



ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

92 Franklin St., 4th Floor - Buffalo, NY 14202

November 20, 2020

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

FROM: ROBERT M. GRABER, CLERK

SUBJECT: **NOVEMBER 23, 2020 PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2021 BUDGET
WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that pursuant to Erie County Legislature Chair April N.M. Baskin's letter concerning COVID-19 and the Governor's declaration on November 18, 2020 taking much of Erie County into the "orange" COVID restriction category, the Erie County Legislature's scheduled Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget on November 23, 2020 will be shifted from being held in the Chambers of the Legislature to a virtual hearing, to be held via Zoom/Facebook Live. The Public Hearing will begin at 6:00 P.M.

If you wish to speak at the Public Hearing, you must register. As noted in the original memorandum announcing the hearing, all speakers will have three minutes to speak.

For persons who have already registered to speak:

If persons wishing to speak at the Public Hearing have already registered at the existing registration form (<https://www2.erie.gov/legislature/index.php?q=speaker-signup>), now that the session will be held virtually, *you must also register with Zoom for to receive the link for the now-virtual session* at: link <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvd-2vqDIuHNJ6gNUZisegMzaukGzSs9E> so we can identify you for your speaking slot. Your original registration slot will be maintained and you will not lose your place.

For persons who have not yet registered to speak:

If you wish to participate in the virtual Public Hearing and you have not already registered, please do so by going to <https://www2.erie.gov/legislature/index.php?q=speaker-signup> and completing the brief form and then please go to link <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwvd-2vqDIuHNJ6gNUZisegMzaukGzSs9E> and complete that brief form as well.

If you wish to watch the Public Hearing but do not wish to speak:

You can also view the hearing on Facebook without doing any of the above – here's the link for viewing only: <https://www.facebook.com/ECLegDemCaucus>

The live stream will not be available until the stream begins, i.e., until we press "Go Live."

There is no waiting room like there is in Zoom. The live stream will be available once they press Go Live and it will appear toward the top of the Facebook page.

ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. APRIL N.M. BASKIN
CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATURE
2ND DISTRICT LEGISLATOR



November 17, 2020

Robert M. Graber, Clerk
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street Fourth Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

792 E. Delaware Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14215
716/895-1849
FAX: 716/895-1910

92 Franklin St., 4th Fl.
Buffalo, NY 14202
716/858-8869
FAX: 716/858-8895

Legislative Assistant
Pedro Gonzalez-Ortiz
E-Mail:
Pedro.Gonzalez-Ortiz@erie.gov

Re: **November 23, 2020 Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget will be Held Virtually due to the Coronavirus Pandemic**

Dear Mr. Graber:

Due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, and in order to help protect the members and staff of the Erie County Legislature and the public from potential exposure to the virus, I am writing to advise you that pursuant to Section 2.03 of the Erie County Legislature's Rules of Order, I am shifting the Legislature's scheduled November 23, 2020 Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget from being held in the Chambers of the Legislature to a virtual hearing.

This action is due to the recent significant increase in COVID-19 local positive cases and the State's designation of much of Erie County as "Yellow" status, and the possibility that the "Orange" status might come into effect. In order to help minimize risk and protect the health and safety of County personnel and guests, it is prudent to shift next week's hearing from in-person in the Legislature Chambers to virtual, via Zoom/Facebook Live.

Please notify all legislators, staff, the media, and the public of this change and the call-in details. Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely,

April N.M. Baskin
Chair of the Legislature

cc: County Legislators
County Executive
County Administrators and Department Heads