DATE: August 19, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition & Contract

FROM: Grant E. Mitchell, MD, Acting Commissioner
Department of Social Services

RE: Authority to enter into an Agreement with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to accept funding for an amount not to exceed $475,100 to support subsidized employment opportunities under the Green Jobs Program for the program period October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010

The County of Westchester, acting by and through the Department of Social Services (the “Department”), seeks authority from your Honorable Board to enter into an Agreement with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to accept funding for an amount not to exceed $475,100 to support subsidized employment opportunities under the Green Jobs Program for the program period October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010.

It is to be noted that the program/award period for the Green Jobs Program as per the notification from the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance was to start on October 1, 2009. However, the State awarded funding to WCDSS on a conditional basis in mid March 2010. Since that time, the Department has been negotiating with the State and Workforce Investment Board (“WIB”) to resolve conditional items such as Green Jobs Training Curriculum, Green Jobs Sector Opportunities and Category of Participants to be served. We are now ready to move forward with the program.

The agreement will serve a public purpose in that it will create subsidized job placements for low or no income TANF and Safety Net customers in “green jobs” such as those associated with weatherization, energy efficiency, environmental conservation and renewable energy. As customers receive increased job training and overcome barriers to employment, they gain self sufficiency as well as necessary skills required to retain long-term employment, thereby promoting the general health, safety and welfare of Westchester County residents.

The goals and objectives of this agreement are to place customers lacking adequate job skills or work history into “Green Jobs” that provide the participant with the opportunity to gain work experience in a field that is expected to experience future growth. The program will include job readiness training and hard skill training as a component. Participants will be placed in subsidized employment for up to 35 hours per week.
The goals and objectives are in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility as the financial impact of this may be measured in terms of enhanced opportunities for promotions, transfers and for new employment. The goal is that program participants who are currently on Public Assistance will become gainfully employed and ultimately self-sufficient.

The goals and objectives will be monitored and tracked through the program staff and evaluation/progress reports.

The agreement with OTDA is exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy (the “Procurement Policy”) pursuant to Section 3(a)(iii) thereof.

Accordingly, I recommend adoption of the proposed resolution.
RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE ACTING COMMISSIONER, WESTCHESTER COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to accept funding for an amount not to exceed $475,100 to provide subsidized employment opportunities under the Green Jobs Program for the program period October 1, 2009 through December 31, 2010; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

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<th>Fund</th>
<th>Dept</th>
<th>Major Program, Program &amp; Phase Or Unit</th>
<th>Object/ Sub-Object</th>
<th>Trust Account</th>
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Budget Funding Year(s) 2009 Start Date: 10/01/09 End Date: 12/31/2010 (must match resolution)

Funding Source

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