

BUDGET 2020

COUNTY OF ERIE, BUFFALO, NEW YORK



BOOK A / OPERATING FUNDS

Amended and Adopted by the Erie County Legislature on December 5, 2019

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Outcome Measures for Next Year:

- To restore property values and protect public health, Erie County and its partners will remediate one brownfield site in 2020. In order to restore property tax and job generating business activity to underutilized sites, Erie County and its partners will prepare 2 industrial sites for commercial use in 2020.
- To support the unique capital needs of income- and geographically-eligible small startup businesses, Erie County and its partners will close one microenterprise loan in 2020.
- In order to support our urban centers, Erie County will assist two village or urban center projects.
- Erie County will acquire one site for an Agriculture Industrial Park and begin planning and engineering efforts for development.
- Erie County and its partners will facilitate locating one new company on the former Bethlehem Steel site.

Performance Goals

- It is estimated that 3 brownfield sites will be assisted in 2020 by Erie County personnel.
- It is estimated that one new company will locate on a brownfield site remediated by Erie County and its partners.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Program Description

The Division of Environmental Compliance enhances and protects the quality of the County's natural environment. The Division collaborates with its partners on projects through the Erie County Environmental Management Council, Western New York Stormwater Coalition, Erie County Water Quality Committee, Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance, Northwest and Northeast Southtowns Solid Waste Management Boards, the Western New York Environmental Alliance, Western New York Sustainable Business Roundtable, the West Valley Citizens Task Force, University at Buffalo RENEW Institute, and the Erie County Green Team - which has created a sustainability plan for County operations.

In 2020, revenues from NYS will offset 50 percent of Household Hazardous Waste Collection event expenses, revenues from Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) collection events will offset expenses incurred for these disposal events, and funding from the County's two Solid Waste Management Boards will support solid waste management planning, additional collection events expenses, and mandated state reporting. In addition, funding from the Western NY Stormwater Coalition will support stormwater permit requirements addressing education, training, and compliance.

Implementation of certain elements contained within the *Initiatives for a Smart Economy, 2.0* will be a high priority. These include the restoration of additional habitats at two of our County Buffalo River Natural Habitat Parks, along with our continued involvement and support of the cleanup and delisting of the Buffalo River Area of Concern. The Division has also been actively supporting the Erie County Green assisting the Department of Public Works with energy projects, as well as pursuing grant funding for other water quality and sustainability initiatives. Furthermore, the Division coordinating and monitoring the County's response to climate change, including implementing and enhancing the Paris Plan for community sustainability, the County's internal operations Climate Action and Sustainability Plan, and developing a Climate Resilience Plan.

The Paris Fund will reinvest half of the 2019 cost savings achieved through energy conservation and waste reduction projects in sustainability initiatives. Use of the funds will be overseen by the Executive Committee of the Green Team, which includes: the County Executive's Chief of Staff and the Commissioners of Public Works, Environment & Planning, and Parks, as well as leadership from Social Services, Budget, and Information Support Services. The funds will be utilized to implement action items identified in the recently adopted Climate Action and Sustainability Plan for internal operations, as well as other projects identified by the Green Team. Whenever possible the fund would be used to leverage additional funding through grants and rebates.

Program and Service Objectives

- Identify and secure financial assistance and provide technical environmental regulatory compliance and pollution prevention support to County departments, municipalities, institutions, private sector organizations, and the general public to reduce the costs of compliance and waste.