



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

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committee on Public Works & Transportation.

"The County Board will meet pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com> "

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

Others in Attendance: BOL Remote: MaryJane Shimsky BOL: Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Melanie Montalto PRC Remote: Kathy O'Connor, Peter Tartaglia, Ken Uhle DPW Remote: Robert Abbamont, Mike Swee PLANNING Remote: Dave Kvinge BUDGET Remote: Gideon Grande LAW Remote: Michelle Greenbaum

MINUTES APPROVAL

Present: Committee Chair Borgia, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher and Legislator Walter

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Boykin, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams

Thursday, September 9, 2021 10 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-161](#) ACT-Release of Reverter Clause-SMR Pkwy., Dobbs Ferry

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to (i) consent to the release of a reverter clause contained in an indenture from the County of Westchester to the People of the State of New York dated July 29, 1976 with respect to approximately 8.4 acres of land located in the Village of Dobbs Ferry and (ii) the execution of a quitclaim deed.

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

Joint with PWT

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Neil Squillante-Department of Parks & Recreation

Commissioner O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia and Ken Uhle from the Department of Parks & Recreation appeared before the committee to discuss the Reverter Clause for Saw Mill River Parkway in Dobbs Ferry. Mr. Tartaglia discussed that this is a piece of property along the Saw Mill River that is not owned by the County. We have a reverter order of action with NYS. The Village of Dobbs Ferry has requested this piece of property be deemed parkland and be added into two other sections that they have along the river. The County needs to give up our right to refer to clause. The County is very much in favor of this. The County has meet with the Village and the Parks Board and are in agreement to add this parcel to the other because this area is used by residents to walk. It offers access to the Saw Mill River areas. It connects two neighborhoods. First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia said that it is important for the community, during the pandemic more residents are using parks and pathways. It will allow the Village to create a pathway and maintain the area. Legislator Shimsky, said this area is the perfect park for active recreation and a benefit for the people that live nearby. She was happy to work with the advocates and law department to get this done in a short amount of time. Legislator Walter asked what is there now, and who maintains it. First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia explained that this is just a formality. It is a just a piece of parcel that will not be developed. The Village will create a pathway and maintain it, it is a more of a passive walkway. It will be dedicated by NYS as parkland.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:**2. [RES-2021-151](#) ENV RES-RCG03-Stokes Greene Building Demolition**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining that there will be no significant adverse impact on the environment from the proposed action associated with Capital Project RCG03 - Stokes Greene Building Demolition.

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

Joint with PWT

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Neil Squillante-Department of Parks & Recreation

Commissioner O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia and Ken Uhle from the Department of Parks & Recreation appeared before the committee to discuss RCG03- Stokes Greene Building Demolition. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$800,000 to finance the demolition, removal and associated site work of derelict building structures located at the Stokes Greene Property adjacent to the Croton Gorge Park in Croton-on-Hudson. Commissioner O'Connor discussed that these are six derelict buildings structures located on the Stokes Greene property that pose safety hazard to the public and require demolition.

They will also remove such hazardous materials, asphalt paving, concrete and fallen trees. All areas will be restored with topsoil and seeded. Design is anticipated to take 3 months and the demolitions is anticipated to take 6 months. Commissioner O'Connor said they are looking forward to the demolition because the area is in such bad condition. She said there is no historic impact on the demolition of the buildings, the buildings are not historic but the property is. Legislator Maher asked about photos. Mr. Abbamont from the Department of Public Works shared photos for the members. Legislator Walter asked about if someone will be looking out for native American artifacts during the demolition. The department stated that they are aware of the possibility of finding artifacts and will report back if any are found at the project site. Mr. Uhle explained that as a part of all of our capital projects there is a archeology study, and they look for any type of Native Americans or prehistoric evidence.

On motion of Committee Chair Borgia, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

3. [ACT-2021-158](#) **BOND ACT-RGC03-Stokes Greene Building Demolition**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$800,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project RCG03 - Stokes Greene Building Demolition.

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

Joint with PWT

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor, First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Neil Squillante-Department of Parks & Recreation

Please refer to item # 3.

On motion of Committee Chair Borgia, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

4. [ACT-2021-152](#) **IMA-County-Wide Bus Shelter Program-Municipalities**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into intermunicipal agreements with municipalities located within the County in order to provide for a county-wide bus shelter program.

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

Guest: Mike Swee, Principal Planner - Department of Public Works & Transportation

Mike Swee from the Department of Public works appeared before the committees to discuss IMA- County-Wide Bus-Shelter Program- Municipalities. This is an Inter-Municipal Agreement (IMA) with municipalities located within the County in connection with the county-wide bus shelter program. The IMA will provide the continued operation and maintenance of existing bus shelters and the addition of new shelters in the municipalities on an as needed basis. The shelters are maintained by the County through its licensee Signal Outdoor Advertising. LLC (Signal) pursuant to a license agreement with the County. Signal will sell advertising space on the shelters. In consideration for allowing the County to erect and maintain bus shelters in public right-of-way and other authorized areas, participating municipalities will receive 50% of the County's share of advertising revenue derived from the shelters. The IMA is for 5 years commencing on July 1, 2021 and terminating on June 30, 2026. The agreement is concurrent with the license agreement with Signal. The municipalities are also grant the County easement for the County to construct, operate or maintain the bus shelters.

Chairwoman Borgia discussed that at a later date the committees would like to have a larger conversation with possibly with the administration on how to expand our Bus Shelter Program. Chairwoman Borgia asked how do we determine which municipalities have shelters. Mr. Swee explained that ridership is the main determination, does that stop have 50 people boarding on a particular day? Lighting is taken into consideration, physical space, is there room for the shelter, ADA requirements all go into the decision of where we place the shelters. Legislator Gashi asked has the locations of shelters changed or have we added any lately? Mr. Swee said the location changes have happened if the locations or shelter is damaged. He stated they have not added any recently but they are looking to develop a new boarder bus shelter program next year. It would be a separate program that would take a more comprehensive look at the shelter program to add and replace shelters.

Legislator Maher asked if the municipalities have a say in the shelters? Mr. Swee stated that if a municipalities does not want a shelter they do not put one in, they also consider the surrounding businesses if they have concerns on the shelter blocking there business for various reason. Legislator Maher asked about the revenue stream in pervious years? Mr. Swee stated that normally the advertising pays for the construction and maintenance, and there is a yearly fee. He said he does not know what the revenue stream would be this year, advertising has taken a huge hit from COVID. He said they are rebounding now and we won't know the exact numbers until the end of the year.

Legislator Walter asked if we could get a list of the 22 municipalities. Mr. Swee said he would send over the list. Legislator Walter asked if it is possible to have green roof shelters or solar power shelters. Mr. Swee said that any time there is a new shelter put in or one that is damaged they look at solar powered shelters. We currently have 40 solar powered shelter right now. There is concern about a green roof and the current structures, they would have to hold a load of soil. He mentioned that there is the possibility of partnership with another entity and that they would continue to have dialogue next year.

Mr. Swee discussed that garbage pick up is responsibility of the municipality. The County cannot pick up from all 337 sites. He also discussed that this IMA also will have real time signs not at the shelter sites but at the transit hubs.

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Walter, the above item was signed by

committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

5. [ACT-2021-157](#) **BOND ACT-B0122-Electrical Substation SE-21, Valhalla Campus**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$900,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project B0012 - Electrical Substation SE-21, Valhalla Campus.

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

Joint with PWT

Guest: Robert Abbamont, Program Coordinator - Department of Public Works & Transportation

Mr. Abbamont from the Department of Public works appeared before the committees to discuss B0122 Electrical Substation SE-21-Valhalla Campus. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$900,000 to finance the cost of replacement of the existing 15KV high voltage transfer switch and transformer currently in the basement of Sunshine Cottage (NY Medical College Administration Building), with new 15KV voltage Switch, transformer. The existing switch is approximately 50 years old and has exceeded its useful life. The switch has experienced operational problems over the last 10 years. The replacement will restore the redundancy to the building connected to these electrical feeders. The outside location will provide complete accessibility for maintenance and operation of the new equipment. Design is scheduled to take 6 months and construction is estimated to take 12 months.

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

6. [ACT-2021-156](#) **BOND ACT-BPL40-1707-Stormwater Mngmt-Various Co. Fac. II**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$250,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project BPL40 - Stormwater Management - Various County Facilities II.

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

Joint with PWT

Guest: Dave Kvinge, Director of Environmental Planning- Department of Planning

Dave Kvinge from the Department of Planning appeared before the committees to discuss BPL40-1707- Storm water Management - Various County Facilities. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$250,000 to finance a stormwater management program along the Bronx River Parkway. This project will fund stormwater management projects for both water quality and quantity, to reduce flooding. The current request will fund design of a project to mitigate flooding along the Bronx River Parkway in the Village of Scarsdale. The project will reconnect the river to the grassed floodplain on the west side of the southbound lane of the parkway just north of Strathmore Road. The project is identified in the Bronx River Corridor Study and Plan prepared in 2020 for the County Soil and Water Conservation District. It is anticipated that the project will take 12 months to complete.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter and Legislator Williams

Absent: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice:

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, seconded by Legislator Walter, the Committee adjourned at 11:21 AM.