



# ERIE COUNTY COMPTROLLER

## HON. STEFAN I. MYCHAJLIW

May 18, 2020

Honorable Members  
Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Honorable Members:

The Office of Erie County Executive has requested an across the board reduction of independently elected officials, including his own office and departments that report directly to him, to reduce their 2020 budget by 13.1%. No independently elected official is going to bear a higher or lower proposed reduction, as per the Erie County Executive:

“Every office will be expected to contribute (13.1% cut). It’s not, one will receive more than the others. It will be a 13-percent cut across the board.”

*Source: Erie County Executive Mark C. Poloncarz, [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), May 1st, 2020*

In order to accomplish that goal, the Office of Erie County Comptroller could eliminate seven vacant positions for a total savings of \$529,000. \$367,107.99 saved on salaries. \$183,554.00 is saved on fringe (total \$550,661.99). This would allow us to meet the targeted threshold of a 13.1% reduction in the Office of Erie County Comptroller.

A benefit of cutting vacant positions is the fact that the County of Erie would obviously not be required to pay unemployment benefits for the potential elimination of these positions. While the circumstances are not ideal, and we had multiple candidates lined up to fill these vacant positions, we are honoring the County Executive’s request of proposing a 13.1% cut of our budget.

We will also point out that the Office of Erie County Comptroller has already passed on significant savings to the County of Erie last year and this year. Our team did “more with less” in 2019, not spending \$513,000 of our budget, which was returned to the general fund as fund balance. The Office of Erie County Comptroller also delivered a record amount of revenue back to the Erie County budget via our popular Supplier Pay program to the tune of \$271,951.16 this year. Thank you very much for your prompt attention to working together to balance the budget.

Sincerely,

Hon. Stefan I. Mychajliw Jr.  
Erie County Comptroller

CC: Erie County Division of Budget and Management