

March 1, 2024

TO: Hon. Vedat Gashi, Chair
Hon. Jose Alvarado, Vice Chair
Hon. Tyrae Woodson-Samuels, Majority Leader
Hon. Margaret Cunzio, Minority Leader

FROM: George Latimer 
Westchester County Executive

RE: Message Requesting Immediate Consideration: **Bond Act – RD019 –
Food Scrap Recovery Program.**

This will confirm my request that the Board of Legislators allow submission of the referenced communication to be submitted to the Board of Legislators March 4, 2024 Agenda.

Transmitted herewith for your review and approval is a bond act (“Bond Act”) which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester (“County”) to issue bonds in the amount of \$1,300,000 to finance the following capital project: RD019.

Therefore, since this communication is of the utmost importance, it is respectfully submitted that the County Board of Legislators accepts this submission for March 4, 2024 “blue sheet” calendar.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



George Latimer
County Executive

February 28, 2024

Westchester County Board of Legislators
800 Michaelian Office Building
White Plains, New York 10601

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith for your review and approval is a bond act ("Bond Act") which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester ("County") to issue bonds in the amount of \$1,300,000 to finance the following capital project:

RD019 – Food Scrap Recovery Program ("RD019").

The Bond Act, in the amount of \$1,300,000, would finance the cost of study, design, and related costs for a food and organic waste composting facility in and for the County's Refuse Disposal District No. 1 ("District").

The Department of Environmental Facilities ("Department") has advised that a review of potential properties for siting facilities, along with design and related activities for any viable location, must be undertaken to further the collection and processing of food and organic wastes within the District.

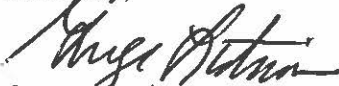
The Department has further advised that in accordance with Section 268 of the New York State County Law RD019 was previously approved by the New York State Comptroller ("Comptroller") on January 26, 2018.

Following bonding authorization, a feasibility study of the prospective location(s) will be conducted and is anticipated to take six months to complete, and subsequently a design will be drafted, which is anticipated to take an additional six to nine months. It is anticipated that the feasibility study and the design work will be completed by consultants.

It should be noted that your Honorable Board has previously authorized the County to issue bonds in connection with separable components of RD019 as indicated in the annexed fact sheet.

Based on the importance of this project to the County, favorable action on the proposed Bond Act is respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Latimer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "G".

George Latimer
County Executive

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

Your Committee is in receipt of a transmittal from the County Executive recommending approval by the County of Westchester (“County”) of a bond act (“Bond Act”) in the amount of \$1,300,000 to finance capital project RD019 – Food Scrap Recovery Program (“RD019”). The Bond Act, which was prepared by the law firm Norton Rose Fulbright, will finance the cost of study, design, and related costs for a food and organic waste composting facility in and for the County’s Refuse Disposal District No. 1 (“District”).

The Department of Environmental Facilities (“Department”) has advised that a review of potential properties for siting facilities, along with design and related activities for any viable location, must be undertaken to further the collection and processing of food and organic wastes within the District.

The Department has further advised that in accordance with Section 268 of the New York State County Law RD019 was previously approved by the New York State Comptroller (“Comptroller”) on January 26, 2018.

Following bonding authorization, a feasibility study of the prospective location(s) will be conducted and is anticipated to take six months to complete, and subsequently a design will be drafted, which is anticipated to take an additional six to nine months. It is anticipated that the feasibility study and the design work will be completed by consultants.

It should be noted that your Honorable Board has previously authorized the County to issue bonds in connection with separable components of RD019 as indicated in the annexed fact sheet.

The Planning Department has advised your Committee that based on its review, RD019 may be classified as a Type “II” action pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQR”) and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR Part 617. Therefore, no environmental review is required. Your Committee has reviewed the annexed SEQR documentation and concurs with this recommendation.

It should be noted that an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of your Honorable Board is required in order to adopt the Bond Act. Your Committee recommends the adoption of the proposed Bond Act.

Dated: _____, 20____
White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CAPITAL PROJECT #: RD019

NO FISCAL IMPACT PROJECTED

SECTION A - CAPITAL BUDGET IMPACT

To Be Completed by Budget

GENERAL FUND

AIRPORT FUND

SPECIAL DISTRICTS FUND

Source of County Funds (check one):

Current Appropriations

Capital Budget Amendment

SECTION B - BONDING AUTHORIZATIONS

To Be Completed by Finance

Total Principal \$ 1,300,000 PPU 5 Anticipated Interest Rate 2.61%

Anticipated Annual Cost (Principal and Interest): \$ 283,755

Total Debt Service (Annual Cost x Term): \$ 1,418,775

Finance Department: Interest rates from February 29, 2024 Bond Buyer - ASBA

SECTION C - IMPACT ON OPERATING BUDGET (exclusive of debt service)

To Be Completed by Submitting Department and Reviewed by Budget

Potential Related Expenses (Annual): \$ -

Potential Related Revenues (Annual): \$ -

Anticipated savings to County and/or impact of department operations
(describe in detail for current and next four years):

SECTION D - EMPLOYMENT

As per federal guidelines, each \$92,000 of appropriation funds one FTE Job

Number of Full Time Equivalent (FTE) Jobs Funded: 14

Prepared by: Joe Brown

Title: Capital Program Coordinator

Department: DEF

Date: 3/1/24

Reviewed By:


DV 3/1/24

Michael Ruyter
Budget Director

Date:

3/1/24

TO: Michelle Greenbaum, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Jeffrey Goldman, Senior Assistant County Attorney
Carla Chaves, Senior Assistant County Attorney

FROM: David S. Kvinge, AICP, RLA, CFM 
Assistant Commissioner

DATE: February 21, 2024

SUBJECT: **STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW FOR CAPITAL PROJECT:
RD019 FOOD SCRAP RECOVERY PROGRAM**

PROJECT/ACTION: Per Capital Project Fact Sheet as approved by the Planning Department on 02-06-2024 (Unique ID: 2461)

With respect to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617, the Planning Department recommends that no environmental review is required for the proposed action, because the project or component of the project for which funding is requested may be classified as a **TYPE II action** pursuant to section(s):

- **617.5(c)(24):** information collection including basic data collection and research, water quality and pollution studies, traffic counts, engineering studies, surveys, subsurface investigations and soils studies that do not commit the agency to undertake, fund or approve any Type I or Unlisted action.
 - **617.5(c)(27):** conducting concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action
-

COMMENTS: None.

DSK/jfg

cc: Andrew Ferris, Chief of Staff
Paula Friedman, Assistant to the County Executive
Lawrence Soule, Budget Director
Tami Altschiller, Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney
Dianne Vanadia, Associate Budget Director
Joseph Brown, Capital Program Coordinator, Department of Environmental Facilities
Susan Darling, Chief Planner
Michael Lipkin, Associate Planner
Claudia Maxwell, Principal Environmental Planner

ACT NO. _____ - 2024

BOND ACT DATED _____, 2024.

A BOND ACT AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,300,000 BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE STUDY AND DESIGN COSTS FOR A FOOD AND ORGANIC WASTE COMPOSTING FACILITY IN AND FOR THE COUNTY'S REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT NO. 1.

WHEREAS, the capital purpose hereinafter described has been duly approved in the adopted capital budget for the current fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the plan for the financing of the estimated maximum cost of such capital purpose, as hereinafter set forth in this Bond Act, is in conformity with such capital budget; and

WHEREAS, the expenditures contemplated have been consented to by the State Comptroller by order dated January 26, 2018, following the completion of proceedings by the County under Section 268 of the County Law; and

WHEREAS, all conditions precedent to the financing of the capital purpose hereinafter described, including compliance with the provisions of the State Environmental Quality Review Act to the extent required, have been performed; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to authorize the financing of such capital purpose; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ENACTED, by the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, New York (the "County"), by the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the entire voting strength thereof, as follows:

Section 1. For paying the study, design, and related costs for a food and organic waste composting facility in and for the County's Refuse Disposal District No. 1, a specific object or purpose, there are hereby authorized to be issued \$1,300,000 bonds of said County pursuant to the provisions

of the Local Finance Law. To the extent that the details of the aforesaid specific object or purpose set forth in this act are inconsistent with any details set forth in the current Capital Budget of the County, such Budget shall be deemed and is hereby amended to the extent inconsistent herewith.

Section 2. It is hereby determined that the estimated maximum cost of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is \$1,300,000, and that the plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of the \$1,300,000 bonds of said County authorized to be issued pursuant to this Bond Act.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is five years, pursuant to subdivision sixty-two of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Commissioner of Finance, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Commissioner of Finance, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 5. The faith and credit of the County, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations becoming due and payable in such year. To the extent not paid from the assessment of properties assessable for this purpose in the County's Refuse Disposal District No. 1, or other sources, there shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said County a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such obligations as the same become due and payable.

Section 6. Such bonds shall be in fully registered form and shall be signed in the name of the County, by the manual or facsimile signature of the Commissioner of Finance and a facsimile

of the corporate seal shall be imprinted or impressed thereon and may be attested by the manual or facsimile signature of the County Clerk.

Section 7. The powers and duties of advertising such bonds for sale, conducting the sale and awarding the bonds, are hereby delegated to the Commissioner of Finance, who shall advertise such bonds for sale, conduct the sale, and award the bonds in such manner as said Commissioner of Finance shall deem best for the interests of the County; including, but not limited to, the power to sell said bonds to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation; provided, however, that in the exercise of these delegated powers, the Commissioner of Finance shall comply fully with the provisions of the Local Finance Law and any order or rule of the State Comptroller applicable to the sale of municipal bonds. The receipt of the Commissioner of Finance shall be a full acquittance to the purchaser of such bonds, who shall not be obliged to see to the application of the purchase money.

Section 8. The Commissioner of Finance is hereby further delegated the power to authorize the sale and issuance of the bonds authorized pursuant to this Bond Act (a) at a discount in the manner authorized by paragraphs e and f of Section 57.00 of the Local Finance Law, (b) at private sale pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Local Finance Law and any regulations of the New York State Comptroller appertaining thereto, including the private sale of bonds at a premium, (c) as capital appreciation bonds or term bonds at public sale or private sale pursuant to the applicable provisions of the Local Finance Law and any regulations of the New York State Comptroller appertaining thereto, and (d) at a variable rate of interest in the manner authorized by Section 54.90 of the Local Finance Law, including notes issued in anticipation thereof. The Commissioner of Finance is hereby authorized to enter into such agreements as said Commissioner of Finance shall determine reasonable and necessary to facilitate the issuance, sale, resale and, or repurchase of such bonds or notes pursuant to the provisions of Section 54.90 of the Local Finance Law. Such bonds and, or notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Commissioner of Finance.

Section 9. The power to issue and sell notes to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation pursuant to Section 169.00 of the Local Finance Law is hereby delegated to the Commissioner of Finance. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents as may be prescribed by said Commissioner of Finance consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 10. The Commissioner of Finance is hereby further authorized, at the sole discretion of the Commissioner of Finance, to execute a project finance agreement, and any other agreements with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and/or the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation, including amendments thereto, and including any instruments (or amendments thereto) in the effectuation thereof, in order to effect the financing or refinancing of the specific object or purpose described in Section 1 hereof, or a portion thereof, by a bond, and, or note issue of said County in the event of the sale of same to the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Section 11. The intent of this Bond Act is to give the Commissioner of Finance sufficient authority to execute those applications, agreements, instruments or to do any similar acts necessary to effect the issuance of the aforesaid bonds and, or notes without resorting to further action of this Board of Legislators.

Section 12. All other matters, except as provided herein relating to such bonds, including determining whether to issue such bonds having substantially level or declining annual debt service and all matters related thereto, prescribing whether manual or facsimile signatures shall appear on said bonds, prescribing the method for the recording of ownership of said bonds, appointing the fiscal agent or agents for said bonds, providing for the printing and delivery of said bonds (and if said bonds are to be executed in the name of the County by the facsimile signature of the Commissioner of Finance, providing for the manual countersignature of a fiscal agent or of a designated official of the County), the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, place or places of payment, and also including the consolidation with other issues, shall be determined by the Commissioner of Finance. It is hereby determined that it is to the financial advantage of the County not to impose and

collect from registered owners of such bonds any charges for mailing, shipping and insuring bonds transferred or exchanged by the fiscal agent, and, accordingly, pursuant to paragraph c of Section 70.00 of the Local Finance Law, no such charges shall be so collected by the fiscal agent. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals in addition to those required by Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Commissioner of Finance shall determine.

Section 13. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

(1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said County is not authorized to expend money, or

(2) The provisions of law which should be complied with at the date of publication of this Bond Act are not substantially complied with,

and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

(3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 14. This Bond Act shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150 - 2. Other than as specified in this Bond Act, no moneys are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 15. This Bond Act, which shall take effect immediately in accordance with the provisions of Section 33.10 of the Local Finance Law and as provided in Section 107.71 of the Westchester County Charter, shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said County for purposes of this Bond Act, together with a notice of the Clerk of the Board of Legislators in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

The foregoing Bond Act was duly put to a vote which resulted as follows:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

The Bond Act was thereupon declared duly adopted.

* * *

APPROVED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date: _____, 2024

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

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, New York,
DO HEREBY CERTIFY:

That I have compared the annexed extract of the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Legislators of said County, including the Bond Act contained therein, held on _____, 2024, with the original thereof on file in my office, and that the same is a true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of said original so far as the same relates to the subject matters therein referred to.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that all members of said Board had due notice of said meeting.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that said meeting was (i) open to the general public pursuant to Section 103 of the Public Officers Law or (ii) conducted in conformance with Section 103-a of the Public Officers Law.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that, PRIOR to the time of said meeting, I duly caused a public notice of the time and place of said meeting to be given to the following newspapers and/or other news media as follows:

Newspaper and/or Other News Media

Date Given

I FURTHER CERTIFY that PRIOR to the time of said meeting, I duly caused public notice of the time and place of said meeting to be conspicuously posted in the following designated public location(s) on the following dates:

Designated Location(s) of Posted Notices

Date of Posting

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said County Board of Legislators on _____, 2024.

Clerk of the County Board of Legislators
of the County of Westchester, New York

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LEGAL NOTICE

A Bond Act, a summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted by the Board of Legislators on _____, 2024, and approved by the County Executive on _____, 2024, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such Bond Act may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Westchester, in the State of New York, is not authorized to expend money or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this Notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the publication of this Notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Complete copies of the Bond Act summarized herewith shall be available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, New York, for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

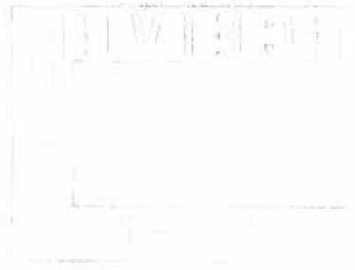
ACT NO. _____-2024

A BOND ACT AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,300,000 BONDS OF THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE STUDY AND DESIGN COSTS FOR A FOOD AND ORGANIC WASTE COMPOSTING FACILITY IN AND FOR THE COUNTY'S REFUSE DISPOSAL DISTRICT NO. 1.

specific object or purpose:	financing the study, design and related costs for a food and organic waste composting facility in and for the County's Refuse Disposal District No. 1
period of probable usefulness:	Five years
amount of obligations to be issued:	\$1,300,000

Dated: _____, 2024
White Plains, New York

Clerk of the County Board of Legislators of the County of Westchester, New York



CAPITAL PROJECT FACT SHEET

Project ID:*
RD019

CBA

Fact Sheet Date:*
01-23-2024

Fact Sheet Year:*
2024

Project Title:*
FOOD SCRAP RECOVERY PROGRAM

Legislative District ID:
1, 17, 16, 15, 14, 13, 12, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2,

Category*
REFUSE DISPOSAL

Department:*
ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES

CP Unique ID:
2461

Overall Project Description

This project will attempt to divert food scraps from the County's waste stream to produce energy and/or compost in an effort to reduce the amount of waste disposed of by the County's residents and businesses. The project will allow the County to study composting the scraps or using it in wastewater treatment plant digesters to produce more anaerobic gas to use as fuel in the plant boilers or ADG engine/generators for on-site co-generation of electricity or to convert to transportation fuel.

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Best Management Practices | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiencies | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Project Labor Agreement | <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Security | <input type="checkbox"/> Other | |

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM (in thousands)

	Estimated Ultimate Total Cost	Appropriated	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Under Review
Gross	6,000	6,000	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less Non-County Shares	100	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
Net	5,900	5,900	0	0	0	0	0	0

Expended/Obligated Amount (in thousands) as of : 1,514

Current Bond Description: Funding for a study and evaluation to determine the feasibility, operational needs for, and design services related to, the establishment of a Refuse Disposal District #1 food and organic waste composting facility within Westchester County.

Financing Plan for Current Request:

Non-County Shares:	\$ 0
Bonds/Notes:	1,300,000
Cash:	0
Total:	\$ 1,300,000

SEQR Classification:
TYPE II

Amount Requested:
1,300,000

Expected Design Work Provider:

- County Staff Consultant Not Applicable

Comments:

Energy Efficiencies:

Appropriation History:

Year	Amount	Description
2015	200,000	STUDY
2016	800,000	SELECTION, PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF A PERMANENT SYSTEM
2020	5,000,000	DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION
2023	0	CHANGE IN FINANCING FOR THE RECEIPT OF \$99,850 NON-COUNTY SHARES FROM NYS.

Total Appropriation History:

6,000,000

Financing History:

Year	Bond Act #	Amount	Issued	Description
18	73	0	0	STUDY OF PERMANENT FOOD WASTE RECOVERY/COMPOSTING DEMONSTRATION SYSTEMS
20	102	2,450,000	935,967	COST OF CONSTRUCTING FOOD SCRAP COMPOSTING AND EDUCATION FACILITY IN VALHALLA
20	86	250,000	236,678	ACQUISITION OF CUSTOM-DESIGNED TRACTOR TRAILER FOR FOOD SCRAP RECOVERY

Total Financing History:

2,700,000

Recommended By:

Department of Planning
MLLL

Date
02-06-2024

Department of Public Works
RJB4

Date
02-06-2024

Budget Department
DEV9

Date
02-13-2024

Requesting Department
JWBA

Date
02-14-2024

FOOD SCRAP RECOVERY PROGRAM (RD019)

User Department : Environmental Facilities

Managing Department(s) : Environmental Facilities ;

Estimated Completion Date: TBD

Planning Board Recommendation: Project approved in concept but subject to subsequent staff review.

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM (in thousands)

	Est Ult Cost	Appropriated	Exp / Obl	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Under Review
Gross	6,000	6,000	1,514						
Non County Share	(100)	(100)	(100)						
Total	5,900	5,900	1,414						

Project Description

This project will attempt to divert food scraps from the County's waste stream to produce energy and/or compost in an effort to reduce the amount of waste disposed of by the County's residents and businesses. The project will allow the County to study composting the scraps or using it in wastewater treatment plant digesters to produce more anaerobic gas to use as fuel in the plant boilers or ADG engine/generators for on-site co-generation of electricity or to convert to transportation fuel.

Current Year Description

There is no current year request.

Impact on Operating Budget

The impact on the District Operating Budget is the debt service associated with the issuance of bonds.

Appropriation History

Year	Amount	Description	Status
2015	200,000	Study	COMPLETE
2016	800,000	Selection, purchase and installation of a permanent system	COMPLETE
2020	5,000,000	Design and construction	\$1,600,000 COMPLETE; \$3,300,000 AWAITING BOND AUTHORIZATION
2023		Change in financing for the receipt of \$99,850 Non-county shares from NYS.	\$99,850 NCS
Total	6,000,000		

Prior Appropriations

	Appropriated	Collected	Uncollected
Bond Proceeds	5,900,150	1,172,645	4,727,506
Federal Funds	99,850		99,850
State Funds		99,850	(99,850)
Total	6,000,000	1,272,495	4,727,506

Bonds Authorized

Bond Act	Amount	Date Sold	Amount Sold	Balance
73 18				
86 20	250,000	12/01/21	236,678	13,322
102 20	2,450,000	12/01/21	935,967	1,514,034
Total	2,700,000		1,172,645	1,527,356