



Budget & Appropriations

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Catherine Borgia

800 Michaelan Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Monday, March 22, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Public Safety and Public Works & Transportation.

With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 10:14 AM.

Pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order No. 202.1, "Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Relating to the Disaster Emergency," which temporarily suspends portions of the New York State Open Meetings Law.

A section of the order, "Suspension of law allowing the attendance of meetings telephonically or other similar services," provides for the suspension of "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed."

Others in Attendance: BOL: Colin Smith, Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg BOL Remote: MaryJane Shimsky, Kitley Covill, Melanie Montalto PUBLIC SAFETY Remote: Thomas Gleason, Charles Geraci PLANNING Remote: Anthony Zaino LAW Remote: Rachel Noe, Michelle Greenbaum DOIT Remote: Marguerite Beirne, Lennox Harris DA Remote: Pat D'Imperio, Jason Caro DPW/T Remote: Hugh Greechan, Robert Abbamont LABS Remote: Dr. Milovanovic, Diane Anton-Bockino

Present: Legislator Borgia and Legislator Boykin

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

MINUTES APPROVAL

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 10 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Williams, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-40](#) IMA-Justice Assistance Grant-Yonkers, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle

AN ACT to authorize the County of Westchester to enter into a four-year intermunicipal agreement with the Cities of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle for the administration of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for 2020.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Joint with PS

Guests: Commissioner Gleason, Lt. Charles Geraci - Department of Public Safety

Commissioner Gleason and Lt. Geraci from the Department of Public Safety came before the joint committees to the IMA - Justice Grant- Yonkers, Mount Vernon, New Rochelle. This is an Act that would authorize the County through its Department of Public Safety, to enter into an inter municipal agreement with the cities of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle for the distribution of grant funds received from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for 2020. The County will administer fund from the Department of Justice provided under the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG program for the fiscal year 2020 in the amount of \$103,345. Under the terms of the IMA the Department will relieve funding to help cover overtime expenses. The City of Yonkers will receive an estimated \$48,805 of Jag funds, the City of Mount Vernon will receive \$23,229 of Jag funds, and the City of New Rochelle will receive \$8,475 of JAG funds. The remainder \$25,836 in JAG funds is anticipated to be used for the Department's law enforcement programs and will be distributed in accordance tot he terms of the IMA.

Commissioner Gleason explained that this is a Federal grant given to Westchester based on the crime reporting from the 3 municipalities, Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle. The Department of Public Safety will act as a pass through. Westchester is allowed a percentage of the funds, approximately \$25,000 and in accordance to the terms of the IMA can use the funds for personnel cost and or equipment to combat violent crimes and or narcotics/ fentanyl investigations. Chairwoman Borgia asked if he could explain what our funding will be used for. Commissioner Gleason explained that the County will use their portion of the funding for narcotics investigations by providing undercover police (approximately 230 hours in overtime). Chairwoman Borgia asked what the municipalities will use their funds for, Lt. Geraci explained that Yonkers will use their funds for robbery suppression details, narcotics enforcement and community outreach; Mount Vernon and New Rochelle will use their funds to purchase equipment.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Williams, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

2. [ACT-2021-41](#) **IMA-Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden-Yonkers**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Yonkers whereby the County will contribute funds towards the construction and installation of the Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden to be maintained by the City and accessible to all County residents.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PWT

Guests: Assistant Commissioner Anthony Zaino- Department of Planning; Associate County Attorney Rachel Noe- Law Department

Assistant Commissioner Zaino and Associate County Attorney Noe came before the joint committees to discuss the IMA - Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden, City of Yonkers. This is an Act that would authorize the County to enter into an intermunicipal agreement (IMA) with the City of Yonkers, where the County will contribute a not to exceed amount of \$150,000 towards the construction and installation of the Enslaved Africans' Rain Garden being undertaken by the City located at 22 Water Grant Street. The City is going to build a permanent outdoor structure exhibit dedicated to the legacy of the enslaved Africans that once lived nearby Philipse Manor Hall and were freed more than 60 years before the Emancipation Proclamation. There will be 5 life-size bronze sculptures placed on 4 concrete pads along the Hudson River esplanade on the parcel. The County will reimburse the City for the not to exceed amount of \$150,000 to be used towards the construction of the project including the cost of earth work, a faux gravel brook, foundations for the sculptures, landscaping, benches, native species planting and lighting. The City will be responsible for maintenance, repair and security at its own expense. The project is accessible to all County residents.

Ms. Noe explained that County needed to get approval from the Yonkers IDA, which owns the parcel for an easement agreement ensuring the garden will be there for years to come. Ms. Noe stated that a second agreement is needed because of another parcel that is owned by the Yonkers IDA and leased to Water Grant Street LLC. They needed to negotiate with the developer an access agreement over the parcel so that the sculptures can be constructed and maintained by the City. The IMA will be for 5 years. Legislator Johnson said this is a project originally added to the capital program by for Legislator Jenkins, and the artist has created 4 sculptures within the Riverfront Library. He explained that the idea is for the sculptures to be publicly located on the sites where former enslaved Africans made their way to freedom. The current site is located near Philipse Hall Manor, where one of Washington's girlfriend lived and housed former enslaved Africans on their journey.

On motion of Legislator Johnson, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

3. **[ACT-2021-39](#) **BOND ACT -Furnishings & Equipment (BDA02, BIT4C, BIT6D, BIT47, BIT49, BIT54, BIT45, BIT40, T0045, BLR2E, B015E)****

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of TEN MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND (\$10,425,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance the following 11 Capital Projects for 2021: BDA02-Information Technology (2020-2024), BIT4C-Employee Productivity Systems (2018-2022), BIT6D-Purchase of Computer Equipment (2021-2025), BIT47-Network and Security Infrastructure Upgrades (2020-2024), BIT49-Police Record Management System Upgrade, BIT54-Critical Communication Logging System Replacement (2021-2025), BIT45-Building Access Control and Video Surveillance Systems Upgrade, BIT40-Westchester County Basemap Update-Phase 2, T0045-Replace Bus Wash at the Cerrato Maintenance Facility, BLR2E-Labs and Research Equipment Acquisition (2021-2025), B015E-Interior Infrastructure Repairs, White Plains Complex (2021-2025). As

revised in committee by the removal Capital Project BIT44-Telecommunications Replacement Equipment.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PWT

Guests: Commissioner Greechan, Program Coordinator Robert Abbamont - Department of Public Works/Transportation; CIO Beirne, Deputy CIO Harris- Department of Information Technology; Pat D'Imperio Chief Administrator - District Attorney's Office; Dr. Milovanovic & Diane Anton-Bockino- Department of Labs & Research

This is a multi-department Bond Act that consist of 11 projects for 2021 in the amount of \$10,425,000. The projects: BDA02-Information Technology (2020-2024), BIT4C-Employee Productivity Systems (2018-2022), BIT6D-Purchase of Computer Equipment (2021-2025), BIT47-Network and Security Infrastructure Upgrades (2020-2024), BIT49-Police Record Management System Upgrade, BIT54-Critical Communication Logging System Replacement (2021-2025), BIT45-Building Access Control and Video Surveillance Systems Upgrade, BIT40-Westchester County Basemap Update-Phase 2, T0045-Replace Bus Wash at the Cerrato Maintenance Facility, BLR2E-Labs and Research Equipment Acquisition (2021-2025), B015E-Interior Infrastructure Repairs, White Plains Complex (2021-2025).

The Bond Act was amended from its original draft when the Department of Information Technology withdrew a project (BIT44). The original amount requested was for \$10,515,000 for 12 projects but has been amended to reflect an amount of \$10,425,000 for 11 projects. Additionally, the following has been added to the committee report.

"The requesting Departments have advised that the anticipated cost estimates, estimated project timelines, and additional information including whether the design is anticipated to be undertaken in-house or by consultants for each capital project is set forth below:" Please see committee report for chart with details.

The Departments gave an overview of each of the projects. Legislator Shimsky asked for additional information from the Department of Information Technology regarding the costs, and equipment/programs they intend to purchase. For full explanation of each project, please refer to the video.

http://westchestercountyny.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=1&clip_id=665

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Parker, seconded by Legislator Williams, the Committee adjourned at 11:33 AM.