

ID75544

Date: May 12, 2020

To: Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kathleen M. O'Connor, Commissioner  
Parks, Recreation & Conservation

Kevin M. McGuire, Commissioner  
Department of Social Services

Re: Authority to enter into an agreement with Westchester Parks Foundation, Inc. to provide for the operation and management of "Camp Morty", a virtual camp experience for Westchester's children between the ages of 8 and 15 who are under the care of the Department of Social Services.

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Up until twenty one years ago, the County, through the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation, as well as other organizations, provided children in Westchester County an opportunity for an extended sleep away camp experience in a natural setting at Sal J. Prezioso Mountain Lakes Park located in North Salem, New York. The camp facility at Mountain Lakes Park was closed due to deteriorating conditions and a lack of available resources. In 2007, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation utilized Blue Mountain Reservation to offer a similar sleep away camp experience for Westchester's children between the ages of 8 and 13 who were under the care of the Department of Social Services. In 2008, as a result of a successful capital improvement project, Sal J. Prezioso Mountain Lakes Park was once again utilized as a sleep away camp. As a result of the COVID-19 virus, the 2020 camp is not able to take place at Mountain Lakes. The Westchester Parks Foundation has developed a virtual camp program.

The attached resolution, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County to enter into an agreement with Westchester Parks Foundation, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation located at 155 Lafayette Avenue, Suite 101, White Plains, New York 10603, to provide for the operation and management of a virtual camp experience known as Camp Morty for the period May 21, 2020 to December 31, 2020. Funding for the operation and management of Camp Morty will be provided through the Westchester County Department of Social Services.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, camp is not able to take place at Mountain Lakes. The Westchester Parks Foundation has developed a virtual camp program which includes pre-loaded YouTube videos, that not only engage our young people, but it provides them with the tools to be independently creative without putting additional responsibilities on their caretakers. Each camper will receive a "camp in the box" which will include many

activities/creative materials as well as a Chromebook for them to follow the online curriculum. In exchange for this alternative virtual camp, the County will pay Westchester Parks Foundation, Inc. \$401,394 in accordance with an approved budget.

The goal of this agreement is to help promote the public health of these boys and girls ages 8-15, who are under the care of the Department of Social Services, and offer them an opportunity to participate in a positive virtual camp experience for the County's most needy children. Each summer, Camp Morty will afford children the unique opportunity to grow and expand their horizons while at the same time encourage curiosity, physical fitness, self confidence and self esteem.

The program will be tracked and monitored by Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation staff. In addition, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and the Department of Social Services will work closely on the planning and implementation of the camp program to ensure sound fiscal management and diverse programming.

The children selected for Camp Morty will be recommended by Westchester County's Department of Social Services, in consultation with the Department of Mental Health. This program, consisting of six one-week sessions will serve up to as many as twelve hundred campers over the six week period.

This agreement is exempt from the operation of the Westchester County Procurement Policy pursuant to Section 3(a)(xviii).

A resolution is attached for your consideration.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACTS - 5/14/2020 - LISA MERRILL SECRETARY

## RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner, Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation and the Commissioner, Department of Social Services, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Westchester Parks Foundation, Inc., 155 Lafayette Avenue, Suite 101, White Plains, New York 10603 to provide for the operation of a virtual camp experience for Westchester's children between the ages of 8 and 15 under the care of the Department of Social Services

**RESOLVED**, that the agreement will commence May 21, 2020 and terminate December 31, 2020 and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that funding for the operation and management of Camp Morty will be provided through the Westchester County Department of Social Services; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County will pay \$401,394 to Westchester Parks Foundation, Inc. for this purpose in accordance with an approved budget; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this agreement is subject to County appropriations; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that this Agreement is also subject to further financial analysis of the impact of any New York State Budget (the "State Budget") proposed and adopted during the term of this Agreement. The County shall retain the right, upon the occurrence of any release by the Governor of a proposed State Budget and/or the adoption of a State Budget or any amendments thereto, and for a reasonable period of time after such release(s) or adoption(s) to conduct an analysis of the impacts of any State Budget on County finances. After such analysis, the County shall retain the right to either terminate this Agreement or to renegotiate the amounts and rates approved herein. If the County subsequently offers to pay a reduced amount to the Contractor, then the Contractor shall have the right to terminate this Agreement upon a reasonable prior notice; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute all instruments and take all actions reasonably necessary to implement this Resolution.

Original Agreement \$401,394  
 First Amendment \$  
**This Amendment** \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL \$401,394

Agreement #

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	42	809V	4380	T809	\$401,394

Budget Funding Year(s) 2020 Start Date: 5/21/2020 End Date: 12/31/2020  
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars: 38%  
 State Aid: 39%  
**\$ 401,394** Federal Aid: 23%  
 (must match resolution) Other : \_\_\_\_\_

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/14/2020 - LISA MRIJAJ, SECRETARY