

17620

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: John J. Hsu, P.E.
Commissioner of Public Works and Transportation

DATE: March 1, 2011

RE: AUTHORITY FOR THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR UP TO \$800,000 (UP TO \$640,000 IN FEDERAL FUNDS AND UP TO \$160,000 IN LOCAL MATCH) TO SUPPORT FEDERALLY MANDATED TRANSPORTATION PLANNING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2011 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2012

Authority is requested for the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation to accept up to \$640,000 in Federal Funds; to be matched by \$160,000 in County Funds to support a \$800,000 federally mandated transportation planning requirement for the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012.

Since 1975, the County of Westchester has participated in a subregional planning program, which is administered by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council. The goal of the subregional planning program is County compliance with the mandates of federal transportation legislation. Attaining this goal ensures that the County will continue to receive Federal transportation funding for its transit system, roads and bridges, and bicycle and pedestrian facilities. In the 2011-2012 program year, the goal will be achieved through the objectives outlined in the work program including the development of the Westchester County section of the Regional Transportation Plan, collection and reporting of traffic data, analysis of 2010 census data and participation in the planning process for the I-287/Tappan Zee Bridge project.

The County's participation in the subregional planning program is in the best interest of the County as it relates to fiscal responsibility, since the County would be ineligible for at least \$10 million in federal transit aid if it did not participate. In addition, funding through this program provides the County with funding to evaluate and plan Bee-Line bus service.

Progress toward the completion of the goals and objectives is tracked via reports on each element submitted quarterly to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council, the New York State Department of Transportation, the Federal Transit Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration.

This agreement will relieve the County of a substantial amount of the fiscal responsibility for meeting those requirements by reimbursing the County for 80% of the costs incurred, while maintaining the County's eligibility for substantial highway and transit grants. The County's participation in the program has been approved by the Board of Acquisition and Contract each year since its inception.

On July 1, 1982, a continuing agreement was established to enable the New York State Department of Transportation to provide Federal funds to the County for its continued participation in the subregional planning program. This agreement is modified each year to reflect the annual program and funding allocation to Westchester. Approval is requested for this program year (April 1, 2011-March 31, 2012) at an anticipated funding level of up to \$640,000 in Federal funds, requiring \$160,000 in County match, for a total of \$800,000 for the subregional planning program. The County's funding contribution has been approved in the Department of Transportation's 2011 Operating budget.

In view of the importance of this program to the County's transportation system, I recommend approval of the attached resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 5/24/2011 - 3:04 PM - JONATHAN VETTA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner of Public Works and Transportation, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is authorized to enter into an agreement with the New York State Department of Transportation for subregional transportation planning services for the period April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; and be it further

RESOLVED, that under the terms of this agreement, the State of New York will provide up to \$640,000 in Federal funds to the County of Westchester, and the County of Westchester will be required to provide matching funds up to \$160,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is authorized to execute all documents necessary to implement the purpose of this resolution.

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	44	278L	9853	T278	\$640,000
101	44	1000	4912		\$160,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2011-2012 Start Date: April 1, 2011 End Date: March 31, 2012
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars \$160,000 (20%)
 State Aid \$640,000 (80%)
\$800,000 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other _____