town(s) will accept ownership of the road(s) at the completion of said repairs. These funds will be available to any town which is first to apply and sign an agreement with the county. It is estimated that said repairs will have a life expectancy of 15 to 25 years.

If said funds are not assigned by May 15th annually (contingent on an agreement with a Town), I will be authorized to reassign these funds to any other county highway project.

If you have any questions regarding this policy or would like to be considered for such a project, please contact me at 858-8300. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

John C. Loffredo, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works