

DATE April 1, 2010

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Edward Buroughs
Acting Commissioner

SUBJECT: Resolution Authorizing the County of Westchester to Enter Into an Agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Westchester County to Conduct a Number of County-Wide Educational Programs.

The attached resolution authorizes the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Westchester County ("Cornell") pursuant to which Cornell will conduct a number of county-wide educational programs, including various environmental, ecological and horticultural programs, to be held at the County's Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center, for the period from January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 (the "Agreement"). In consideration for services to be rendered, the County will pay Cornell an amount not exceed \$1,187,825.00, pursuant to an approved budget.

Cornell, with the assistance of the New York State Colleges of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Human Ecology and other units at Cornell University, conducts a number of county-wide educational programs, including programs held at the County's Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center. The programs are offered through classes, clinics, conferences and workshops. Participants include youth and adults. The programs are open to both the general public and professionals. In addition, Cornell disseminates information through publications and networking with educators, health professionals and community agencies. Cornell is the only agency that provides this type of service for Westchester County residents.

This Agreement serves a public purpose by protecting the environment and enhancing public health. The public will be offered educational opportunities on environmental, ecological and horticulture issues that will benefit today's generation and generations to come through various programs plus education on better nutritional habits.

The goals and objectives of this Agreement are to provide various county-wide educational programs. Last year (2009), Cornell exceeded in practically every goal in each program area. Cornell attributed the increase in participation to the current economic climate. During recessionary times individuals look for low cost/ no cost ways to be active; classes on gardening, 4-H Club for youth and other clinics and workshops become their selections. The services included, but were not limited to, providing nutrition education and financial management programs for 972 participants (400 anticipated), providing physical fitness training to 550 adults (anticipated 60) and implementing six 4-H clubs that reached 15,329 participants (1,130 anticipated). Cornell will provide technical assistance and expertise for a new Farm School Gardening Program at Hilltop Hanover Farm. In 2010 Cornell will continue to offer these services at a slightly reduced level to over 6,740 County residents. Cornell will provide nutrition education to all the students who participate in the ten Farm at Schools programs at the Hilltop Hanover Farm. We anticipate that Cornell's county-wide education program in 2010 will continue to meet or

exceed their goals. The monitoring of the programs will be provided by the on-site Westchester County staff. Cornell will submit quarterly reports and an annual report to the Department of Planning.

Should this agreement not be authorized, an anticipated 6,740 county residents will not be able to participate in this level of environmental, ecological and horticultural educational opportunities that Cornell provides, as no other organization offers these services.

This Agreement does not constitute a procurement and, as such, is not subject to the Westchester County Procurement Policy. Rather, in accordance with subdivision 8 of Section 224 of the County Law of the State of New York, the County is specifically authorized to appropriate funds and enter into agreements for the support and maintenance of Cornell's work.

Accordingly, a resolution to authorize an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Westchester County is hereby submitted for your consideration.

EB/
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 4-8-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE ACTING COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED, that in accordance with subdivision 8 of Section 224 of the County Law of the State of New York, the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Westchester County (“Cornell”), pursuant to which Cornell will conduct a number of county-wide educational programs in accordance with an agreed-upon scope of services, including, but not limited to, various environmental, ecological and horticultural programs to be held at the County’s Hilltop Hanover Farm and Environmental Center for a term commencing on January 1, 2010 and continuing through December 31, 2010 (the “Agreement”); and be it further

RESOLVED, that in consideration for services to be rendered, the County shall pay Cornell an amount not-to-exceed \$1,187,825.00, pursuant to 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 such 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 reasonable written notice, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his authorized designee be and hereby is authorized to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to effectuate purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
101	52	2170	5100	N/A	\$1,187,825.00

Budget Funding Year(s)
(must match resolution)

FY 2010

Start Date January 1, 2010

End Date December 31, 2010

Funding Source

Tax Dollars \$1,187,825.00

State Aid _____

\$1,187,825.00
(must match resolution)

Federal Aid _____

Other _____