

2021-374

RESOLUTION NO. 128 - 2021

RESOLVED, that this Board hold a public hearing pursuant to Section 209.141(4) of the Laws of Westchester County on Local Law Intro. No 375 - 2021, entitled "A LOCAL LAW amending Chapters 825 and 826-a of the Laws of Westchester County regarding classes of Solid Waste hauler licenses."

The public hearing will be held at 7:30 p.m. on the 20 day of September 2021 in the Chambers of the Board of Legislators, 8th Floor, Michaelian Office Building, White Plains, New York. The Clerk of the Board shall cause notice of the time and date of such hearing to be published at least once in one or more newspapers published in the County of Westchester and selected by the Clerk of the Board for that purpose in the manner and time required by law.

TO: HONORABLE BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER

Your Committee has reviewed “A LOCAL LAW amending Chapters 825 and 826-a of the Laws of Westchester County regarding classes of Solid Waste hauler licenses.”

Your Committee is advised that the Westchester County Solid Waste and Recyclables Collection Licensing Law, enacted in 1999, created six classes of local waste hauling licenses (A, B, C, D, E, and L), as part of an integrated, comprehensive and long-term plan to manage all solid waste and recyclables generated and collected within the County's borders.

Your Committee is further advised that this proposed Local Law will correct an internal inconsistency between the County's definition of “recyclables brokers” and the definition of a “Class B” license. Currently, the County defines “recyclables brokers” as “exclusively” operating in that business. However, the definition of “Class B” license holders specifically allows recyclables brokers to conduct all other classes of business, which is not the intent of that definition. The proposed Local Law eliminates this internal inconsistency by removing the line permitting Class B haulers to haul materials other than recyclables.

Your Committee is further advised that a Class F license has been added to address the recent growth of the food waste disposal industry. As more companies engage in the food scrap hauling business, there is an ever-growing need to regulate those companies.

The proposed Local Law does not meet the definition of an action under the New York 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 May 14, 2021, which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Legislators.

Your Committee, after careful consideration, recommends the adoption of this Local Law.

Dated: **June 29**, 2021
White Plains, New York

Nancy Barr
May Jane Shinsky
Ruth Walter
Vedat Jashi
Celia Ross
Benjamin Taylor
Kyle Swill

Legislation
DHC 5/19/21

Nancy Barr
May Jane Shinsky
Ruth Walter
Cathie Parker
Benjamin Taylor
Kyle Swill

COMMITTEE ON
Environment & Health

May Jane Shinsky
Ruth Walter
Vedat Jashi
Cathie Parker
Benjamin Taylor
Kyle Swill

Public Works &
Transportation

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

SUBJECT: Amend Law for Haulers Licenses

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: _____

Potential Related Operating Budget Revenues: Annual Amount _____

Describe: _____

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

Current Year: _____

Next Four Years: _____

Prepared by: Mark Medwid

Title: Associate Budget Director

Department: Budget


Date: June 23, 2021

Reviewed By: 

Budget Director

Date: 6/25/21

TO: George Latimer, County Executive
Kenneth Jenkins, Deputy County Executive
John Nonna, County Attorney

FROM: David Kvinge, AICP, RLA, CFM 
Director of Environmental Planning

DATE: May 14, 2021

SUBJECT: **ACTIVITIES NOT SUBJECT TO STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
REVIEW**

As required by the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617 ("SEQR"), the Board of Legislators ("BOL") is the body that must assess the environmental significance of all actions that the BOL has discretion to approve, fund or directly undertake. The Planning Department has historically conducted the necessary environmental review for the BOL to undertake its responsibility under SEQR. Additionally, contracts going before the Board of Acquisition and Contracts ("BAC") must be reviewed for conformance with SEQR.

Pursuant to Section 617.2(b) of SEQR, "Actions" are defined as:

- (1) projects or physical activities, such as construction or other activities that may affect the environment by changing the use, appearance or condition of any natural resource or structure, that:
 - (i) are directly undertaken by an agency; or
 - (ii) involve funding by an agency; or
 - (iii) require one or more new or modified approvals from an agency or agencies;
- (2) agency planning and policy making activities that may affect the environment and commit the agency to a definite course of future decisions;
- (3) adoption of agency rules, regulations and procedures, including local laws, codes, ordinances, executive orders and resolutions that may affect the environment; and
- (4) any combinations of the above.

As part of the Planning Department's ongoing review of its processes, we are streamlining the process for SEQR review and related document preparation for the BOL and BAC. The most effective method to achieve a more timely SEQR review is to create a list of categories of activities that do not meet the definition of an "action" as defined in SEQR. This list will reference activities that are routine and which do not change the use, appearance or condition of any natural resource or structure, nor do they involve policies or regulations that may affect the environment. The creation of this list in no way eliminates the BOL's or BAC's responsibilities

under SEQR. Rather, it establishes a workflow for items that are routine and do not, under the law, require environmental review.

Accordingly, the Planning Department advises that no environmental review is required and no SEQR documentation is necessary for submission with BOL legislation or with resolutions or contracts requiring BAC approval regarding activities on the attached list.

County departments and agencies may reference this memorandum in the legislation in order to document compliance with SEQR for actions listed herein. As such, this memorandum should be kept on file with the Clerk of the Board of Legislators. Legislation should include a statement similar to the following: "The proposed project does not meet the definition of an action under New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations 6 NYCRR Part 617. Please refer to the memorandum from the Department of Planning dated May 14, 2021, which is on file with the Clerk of the Board of Legislators."

This memorandum will be distributed to all Commissioners as part of County operations.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Att.

cc: Malika Vanderberg, Clerk and Chief Administrative Officer to the Board of Legislators
Joan McDonald, Director of Operations
Andrew Ferris, Chief of Staff
Steve Bass, Director of Intergovernmental Relations
Paula Friedman, Assistant to the County Executive
Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz, Chief Deputy County Attorney
Tami Altschiller, Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney
Norma Drummond, Commissioner of Planning

**ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT MEET THE DEFINITION OF AN “ACTION”
PURSUANT TO SEQR AND ARE, CONSEQUENTLY, NOT SUBJECT TO SEQR**

1. BUDGETS AND AMENDMENTS

- Municipal budgets and amendments to them – The budgeting process merely sets aside funds without a commitment to their expenditure. Operating expenditures are typically for government-related activities that would also not meet the definition of an action. Even the establishment of the Capital Budget is not subject to SEQR because many of the capital projects are usually not definitive enough with respect to potential impacts to be reviewable at the time the budget is adopted. However, any subsequent authorization, such as bonding, to undertake a particular capital project is an action that requires SEQR compliance before it may be approved.
- The transfer of funds within the County operating and capital budgets for the purpose of balancing accounts – It is understood that these actions are purely budgetary, where accounts with excess funds are moved to accounts with existing or anticipated deficits. It is further understood that the activities covered by these accounts have either already occurred or been reviewed in accordance with SEQR, are Type II actions or actions that are not subject to SEQR, or are actions that will require future approval prior to being undertaken, at which time further SEQR review may be appropriate.
- Rescissions or reduction of bond acts to cancel unspent funds.

2. SERVICES

- Consultant services – Contracts or agreements that provide for administrative services, training, reports for Boards and Commissions, but not including studies or design of physical improvements, which has been listed under SEQR as Type II.
- Social Services – Actions or agreements that provide services to persons in need, such as employment assistance, family/domestic intervention and respite care.
- Youth services – Actions or agreements that provide for youth services, such as a Resource Allocation Plan, Invest-in-Kids Program, after-school programs, camp programs and head-start programs.
- Senior programs & services – Actions or agreements that provide for services to seniors, such as provision of information/education, home care, nutrition & transportation assistance, caregiver support, and acceptance of federal and state grants providing for such services (e.g., OAA Title III grants and NYSOFA grants, including CSE, CSI, CRC, EISEP, NYSTP, WIN & NSIP).
- Public Safety services – programs that promote public safety, such as STOP-DWI, Police Night Out, and intermunicipal agreements (IMAs) for shared training, equipment and response to emergencies.
- Fire services – Fire district IMAs for shared training, equipment and response to emergencies.
- Legal services – Contracts for outside counsel, litigation or associated monetary settlements.
- Medical Services – Contracts with medical providers for medical examinations, testing or vaccinations of County employees or the public.

3. PERSONNEL MATTERS

- Actions related to employment or employees.
- Contracts for temporary staff assistance.
- Legislation pertaining to establishment and membership of boards and commissions.

4. FINANCES

- Tax Anticipation Notes.
- Bond acts to finance tax certiorari payments.
- Banking contracts/agreements for money management services.
- Mortgage tax receipts disbursements (County Clerk).
- Refinancing of affordable housing mortgages.
- Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreements.

5. LAWS

- New laws or amendments of existing laws that regulate the sale or use of products for the protection of public health.
- New laws or amendments of existing laws that regulate businesses for the protection of consumers.
- Pertaining to consumer protection, not including professional licensing, which have been classified as Type II.
- Pertaining to animal welfare, excluding regulations involving habitat management.
- Pertaining to public safety.
- Pertaining to taxation, such as establishment of new taxes or tax exemptions.
- Pertaining to establishment or modification of fees.
- Pertaining to notices, publications and record keeping.
- Pertaining to hiring or contracting procedures.
- Pertaining to the functioning of County government, such as term limits, board appointments, etc. that do not impact the environment.

6. MISCELLANEOUS

- Amendments to existing agreements for changes in name or consultants.
- Prisoner Transport IMAs.
- Tourism Promotion Agency designation.
- Software licenses.
- IMAs for temporary housing in existing facilities (homeless, inmate, troubled youths, domestic violence victims).

WCDP
5/14/2021