



Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Kevin McGuire
Commissioner

29807

Date: October 5, 2012

To: The Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kevin McGuire, Commissioner
Department of Social Services

RE: Resolution seeking authority to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures an Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County for an amount to be awarded by the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (“OTDA”) for the period October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 whereby Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County will provide a Supplemental Nutrition Education Program to recipients of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits residing in Westchester County pursuant to Section 3(a) xxi thereof

Authority is hereby requested from your Honorable Board to exempt from the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County for an amount to be awarded by NYSOTDA for the period October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 whereby Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County will provide a Supplemental Nutrition Education Program to recipients of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits residing in Westchester County pursuant to Section 3(a) xxi thereof. This program was formerly known as Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (“Eat Smart New York”).

New York State’s Supplemental Nutrition Education Plan has been approved by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). The mission of FNS is to provide children and needy families better access to food and a more healthful diet through its food assistance programs and comprehensive nutrition education efforts.

The Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County has operated this program for the last several years and they have the staff trained to conduct this program. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Nutrition Services (FNS) approves New York State's SNAP Nutrition Plan. The New York State Division of Transitional Supports and Policy approves Cornell Cooperative's plan to provide a nutrition education program to Westchester County residents known as "Eat Smart New York." This agency has a longstanding relationship with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance (OTDA) and the County of Westchester with regard to providing human service programs. New York State partners with Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Westchester County to provide quality nutrition education to SNAP eligibles at community centers, employment and job training centers, low-income schools and farmers' markets. It is to be noted that the New York State Division of Transitional Supports and Policy approves Cornell Cooperative's plan to provide a nutrition education program. This program is State supervised and locally administered.

Based on the expertise and the familiarity the agency has in this area, it is recommended that the County's best interest will be served by partnering with this agency to provide the aforesaid service.

Listed below are some of the reasons that make Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County uniquely qualified to operate this program:

- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County offers educational opportunities and resources designed to help empower individuals and families to improve the quality of their lives
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County offers programs that assist participants to become competent consumers and build healthier communities
- Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County collaborates with other local agencies and the College of Human Ecology at Cornell University to achieve these goals

Pursuant to Section 3(a) xxi, the Westchester County Procurement Policy and Procedures are not applicable to any procurement for which your Honorable Board determines, by resolution passed prior to commencing such procurement, that compliance with the Policy would not be in the best interests of the County. Based on the expertise and background of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County in conducting similar Food Stamp nutrition education programs, it is recommended that it would be in the best interest of the County to exempt the aforesaid agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County from the requirements of County's Procurement Policy.

Therefore, the application of the Procurement Policy, including the solicitation of proposals, would not be cost effective or expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County. A separate resolution to enter into an agreement with Cornell Cooperative

Extension of Westchester County to operate the program has been submitted for your Honorable Board's approval with even date.

We respectfully request the approval of the attached resolution by your Honorable Board.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 11/08/2012 - JOMARY VIEIRA SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that pursuant to Section 3(a) xxi of the Westchester County Procurement Policy, it is hereby determined that application of the procedural requirements contained therein, including the necessity of soliciting proposals, is neither cost effective nor expedient, and accordingly, not in the best interests of the County in connection with the procurement of an Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County for the period October 1, 2012 through September 30, 2013 whereby Cornell Cooperative Extension of Westchester County will provide a Supplemental Nutrition Education Program to recipients of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits residing in Westchester County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any and all documents and to take such other actions necessary to effectuate the purposes hereof.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION
JOSEPH VIEIRA, COUNTY SECRETARY