



# 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

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Wednesday, February 3, 2021

12:00 PM

Committee Room

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### CALL TO ORDER

*Meeting jointly with the Committee on Public Works & Transportation*

*With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM.*

*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: Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Jason Chervokas BOL REMOTE: MaryJane Shimsky, Kitley Covill, Melanie Montalto DPW/T REMOTE: Hugh Greechan, Robert Abbamont, Mike Swee PRC REMOTE: Kathy O'Connor, Peter Tartaglia DEF REMOTE: Vinnie Kopicki, CJ Gelardo, Nat Federici GUESTS REMOTE: Tom Carey, Stan Forczek, Alphecca Muttardy, Anita Prizio, Stuart Rosenblatt*

**Present:** Legislator Borgia, Legislator Boykin and Legislator Gashi

**Remote:** Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

### MINUTES APPROVAL

*January 25, 2021 10AM Minutes*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

#### [ACT-2021-19](#) BOND ACT-Roads (RB132, RB144, RB208, RB220, RB224)

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of bonds of Westchester County in the total aggregate amount of FIVE MILLION, SIXTY THOUSAND (\$5,060,000) DOLLARS to finance the 5 following Capital Projects for 2021: RB132-Highland Road, C.R. 308, Harrison, RB144-Croton

Point Avenue, C.R. 7A, Croton-on-Hudson, RB208-Brook Street/Harney Road, C.R. 2, Eastchester, RB220-Woods Road, C.R. 200, And Hammond House Road/Sunshine Cottage Road, C.R. 301, Mount Pleasant and RB224-North State Road, C.R. 154, New Castle.

**COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

**Joint with PWT**

**Guests: Commissioner Greechan & Program Coordinator, Robert Abbamont - Department of Public Works & Transportation**

Commissioner Greechan and Robert Abbamont from the Department Public Works & Transportation came before the committee to discuss item # 2021-22 5 Bond Acts -Roads. This is a part of the new "bundled legislation" that we will be using for the capital program. Chairwoman Borgia took a moment to explain the new concept. She discussed that the Administration along with the Budget Department thought it would be more efficient to group like projects together. Deputy Budget Director Grande explained other municipalities and Counties have adopted this concept. These Bond Acts were brought to the Board in October when they presented the Budget. Most municipalities authorize the debt and that this process helps us become more efficient in bonding and actual work being done. Commissioner Greechan also added that through this process we will use less staff, less counsel and will have a more accurate accounting of the money spent.

Mr. Abbamont went on to explain the item #2021-22 Bond Act- Roads. This is a total of 5 capital projects; RB132- Highland Road, (County Road) CR 302, Harrison; RB144- Croton Point Avenue, (County Road) CR 7A, Croton-On-Hudson; RB208- Brook Street/Harney Road, (County Road) CR 2, Eastchester; RB220- Woods Road, (County Road) CR 200 and Hammond Road/ Sunshine Road, (County Road) CR 301, Mount Pleasant; RB224- North State Road, (County Road) CR 154, New Castle. He explained that the total bonding request is \$5,060,000 and will cover a total of 3.38 miles. The break out of each project is explained below.

RB132 Highland Road, (County Road) CR 308, Harrison \$300,000 for additional funding to accommodate drainage requirements identified during design; Total Budget: \$1,305,000 (previous BA #133-2019 \$1,005,000); Project limits are from East Purchase Street to Harrison/Rye Town Line (0.4 miles); 2019 (Pavement Index Condition) PCI: 63; (Average Annual Daily Traffic) AADT: 3,453; Staff Design; Design: Completed in the 1st Quarter of 2021; Construction: 9 months.

RB144 Croton Point Avenue, CR 7A, Croton-On-Hudson; \$1,150,000 for design, construction management and construction; Project limits are from the East bridge edge to the Croton Point Park entrance (0.41 miles); 2019 PCI: 73; AADT: 9,830; Staff Design; Design: 4 months; Construction: 6 months.

RB208 Brook Street/Harney Road, CR 2, Eastchester; \$1,200,000 for design, construction management and construction; Project limits are from White Plains Road to the Bronx River Parkway (0.67 miles); 2019 PCI: 52; AADT: 15,473; Staff Design; Design: 4 months; Construction: 6 months.

RB220 Woods Road, CR 200 and Hammond House Road/Sunshine Cottage Road, CR 301, Mount Pleasant; \$1,950,000 for design, construction management and construction; Project limits are: Woods Road (CR 300) from Grasslands Road (NYS Route 100C) to the Peripheral Road (1.1 miles); Hammond House Road (CR 301) from Dana Road to Sunshine Cottage Road (0.2 miles) and Sunshine Cottage Road (CR 301) from Hammond House Road to the Peripheral Road (0.3 miles); 2019 PCI: 59; AADT: 6,980; Staff Design; Design: 4 months;

*Construction: 6 months.*

*RB224 North State Road, CR 154, New Castle; \$460,000 for design, construction management and construction; Project limits are from NYS Route 9A to the New Castle /Ossining Line (0.3 miles); 2019 PCI: 55; AADT: 5,268; Staff Design; Design: 4 months;*

*Construction: 4 months.*

*Both Chairwoman Borgia and Chair of the Public Works Committee agreed that the specifics of each project should be included in the committee report. Legislator Shimsky agreed and going forward, they are requesting that all this information be added to the report as a legislative record of the intended work to be done. The committees will work with the Department to incorporate the details into the report. Legislator Shimsky asked if we could have an idea of all the roads that have a 50 PCI or below. Mr. Abbamont said he would go back and compile a list. Legislator Walter asked about Bushey Avenue in Yonkers, and when it could be added to the list. As per Legislator Shimsky's request, the committee reports have been amended to include timelines and specific work to be done.*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Barr, 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, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**ACT-2021-21 BOND ACT -Sidewalks (B014E & B0115)**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of THREE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$3,900,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project B014E - Exterior Infrastructure Repairs, White Plains Complex (2021-2025) and Capital Project B0115 - Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Mount Vernon District Office (2021-2025) for 2021.

**COMMITTEE REFERRAL: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

**Joint with PWT**

**Guests: Commissioner Greechan & Program Coordinator, Robert Abbamont - Department of Public Works & Transportation**

*Commissioner Greechan and Robert Abbamont from the Department Public Works & Transportation came before the committee to discuss item # 2021-27. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$3,900,000 to finance the cost of infrastructure improvements at the County's White Plains Complex (B014E) and the Mount Vernon District Office (B0115). Mr. Abbamont explained each project: B014E Exterior Infrastructure Repairs, White Plains Complex (2021-2025); \$3,500,000 for design, construction management and construction reconstruction of sidewalks, driveways, and loading dock driveways; Staff Design; Design: 6 months; Construction: 9 months.*

*B0115 Infrastructure Rehabilitation, Mount Vernon District Office (2021-2025); \$400,000 for design, construction management and construction reconstruction of sidewalks, driveways, and loading dock driveways; Staff Design; Design: 4 months; Construction: 4 months.*

*Mr. Abbamont explained that these are not all sidewalks, some of the work to be done is on entrance driveways and loading dock driveways. As per Legislator Shimsky's request, the committee reports have been amended to include timelines and specific work to be done.*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, 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, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**ACT-2021-13 BOND ACT-Heavy Equipment (B035E & RGP13)**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of ONE MILLION, SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,600,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Projects B035E - Equipment Replacement Program (2021-2025) and RGP13 - General Infrastructure - Vehicle Replacement (2021-2025) for 2021.

**Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH**

*Joint with PWT*

*Guests: Commissioner Greechan & Program Coordinator, Robert Abbamont - Department of Public Works & Transportation; Commissioner O'Connor & Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia - Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation.*

*Commissioner Greechan and Robert Abbamont from the Department of Public Works /Transportation joined Commissioner O'Connor and Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia from the Department of Parks & Recreation to discuss item # 2021-30 - Bond Act - Heavy Equipment. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$1,600,000 to finance capital project B035E- Equipment Replacement Program (2021-2025) and RGP13- General Infrastructure - Vehicle Replacement (2021-2025). Mr. Abbamont explained project B035E. It is anticipated that the Department of Public Works will replace 5 pieces of equipment in the amount of \$1.1 million dollars.*

*2010 Freight Liner Hybrid Bucket Truck; 2007 New Holland Skid Steer with attachments; 2008 New Holland Skid Steer with attachments; (2) 2014 Kenworth Hybrid Crash Attenuator Trucks. He explained that the equipment has reached the end of its useful life and replacement pieces are no longer available from the manufacturer.*

*Commissioner O'Connor discussed that the Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation will be replacing 8 pieces of equipment. These pieces of equipment have all reached the end of their useful life PRC anticipates that the following equipment will be replaced:*

*1994 Ford Slope Mower; 2001 Hustler Riding Mower; 2008 Chevrolet Dump Truck; 2000 Toro Fairway Mower; 2001 Toro Triplex Mower; 2001 Toro Triplex Mower; 1998 Toro Reelmaster Mower; 2002 John Deere Mower; 2005 John Deere Mower.*

*Legislator Shimsky requested a list of the new equipment being purchased. Going forward as with the other Bond Acts, she would like the information added to the committee report.*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Barr, 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, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**ACT-2021-14 BOND ACT-Mass Transit Vehicles (T001U & T001Y)**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of FOUR MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$4,750,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project T001U - Replacement of Thirty-Foot Buses and T001Y - Replace Orion Forty-Foot Coach Buses for 2021.

**Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS &**

## **TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH**

*Joint with PWT*

*Guests: Commissioner Greechan, Program Coordinator, Robert Abbamont & Michael Swee - Department of Public Works & Transportation*

*Mike Swee from the Department of Transportation came before the committee to discuss item # 2021-31- Mass Transit Vehicles. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$4,750,000 to finance the cost of acquisition of buses for the County. Project T001U - Replacement of Thirty-Foot Buses and project T001Y - Replace Orion Forty-Foot Coach Buses. Mr. Swee from the Transportation Department explained that they are looking to replace 17 thirty-foot buses and 27 forty-foot Coach buses. Mr. Swee explained that the thirty-foot buses are used for shorter shuttle routes to serve Metro North and the forty-foot buses are used for the longer routes to Putnam and into Manhattan. Procurement is in phases, and the first phase included in this legislation is for Design, Procure and Install of charging infrastructure. The actual procurement will not happen until 2022. A portion of these buses will be electric vehicles. The Department is in the early stages of creating an Electrification Master Plan. This will asses the electrical needs of both garages- Yonkers & Valhalla. The Department is currently in the process of purchasing 6 electric buses, that will be delivered late summer. These buses which will be located at the Valhalla garage, will be a part of a pilot program in Westchester. Legislator Barr asked if the cost of the electric buses ended up being more than the other buses. Mr. Swee explained that yes, electric buses are more expensive than the other buses. He said that the order for 5 electrical buses ended up costing a little over \$1 million where the same order for hybrid buses would cost between \$750,000 and \$800,000. He did say that the cost of the electric buses will receive reimbursement from the state. The Department will adjust the cost as they receive monies from the state and other funding sources as they become available. He did say that there is additional savings in fuel and maintenance. Chair Gashi of the Committee on Public Works & Transportation asked if the Department would share the information on the Electrification Master Plan as it becomes available. Mr. Swee reiterated it is in the very early stages, but as the information becomes available he will share it with the members.*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Parker, 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, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

### **ACT-2021-17 Bond Act--SY048-Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant Bulkhead Rehab.**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of FIVE MILLION (\$5,000,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project SY048 - Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant Bulkhead Rehabilitation.

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

*Joint with PWT*

*Guests: Commissioner Kopicki & Capital Program Coordinator, CJ Gelardo - Department of Environmental Facilities*

*Commissioner Kopicki, Deputy Commissioner Federici and CJ Gelardo from the Department of Environmental Facilities came before the committee to discuss item # 2021-119- Yonkers Joint Treatment Plant Bulkhead Rehabilitation. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$5,000,000 that will finance the cost of design and construction management associated with*

*the replacement and repair of the Yonkers Joint Wastewater Treatment Plant's cellular bulkhead, which is the steel sheeting wall that separates the plant from the Hudson River. This project will address the settlement failure of emergency corrective work performed in the year 2000 when a barge collision severely damaged three bulkhead cells: 44, 45, & 46. The accident occurred in the southwestern corner of the steel sheet pile bulkhead structure and damaged approximately 100LF of outboard steel sheets and 135 LF of concrete closure cap. Design is scheduled to take 12 months and will be completed by a consultant. Construction will take 15 months to complete.*

*Commissioner Kopicki explained that this is for Design and Construction Management (CM) in the amount of \$5 million. The total project is anticipated to cost \$15 million for permanent repair of the bulkhead. The cost of design and CM is approximately 30% of the total cost. The work is not a part of the Flood Mitigation project. That would be an additional cost. This work will include repairs to the seawall, repairs to the sinkholes and repair/replacement of the sheeting. This work would have to be done before the Flood Mitigation. Legislator Shimsky asked if the capital project for the walkway would be included in the design of this project. Mr. Gelardo explained that this project is just for repairs, and he believes that the project Legislator Shimsky is referring to is north of this and through the Department of Parks and or DPW. They will look into it and get back to the committee. Commissioner Kopicki said that if in fact the project is associated with the Treatment plant, he will work with them to coordinate. Legislator Walter asked about the possibility of covering the aeration tanks. She mentioned that it came up at a constitution meeting. Commissioner Kopicki said he just sent out a response to Legislator Alvarado's aide on Friday. He explained why he thinks this is a really bad idea on an operation side. He said that covering the tanks will block the operators from seeing what is going on and could turn the tanks toxic. Deputy Commissioner Federici explained that the tanks are the heart of the plant and could cause an increase in odor if not kept in balance. Commissioner Kopicki said they have been working hard to keep the odors low and work with the community and listen to their concerns.*

On motion of Legislator Gashi, 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, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**[ACT-2021-18](#) BOND ACT-S0S85-Sewer System Rehab.-Ossining SSD**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$750,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project SOS-85 - Sewer System Rehabilitation - Ossining Sanitary Sewer District.

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

**Joint with PWT**

**Guests: Commissioner Kopicki & Capital Program Coordinator, CJ Gelardo - Department of Environmental Facilities**

*Commissioner Kopicki, Deputy Commissioner Federici and CJ Gelardo from the Department of Environmental Facilities came before the committee to discuss item # 2021-120- Bond Act-SOS85- Sewer System Rehabilitation - Ossining Sewer District. This Bond Act in the amount of \$750,000 will provide additional construction funding for sewer repair work under the federally required Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance program (CMOM).*

*This project will include the relining of Kemey's Cove force main, which will require the excavation and backfill of several access pits and the potential installation of new manholes in order to access the force main pipe. Work may include inspection, relining, replacement, and root removal of County sewers and manholes in the Ossining Sewer District. The design is being performed by a consultant and will be completed by the first quarter of 2021.*

*Construction will take 6 months. The work must be completed by December 2021 in order to comply to a notice received by the Department of Environmental Conservation in response to breaks in the Kemey's Cove force main which occurred on March 23, 2018 and December 15, 2019 that led to sewer discharge into the environment.*

*Commissioner Kopicki explained that the total cost of this project is a little over \$1 million of which they are asking for \$750,000 today to address some issues to the fore main at Kemey's Cove. They have had some break in the line, and this will address the breaks and comply with the consent order. The DEC gave a deadline of end of 2021 to address the issues. While addressing the issues, they will look into installing a new line to run along side the existing line and connect to the same points.*

On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Gashi, 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 Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Away:** Legislator Johnson

[RES-2021-3](#)    **Support of new National Infrastructure Bank**

Forwarding a Resolution in support of HR6422 which would establish a National Infrastructure Bank. (formerly MT # 13114)

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

**Joint with PWT**

**Guests: Tom Carey, Stan Forczek, Alphecca Muttardy, Anita Prizio & Stuart Rosenblatt - Coalition for the National Infrastructure Bank**

*Tom Carey, President of the Westchester Putnam Central Labor Body joined Stan Forczek, Alphecca Muttardy, Anita Prizio & Stuart Rosenblatt who are all a part of the Coalition for the National Infrastructure Bank. The creation of a National Infrastructure Bank would help address our Nation's shortfall in Infrastructure spending. It has fallen to its lowest level in 70 years. The United States Chamber of Commerce reports that the infrastructure shortfall in the US is \$3.7 trillion and North America's Building and Trades Unions state that the shortfall is \$4 trillion. Overall New York State would need to spend \$36.2 billion to repair, replace and update New York's wastewater infrastructure over a 20 year period. Westchester rely heavily on a shared transportation system with NYC. NYC aging infrastructure is in need of repair and or replacement. the coronavirus has impacted the nation and New York State, and millions of people are out of work and businesses are permanently closed. Congress has enacted legislation for a new National Infrastructure Bank (NIB), to be capitalized at \$4 trillion. A new NIB could help finance all of these projects. A new bank will also finance the health care infrastructure. This nonpartisan model has been used in US history 4 times. A new NIB would adhere to Project Labor Agreements and local prevailing wage levels. NIB would be composed of members from building infrastructure groups, AFL-CIO, US Army Corps of Engineers and Building & Trade Unions. This idea has been endorsed by many organizations*

*and supported by 17 state legislatures & 3 state house in a bipartisan vote. This resolution will add Westchester County Board of Legislators into the growing number of municipalities supporting a new National Infrastructure Bank.*

*Mr. Carey gave a brief discussion on how Westchester was introduced to this concept. The importance of supporting Resolution H.R. 6422, and to thank Legislators for giving them this opportunity. Mr. Rosenblatt also thanked everyone for the opportunity and introduces Anita Prizio a member of the Allegany, PA County Council. The member of the coalition all spoke on their experiences and reasons for support. Ms. Muttardy gave a power point presentation on the concept of NIB and reasons for supporting H.R.6422.*

On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Maher, 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 Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Away:** Legislator Johnson

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Gashi, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the Committee adjourned at 2:16PM.