



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

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Committee Assignment
ENV. & PUB. WORKS-L
WAYS & MEANS

To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Acceptance of Two Grants from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for Climate Smart Communities for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and Climate Adaptation Plan

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body accept two (2) grants from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation ("NYSDEC") in the amounts of \$75,000 for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and \$100,000 for the Climate Adaptation Plan.

Monroe County was awarded two (2) grants as part of an initiative by the NYSDEC to provide resources for projects aimed at addressing climate change and its effects. This project complements the goals established in the Monroe County Climate Action Plan, Phase I of which was approved by Your Honorable Body under Resolution 276 of 2022, and the Climate Smart Communities Program, which Your Honorable Body approved under Resolution 260 of 2020. As part of the Climate Smart Communities program, completion of these projects will further Monroe County's goal of achieving Silver Certification in the Climate Smart Communities Program, the highest level in the program.

The grants for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and the Climate Adaptation Plan will support the development of a Monroe County Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Plan ("CARP"). The CARP will identify, analyze, and prioritize the effects of climate hazards and risks (such as flooding, heat stress, or drought), on specific population segments and the entire community, specific areas, assets, and entire systems. It will consider diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice issues since vulnerabilities will likely lead to varying risks across the diverse populations in our community.

This grant was submitted through the New York State Consolidated Funding Application program in 2022, and the award was announced in January 2023. The Monroe County Department of Environmental Services will lead the project funded by this grant and administer the grant requirements.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a \$75,000 grant from, and execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment.
2. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a \$100,000 grant from, and execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Climate Adaptation Plan.

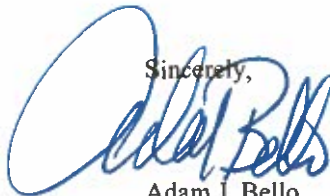
3. Amend the 2023 operating budget of the Department of Environmental Services by appropriating the sum of \$175,000 into general fund 9300, funds center 8301020000 Climate Initiatives.
4. Amend the 2023 operating budget of the Department of Environmental Services by appropriating the sum of \$175,000 of general fund committed fund balance into general fund 9001, funds center 8301020000 Climate Initiatives.
5. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to reappropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, and to make any necessary funding modifications within the grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments.
6. Should funding of this program be modified or terminated for any reason, the County Executive is hereby authorized to terminate or modify the program and, where applicable, to terminate or abolish some or all positions funded under such program. Any termination or abolishment of positions shall be in accordance with New York State Civil Service Law and, when applicable, the terms of any labor agreement affecting such positions.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(27) ("conducting concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

These grants require equal local funding matches, in the amounts of \$75,000 for the Climate Vulnerability Assessment and \$100,000 for the Climate Adaptation Plan. The local matches will require additional net County support, for which the appropriation of general fund committed fund balance is requested.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,



Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive