



George Latimer  
County Executive

July 28, 2021

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 to as adopt a related amended Bond Act ("Amended Bond Act") to finance the following capital project:

**BES14 – Equipment Storage Building ("BES14")**

The proposed Capital Budget Amendment will amend the County's capital budget to increase the current-year appropriation for BES14 by \$3,100,000. The Department of Emergency Services ("Department") has advised that the additional funds are required to account for an increase in building size to accommodate the Department's current and future needs, as well as to allow for installation of a solar photovoltaic system and due to inflation since the project was first budgeted for in 2015.

The Amended Bond Act, in the total amount of \$9,708,000, which includes \$815,000 in previously authorized bonds of the County, would finance the cost of design, construction and construction management of an equipment storage building for the Department to house, clean and maintain deployable emergency equipment.

The Department has advised that expensive deployable equipment such as trailers, generators, pumps, messaging signs, light towers and sandbaggers is presently stored outside in an uncovered fenced-in area and various other locations around the Fire Training Center grounds. The equipment is exposed to harsh seasonal conditions that accelerate weather-related deterioration and reduce equipment life expectancy. In addition, the padlocked, fenced area provides limited security and the movement of equipment in an emergency situation is hindered during colder, snowy months of the year. Significant investment has been made in developing the capabilities and capacities of this deployable equipment and this facility will enhance the overall longevity of the assets.

Design is currently being undertaken by a consultant and is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2021. It is anticipated that construction will take approximately eighteen months to complete and will begin after award and execution of the construction contracts, subject to approval of construction financing by your Honorable Board.

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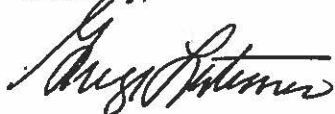
It should be noted that your Honorable Board has authorized the County to issue bonds for BES14 as follows: Bond Act No. 55-2015 in the amount of \$815,000 was authorized to finance design. These bonds have not been sold. Accordingly, it is now requested that Bond Act No. 55-2015 be amended to increase the amount authorized by \$8,893,000, for a total authorized amount, as amended, of \$9,708,000, to revise the scope of Bond Act No. 55-2015 to include work associated with the construction phase of BES14, and to increase the period of probable usefulness of said bonds.

The Planning Department has advised that based on its review, the above-referenced capital project has been classified as an "Unlisted" action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR"). A Resolution, and proposed Negative Declaration, along with a Short Environmental Assessment Form, prepared by the Planning Department, are attached to assist your Honorable Board in complying with SEQR. Should your Honorable Board conclude that the proposed action will not have any significant impact on the environment; it must approve the Resolution adopting the Negative Declaration prior to enacting the aforementioned Amended Bond Act. As you know, your Honorable Board may use such expert advice to reach its own conclusion.

In addition, 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 documentation for BES14 will be forwarded under separate cover.

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

Sincerely,



George Latimer  
County Executive

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

Your Committee is in receipt of a transmission 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 amended bond act (“Amended Bond Act”) which, if adopted, will authorize the County to issue up to \$8,893,000 in additional bonds of the County to finance capital project BES14 – Equipment Storage Building (“BES14”).

The proposed Capital Budget Amendment will amend the County’s capital budget to increase the current-year appropriation for BES14 by \$3,100,000. The Department of Emergency Services (“Department”) has advised that the additional funds are required to account for an increase in building size to accommodate the Department’s current and future needs, as well as to allow for installation of a solar photovoltaic system and due to inflation since the project was first budgeted for in 2015.

The Amended Bond Act was prepared by the law firm Hawkins, Delafield & Wood, in the total amount of \$9,708,000, which includes \$815,000 in previously authorized bonds of the County, would finance the cost of design, construction and construction management of an equipment storage building for the Department to house, clean and maintain deployable emergency equipment.

The Department has advised that expensive deployable equipment such as trailers, generators, pumps, messaging signs, light towers and sandbaggers is presently stored outside in an uncovered fenced-in area and various other locations around the Fire Training Center grounds. The equipment is exposed to harsh seasonal conditions that accelerate weather-related deterioration and reduce equipment life expectancy. In addition, the padlocked, fenced area provides limited security and the movement of equipment in an emergency situation is hindered during colder, snowy months of the year. Significant investment has been made in developing the capabilities and capacities of this deployable equipment and this facility will enhance the overall longevity of the assets.

Design is currently being undertaken by a consultant and is expected to be completed by the third quarter of 2021. It is anticipated that construction will take approximately eighteen months to complete and will begin after award and execution of the construction contracts, subject to approval of construction financing by your Honorable Board.

It should be noted that your Honorable Board has authorized the County to issue bonds for BES14 as follows: Bond Act No. 55-2015 in the amount of \$815,000 was authorized to finance design. These bonds have not been sold. Accordingly, it is now requested that Bond Act No. 55-2015 be amended to increase the amount authorized by \$8,893,000, for a total authorized amount, as amended, of \$9,708,000, to revise the scope of Bond Act No. 55-2015 to include work associated with the construction phase of BES14, and to increase the period of probable usefulness of said bonds.

The Planning Department has advised your Committee that based on its review, the above-referenced capital project has been classified as an "Unlisted" action under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQR"). A Resolution, and proposed Negative Declaration, along with a Short Environmental Assessment Form, prepared by the Planning Department, are attached to assist your Honorable Board in complying with SEQR. Upon review, your Committee concludes that the proposed action will not have any significant impact on the environment and recommends the adoption of the Resolution adopting the Negative Declaration. As you know, a determination of significance must be made prior to enacting the aforementioned Amended Bond Act.

In addition, 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 documentation for BES14 will be forwarded under separate cover.

Your Committee has carefully considered the proposed Capital Budget Amendment, as well as the related Amended Bond Act, and recommends approval of both of the proposed Acts, noting that the Amended Bond Act can only be enacted following adoption of the Capital Budget Amendment. It should be noted that an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of your

Honorable Board is required in order to amend the County's Capital Budget and to adopt the Amended Bond Act.

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_.  
White Plains, New York

**COMMITTEE ON**

# FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

CAPITAL PROJECT #: BES14

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 \$ 9,708,000 PPU 25 Anticipated Interest Rate 1.13%

Anticipated Annual Cost (Principal and Interest): \$ 445,832

Total Debt Service (Annual Cost x Term): \$ 11,145,800

Finance Department: Interest rates from July 21, 2021 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: 97

## SECTION E - EXPECTED DESIGN WORK PROVIDER

County Staff

Consultant

Not Applicable

Prepared by: Richard G. Wishnie

Title: Commissioner

Department: Emergency Services

Date: 7/26/21

Reviewed By:   
Budget Director

Date: 7/26/21

An Act amending the 2021 County  
 Capital Budget Appropriations for  
 Capital Project BES14 - Equipment  
 Storage Building

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

Section 1. The Capital section of the 2021 County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

	Previous 2021 Appropriation	Change	Revised 2021 Appropriation
I. Appropriation	\$6,608,000	\$3,100,000	\$9,708,000

Section 2. The estimated method of financing in the Capital Section of the 2021 Westchester County Capital Budget is amended as follows:

II. METHOD OF FINANCING

Bonds and/or Notes	\$6,608,000	\$3,100,000	\$9,708,000
Non County Shares	\$0		\$0
Cash	\$0		\$0
Total	<u>\$6,608,000</u>	<u>\$3,100,000</u>	<u>\$9,708,000</u>

Section 3. The ACT shall take effect immediately.