

**THE HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER**

Your Committee is in receipt of a communication from the County Executive recommending the approval of an Act which would authorize the County of Westchester (“County”), acting by and through its Department of Public Safety (“Department”), to enter into an inter-municipal agreement (“IMA”) with the cities of Yonkers, Mount Vernon and New Rochelle (the “Municipalities”) for the distribution to each of the Municipalities of grant funds received from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for 2021 (“JAG”). The IMA will be for a four-year term from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024.

Pursuant to the IMA, the County will administer the distribution of funding from the U.S. Department of Justice provided under the Edward Byrne Memorial JAG program for fiscal year 2021. Under the IMA, the Department will receive funding to help cover overtime expenses. Of the \$110,037 in JAG funding to be provided to the County, the County will disburse an estimated aggregate total of \$82,529 for various law enforcement programs, as follows: The City of Yonkers will receive an estimated amount of \$48,674 of JAG funds; the City of Mt. Vernon will receive an estimated amount of \$25,583 of JAG funds; and the City of New Rochelle will receive an estimated amount of \$8,272 of JAG funds. The County will use the anticipated remainder of \$27,508 in JAG funds for the Department’s law enforcement programs. The County will disburse the JAG funds in accordance with the IMA terms and following receipt of all appropriate documentation from the Municipalities.

The JAG grant program allows local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on local needs and conditions. The Department has advised that it is anticipated that the grant funds will be used as follows:

\$24,206 will be used for Department personnel costs to offset the costs for fentanyl and narcotics investigations; Yonkers is expected to use \$48,675 for personnel costs to offset overtime for violent crime investigations; New Rochelle is expected to use \$8,269 to offset the costs of 5 multi band mobile radios, and Mount Vernon is expected to use \$25,585 to offset the costs of ballistic vests and shields for active shooter events. It is anticipated that the remainder of the grant

funds, \$3,302 will be used by the county to pay for costs associated with National Incident-Based Reporting System compliance.

The Planning Department has advised that the IMA does not meet the definition of an “action” under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), and its implementing regulations, 6 NYCRR, Part 617. Please refer to the Memorandum from the Department of Planning dated January 14, 2022, which is on file with the clerk of your Honorable Board. Therefore, no further environmental review is required. Your Committee concurs with this conclusion.

Approval of the proposed IMA must be by an affirmative vote of not less than a majority of your Honorable Board. Based upon careful consideration of the foregoing, your Committee recommends the adoption of the aforementioned Act.

Date: _____, 20____
White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

mg 5-10-22