

LOCAL LAW INTRO NO. 282 - 2025

**HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK**

**DRAFT
IMAs ON FILE**

Your Committee is in receipt of legislation which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into intermunicipal agreements ("IMAs") with municipal corporations as defined in Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law and located both within and outside of the physical boundaries of Westchester County (collectively the "Participating Municipalities"), in order to establish a new Mutual Aid and Rapid Response Plan for the police departments of the Participating Municipalities (the "Plan"). The purpose of the Plan is to formalize operational procedures for law enforcement assistance between Participating Municipalities. The Plan would only be utilized in those instances when the police response necessitated by the event is beyond the capability of a requesting municipality. The term of the IMAs shall be five (5) years commencing on July 31, 2025 and continuing through July 30, 2030.

Your Committee has been informed that Local Law No. 6-1989 authorized the County to enter into IMAs with municipalities located in Westchester in order to effectuate the original Plan. Thereafter, IMAs were subsequently authorized by your Honorable Board to establish updated versions of the Plan. As your Honorable Board may recall, the current IMAs were authorized by Local Law 13-2020, the IMAs were subsequently executed, and are due to expire on July 30, 2025.

The Department has advised that Participating Municipalities make their police personnel and equipment available to each other in accordance with the Plan when an emergency condition

exists which is beyond the scope of an individual municipality's police resources. The County's Department of Public Safety Services ("Department") can also provide police services during emergency conditions as part of the Plan.

The Department has further advised that prevailing world and national security situations, constantly increasing diverse incidents including health epidemics, the ever increasing flow of intelligence, and actual threats directed against once benign sites and facilities necessitate that the operational plans annexed to the proposed IMAs be flexible and subject to revision. Ongoing strategic and tactical planning by the law enforcement professionals who will execute the Plan is essential. Based upon the forgoing, it is essential that the IMAs provide that the approved Plan be flexible. Toward this end, revisions to the proposed Plan will be approved and implemented by the Participating Municipalities through the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association, which would be granted authority by their respective municipalities to amend the Plan as necessary during the term of the IMAs. The governing bodies of the Participating Municipalities would continue to retain budgetary authority over their respective police departments and thus, control the amount of resources that can be devoted to the Plan. However, these IMAs would grant authority to the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association to determine the operational details of the Plan without need for legislative authorization each time an amendment to the Plan is required. In addition, should any additional municipalities located outside of Westchester County wish to be a part of the Plan, the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association shall be further authorized to amend the Plan in order to add those new municipalities.

Your Committee has been informed that pursuant to New York General Municipal Law Section 209-m, the chief executive officer of a local government, whenever he or she deems that the public interest requires it, may request that the chief executive officer of any other local government detail, assign and make available for duty and use in the local government for which the request is made any part of the forces, equipment and supplies of the police department, police force or parkway police force of the local government of which the request is made. The chief executive officer of the local government of which the request is made is authorized and empowered to grant the request so made. Furthermore, a local government may, by local law, delegate to the chief of police of its police department or police force the aforementioned powers granted to a chief executive officer to request and grant police assistance. The proposed Local Law, if approved by your Honorable Board, will delegate to the Commissioner/Sheriff of the Department the powers granted to the County Executive as chief executive officer to request and grant police assistance under New York General Municipal Law Section 209-m.

Your Committee has been advised that the proposed IMAs do not meet the definition of an action under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617. Therefore, no environmental review is required. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2025, which is on file with the Clerk of your Honorable Board.

It should be noted that approval of the Local Law authorizing the County to enter into the IMAs requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the voting strength of your Honorable Board.

Your Committee has carefully considered the proposed legislation and recommends your Honorable Board's favorable action on the annexed Local Law.

Dated: July 21, 2025
White Plains, New York

Margaret A. Cicio
Benjamin Boyden
Colin O'Neil

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Benjamin Boyden
Colin O'Neil

COMMITTEE ON

C:jpi/6.9.25

Legislation

William Ulep
[Signature]

Public Safety

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: Mutual Aid and Rapid Response Plan

☒ NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT

To Be Completed by Submitting Department and Reviewed by Budget

SECTION A - FUND

☐ GENERAL FUND

☐ AIRPORT FUND

☐ SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUND

SECTION B - EXPENSES AND REVENUES

Total Current Year Expense \$ -

Total Current Year Revenue \$ -

Source of Funds (check one): ☐ Current Appropriations ☐ Transfer of Existing Appropriations

☐ Additional Appropriations

☐ Other (explain)

Identify Accounts: _____

Potential Related Operating Budget Expenses:

Annual Amount _____

Describe: N/A

Potential Related Operating Budget Revenues:

Annual Amount _____

Describe: N/A

Anticipated Savings to County and/or Impact on Department Operations:

Current Year: _____

Next Four Years: _____

Prepared by: Siva Gopalkrishna

Title: Director-Administrative Services

Department: Public Safety

Date: February 9, 2025

Reviewed By: [Signature]

Budget Director

Date: 6/17/25

LOCAL LAW INTRO. NO. 282 – 2025

A LOCAL LAW to authorize the County of Westchester to enter into Intermunicipal Agreements in order to establish a new Mutual Aid and Rapid Response Plan for the police departments of participating municipalities and to delegate to the Commissioner / Sheriff of the Department of Public Safety Services the powers granted to a chief executive officer to request and grant police assistance.

BE IT ENACTED by the County Board of the County of Westchester as follows:

Section 1. The County of Westchester (“County”) be and hereby is authorized to enter into inter-municipal agreements (“IMAs”) with municipal corporations as defined in Article 5-G of the New York State General Municipal Law and located both within and outside of the physical boundaries of Westchester County (collectively the “Participating Municipalities”), in order to establish a new Mutual Aid and Rapid Response Plan for the Police Departments of these Municipalities (the “Plan”) to carry out the purposes described in Section 209-m of the New York General Municipal Law. The Plan is to be reviewed and revised as necessary and revisions to the Plan will be approved and implemented by the Westchester County Chiefs of Police Association. Such revisions may include, but are not limited to, updates in protocols and additions of new municipalities and their police departments located within or outside of the physical boundaries Westchester County to participate in the Plan.

§ 2. The term of the IMAs shall commence on July 31, 2025 and have a term of five (5) years terminating on July 30, 2030.

§ 3. The Commissioner / Sheriff of the Department of Public Safety Services is hereby delegated the powers granted to a chief executive officer to request and grant police assistance described in Section 209-m of the New York General Municipal Law.

§4. The County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized and empowered to execute all instruments and to take all action necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

§ 5. This Local Law shall take effect immediately.

STATE OF NEW YORK)
) ss.
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER)

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have compared the foregoing Local Law, Local Law Intro No. 282 - 2025, with the original on file in my office, and that the same is a correct transcript therefrom, and of the whole, of the said original Local Law, which was duly adopted by the County Board of Legislators, of the County of Westchester on August 4, 2025, and approved by the County Executive on August 4, 2025.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Corporate Seal of said County Board of Legislators on this 4th day of August, 2025.



Malika Vanderberg

The Clerk of the Westchester County
Board of Legislators

County of Westchester, New York

