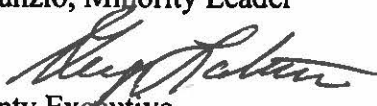


May 16, 2024

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: CBA & Bond Act –
RPA04 – General Infrastructure Pathways and Trails II.**

This will confirm my request that the Board of Legislators allow submission of the referenced communication to be submitted to the Board of Legislators May 20, 2024 Agenda.

Transmitted herewith for your review and approval is an Act which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester (“County”) to amend its current year Capital Budget (“Capital Budget Amendment”), as well as adopt a related bond act in the amount of \$330,000 (the “Bond Act”) to finance the following capital project: RPA04.

Therefore, since this communication is of the utmost importance, it is respectfully submitted that the County Board of Legislators accepts this submission for May 20, 2024 “blue sheet” calendar.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



George Latimer
County Executive

May 10, 2024

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

Dear Members of the Board of Legislators:

Transmitted herewith for your review and approval is an Act which, if adopted, would authorize the County of Westchester ("County") to amend its current year Capital Budget ("Capital Budget Amendment"), as well as adopt a related bond act in the amount of \$330,000 (the "Bond Act") to finance the following capital project:

RPA04 – General Infrastructure Pathways and Trails II ("RPA04").

The proposed Capital Budget Amendment will amend the County's 2024 capital budget by appropriating \$330,000 for this new project.

The Bond Act, in the amount of \$330,000, will fund the cost of design and construction management associated with the reconstruction of a boardwalk and other trailway improvements along the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway.

The Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation (the "Department") has advised that the existing boardwalk crossing the Furnace Brook Stream was damaged during recent flood events and has fallen into disrepair. Prioritizing funding for the design of this improvement will help to address this immediate concern.

Following bonding authorization, design will be scheduled and is anticipated to take twelve (12) months to complete and will be performed by in-house design staff. It is estimated that construction will take twelve (12) months to complete and will begin after award and execution of the construction contracts, subject to your Honorable Board's further approval of construction funding.

As your Honorable Board may know, Section 167.131 of the County Charter mandates that a capital budget amendment that introduces a new capital project or changes the location, size or character of an existing capital project be accompanied to the Board of Legislators by a report of the Westchester County Planning Board (the "Planning Board") with respect to the physical planning aspects of the project. Accordingly, the required Planning Board report is herewith attached.

Based on the importance of this project to the County, favorable action on the proposed Capital Budget Amendment and Bond Act is most respectfully requested.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Latimer". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over the printed name.

George Latimer
Westchester County Executive

GL/KOC/RL/jpg
Attachment

**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 an act amending the County’s current-year capital budget (“Capital Budget Amendment”), as well as adoption of a related bond act (the “Bond Act”) in the amount of \$330,000 to finance capital project RPA04 – General Infrastructure Pathways and Trails II (“RPA04”).

Your Committee is advised that the proposed Capital Budget Amendment will amend the County’s 2024 capital budget by appropriating \$330,000 for this new project.

Your Committee is further advised that the Bond Act, prepared by the law firm of Hawkins Delafield and Wood, LLP, will fund the cost of design and construction management associated with the reconstruction of a boardwalk and other railway improvements along the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway.

The Department of Parks, Recreation & Conservation (the “Department”) has advised that the existing boardwalk crossing the Furnace Brook Stream was damaged during recent flood events and has fallen into disrepair. Prioritizing funding for the design of this improvement will help to address this immediate concern.

Your Committee is advised that following bonding authorization, design will be scheduled and is anticipated to take twelve (12) months to complete and will be performed by in-house design staff. It is estimated that construction will take twelve (12) months to complete and will begin after award and execution of the construction contracts, subject to your Honorable Board’s further approval of construction funding.

The Planning Department has advised your Committee that based on its review, the above-referenced capital project 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.

Additionally, Section 167.131 of the County Charter mandates that a capital budget amendment that introduces a new capital project or changes the location, size or character of an existing capital project be accompanied to the Board of Legislators by a report of the Westchester County Planning Board (the “Planning Board”) with respect to the physical planning aspects of the project. Accordingly, the required Planning Board report is herewith attached.

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 Capital Budget Amendment and the related Bond Act, noting that the Bond Act can only be enacted following adoption of the Capital Budget Amendment. For the reasons set forth above, your Committee respectfully recommends the adoption of both of the proposed acts.

Dated: _____, 2024
White Plains, New York

COMMITTEE ON

k/jpg/4/05/2024

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CAPITAL PROJECT #: RPA04

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 \$ 330,000 PPU 5 Anticipated Interest Rate 2.94%

Anticipated Annual Cost (Principal and Interest): \$ 72,796

Total Debt Service (Annual Cost x Term): \$ 363,980

Finance Department: Interest rates from May 7, 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: 4

Prepared by: Robert Lopane, RLA

Title: Prgram Coordinator Capital Planning

Department: Public Works & Transportation

Date: 5/13/24

Reviewed By: 

DU 5/13/24

Budget Director

Date: 5/13/24

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: May 7, 2024

SUBJECT: **STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW FOR CAPITAL PROJECT:
RPA04 GENERAL INFRASTRUCTURE PATHWAYS AND TRAILS II**

PROJECT/ACTION: Per Capital Project Fact Sheet as approved by the Planning Department on 04-03-2024 (Unique ID: 2532)

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)(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: The current request is for design only. Funds for construction management will not be expended unless the Board of Legislators approves funding for construction of the project. Further environmental review will be conducted following completion of design and prior to Board approval of funding for construction.

DSK/dvw

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
Kathleen O'Connor, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Peter Tartaglia, First Deputy Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Conservation
Robert Lopane, Program Coordinator, Department of Public Works & Transportation
Susan Darling, Chief Planner
Claudia Maxwell, Principal Environmental Planner
Michael Lipkin, Associate Planner

RESOLUTION 24- 15

WESTCHESTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

**Amendment of Planning Board Report on 2024 Capital Project Requests
RPA04 General Infrastructure Program – Pathways and Trails II
Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway Improvements**

WHEREAS, RP04 General Infrastructure Program – Pathways and Trails II project funds the repairs and rehabilitation to the County parks trail system in various locations throughout the County including the Briarcliff-Peekskill, Hutchinson River, Twin Lakes, Nature Study Woods, Playland Parkway, and other pathways and trails, and

WHEREAS, the County Executive will submit legislation to the County Board of Legislators which would authorize amending the 2024 Capital Budget to include the **RPA04 General Infrastructure Program – Pathways and Trails II Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway Improvements**, to include funding in the amount of \$330,000 for design, administrative review, and construction management, and

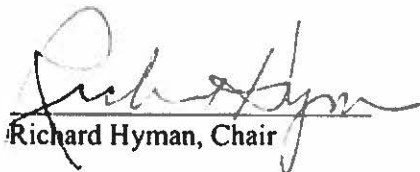
WHEREAS, the existing boardwalk crossing the Furnace Brook Stream on the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway is in disrepair and is in need of replacement and approximately 40' extensions on each end. This boardwalk is approximately 380' feet long and is located between Watch Hill Road and Furnace Brook Dock, just south of the entrance to the Sportsmen Center and just north of the Town of Cortlandt's Charles Cook Pool, and

WHEREAS, this project is classified as a "PL2" - "approved in concept, subject to review when more detailed studies or plans are prepared," and

WHEREAS, the project is generally consistent with *Westchester 2025 – Policies to Guide County Planning*, as adopted by the Planning Board on May 6, 2008 and amended on January 5, 2010 by maintaining county facilities; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the County Planning Board, pursuant to Section 167.131 of the County Charter, amends its Report on the 2024 Capital Project Requests to include the attached report on Capital Project **RPA04 General Infrastructure Program – Pathways and Trails II**, with a specific project location at the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway in the amount of \$330,000.

Adopted this 2nd day of April, 2024


Richard Hyman, Chair

RP04 General Infrastructure Program – Pathways and Trails II
Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway Improvements

FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM (in thousands)

	Estimated Ultimate Total Cost	Appropriated	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	Under Review
Gross	2,100		330	1,770				
Less non-County Shares								
Net	2,100		330	1,770				

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This project funds the repairs and rehabilitation to the County parks trail system in various locations throughout the County including the Briarcliff-Peekskill, Hutchinson River, Twin Lakes, Nature Study Woods, Playland Parkway, and other pathways and trails. The work will include grading and drainage, surface material, footbridges and boardwalks, site furniture, signage, fencing and barrier rails, landscaping, pavement markings and other related site work.

APPROPRIATION/FUNDING REQUESTS:

2024: Design, Administration, Construction Management
 2025: Construction

JUSTIFICATION:

Walking, hiking and biking trails continue to be the most popular recreation facility according to a recent resident recreation preference survey of County residents. Usage of the trail system increased dramatically during the Covid-19 Pandemic period. While some trailways have been recently improved within the past 10 years under other capital projects, much of the trailway system is old, worn and continues to deteriorate to a level that has become extremely difficult to maintain. This project will address the need to restore these trails.

The existing boardwalk crossing the Furnace Brook Stream on the Briarcliff-Peekskill Trailway was damaged during recent flooding events and has fallen into disrepair. Since there is no alternative way around the boardwalk, it has become critically important to reconstruct this segment of the trailway so that local County residents can continue to use and enjoy this recreation facility.

CONSISTENCY WITH PROGRAMS OR PLANS:

This project is consistent with the County's Open Space Policies which identifies the provision of active recreation as a County policy. "Westchester 2025", the County's long-range planning policy document, recommends the continued protection of cultural resources while enhancing the use of passive and active recreation facilities.

As per Westchester County policy, stormwater management must be addressed with every capital project. Designs should comply with the NYS Stormwater Management Design Manual and the NYS Standards and Specifications for Erosion and Sediment Control.

Planning Board Analysis:

PL2: The Planning Board supports this and other projects with the goal to keep park facilities in a well-maintained state. Performing physical improvements on a priority basis reflects a comprehensive approach to undertaking capital improvements.

An Act amending the 2024 County
 Capital Budget Appropriations for
 Capital Project RPA04 GENERAL
 INFRASTRUCTURE PATHWAYS
 AND TRAILS II

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

Section 1. The Capital section of the 2024 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	Previous 2024 Appropriation	Change	Revised 2024 Appropriation
I. Appropriation	\$0	\$330,000	\$330,000

Section 2. The estimated method of financing in the Capital Section of the 2024 Westchester County Capital Budget is amended as follows:

II. METHOD OF
 FINANCING

Bonds and/or Notes	\$0	\$330,000	\$330,000
Non County Shares	\$0		\$0
Cash	\$0		\$0
Total	\$0	\$330,000	\$330,000

Section 3. The ACT shall take effect immediately.