

January 12, 2023

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 1

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT, EXCEPT LEGISLATOR MILLS.
CHAIR BASKIN PRESENT AS EX-OFFICIO MEMBER.

1. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed:

a. COMM. 1M-1 (2023)
NFTA: "NFTA Budget for FYE 2024"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 22E-25 (2022) AS AMENDED
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, year-end budget balancing amendments are necessary to close the County's books and prepare financial statements for review by the County's independent auditors for the 2021 fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Budget Balancing resolution, Comm. 8E-1 (2022) was approved on May 12, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Comm.8E-1 (2022) allocated funding to a variety of community development and County projects; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie is interested in the fostering of tourism and supporting arts and cultural organizations; and

WHEREAS, the nonprofit arts and culture sector is a significant industry in the Western New York economy generating over \$352 million in direct and indirect economic activity according to Arts Services Initiative; and

WHEREAS, Comm.8E-1 (2022) allocated \$25,000,000 towards "Cultural Agency Capital Fund;" and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Fund seeks to provide capital improvement grants to defray the cost of capital improvements at art and cultural institution's facilities; and

WHEREAS, a competitive application process was facilitated by the Department of Environment and Planning; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Capital Projects Committee reviewed applications and selected a list of awardees representing arts and cultural organizations throughout the County; and

WHEREAS; additional legislation is needed to enter into a contract with awarded arts and cultural organizations to facilitate the projects; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.1 which implements the State Environmental Quality Review Act the consideration of environmental factors into decision making processes of local governments is required prior to the Legislature undertaking, approving or funding an action; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Planning reviewed the proposed cultural capital projects and determined that certain projects are considered Type II actions pursuant to SEQR; and

WHEREAS, the following Organization's applications were selected to complete the following projects; and

Organization/Project	Description of Project
West Side Bazaar Relocation	Restoration of structure
Colored Musicians Club	Interior Capital Improvements to Existing Structure
Springville Center for The Arts	Interior Capital improvements to Existing Structure
Torn Space Theater Expansion	Construction of two small building additions
Alleyway Theater Improvements	Interior Capital Improvements, Equipment and Exterior Signage
Buffalo Irish Center Improvements	Interior and Exterior Capital Maintenance
Roycroft Campus Print Shop Restoration	Restoration of a historic structure
Juneteenth Festival Headquarters	Building repairs and Capital Improvements
Lancaster Opera House HVAC	HVAC install
Eliza Quirk House Restoration	Restoration of an existing structure
Stitch Buffalo Textile Center	Renovation of an existing structure
Buffalo Center for Arts and Tech	Purchase /installation of IT/ network equipment
Road Less Traveled Productions	Renovation of an existing structure
Buffalo Toronto Public Media	Installation of a new air chiller unit
Orchard Park Concert Pavilion	Repairs to an outdoor bandshell
Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro"	Various interior building repairs and improvements
Threshing Barn Reconstruction	Reconstruction of barn
District School #6 Improvements	Building repairs and improvements
Buffalo Religious Arts Center	Preservation of glass windows
Buffalo String Works Elevator	Construction of a new elevator

Asa Warren House Improvements	Capital improvements to a historic structure
Italian Cultural Center Exhibit	Construction of a new interpretive exhibit
Locust Street Art Improvements	ADA improvements
Starlight Studio and Art Gallery Accessibility	ADA improvements
Heritage Discovery Center	Building Envelope /weather sealing
Buffalo Inner City Ballet Bathrooms	Capital improvements to an existing structure
Concordia Cemetery Fence & Roof	Roofing and site fencing repairs
WNY Book Arts Collaborative	Repairs to an existing structure
Buffalo Chamber Players Seats	Purchase of new audience seats
Sardinia Historical Society Painting	Interior improvements a historic building
Shakespeare In Delaware Park	Sound equipment purchases
Holland Historical Society Porch	Repairs to a historic structure
Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Trailer	Purchase of a mobile performance trailer

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Legislature concurs with the Department of Environment and Planning's determination of significance set forth in 6 N.Y.C.R.R. § 617.7(c) and considers the aforementioned actions to be consider Type II action denoting a deminimis environmental impact; and

RESOLVED, that the County Executive / Deputy County Executive be authorized to execute contracts with the following entities in the amounts indicated, from the capital accounts as noted:

Organization/Project	Legal Name	Amount	Capital Account #/ WBS
West Side Bazaar Relocation	Westminster Economic Development Initiative, Inc.	\$925,000	A.22095.1.1
Colored Musicians Club	Colored Musicians Club of Buffalo NY	\$925,000	A.22095.1.2
Springville Center for The Arts	Springville Center for the Arts, Inc.	\$500,000	A.22095.1.5
Torn Space Theater Expansion	Torn Space Theater and/or Adam Mickiewicz Library and Dramatic Circle Inc.	\$500,000	A.22095.1.6
Alleyway Theater	Alleyway Theatre, Inc. and/or City of	\$482,377	A.22095.1.7

Improvements	Buffalo		
Buffalo Irish Center Improvements	Gaelic American Athletic Association of Buffalo New York Inc.	\$383,341	A.22095.1.8
Roycroft Campus Print Shop Restoration	Roycroft Campus Corporation	\$350,000	A.22095.1.9
Juneteenth Festival Headquarters	Juneteenth Festival, Inc.	\$316,400	A.22095.1.10
Lancaster Opera House HVAC	Lancaster, NY Opera House Inc. and/or Town of Lancaster	\$293,590	A.22095.1.11
Eliza Quirk House Restoration	Preservation Buffalo Niagara	\$200,000	A.22095.1.13
Stitch Buffalo Textile Center	Stitch Buffalo, Inc. and/or 2468 Group, Inc.	\$200,000	A.22095.1.14
Buffalo Center for Arts and Tech	Buffalo Arts and Technology Center and/or Artspace Affordable Family Housing I, LP	\$189,350	A.22095.1.15
Road Less Traveled Productions	Road Less Traveled Productions and/or Ellicott Development	\$179,713	A.22095.1.16
Buffalo Toronto Public Media	Buffalo Toronto Public Media	\$177,210	A.22095.1.17
Orchard Park Concert Pavilion	Orchard Park Council of the Arts, Inc. and/or Orchard Park Central School District	\$172,425	A.22095.1.18
Ukrainian Cultural Center "Dnipro"	Ukrainian American Freedom Foundation Inc.	\$160,000	A.22095.1.19
Threshing Barn Reconstruction	Hull House Foundation	\$106,659	A.22095.1.20
District School #6 Improvements	Lancaster NY Historical Society and/or Town of Lancaster	\$100,000	A.22095.1.21
Buffalo Religious Arts Center	The Committee for the Buffalo Religious Arts Center, Inc.	\$91,692	A.22095.1.22
Buffalo String Works Elevator	Buffalo String Works, Inc. and/or Breeser Real Estate Enterprises, Inc.	\$85,600	A.22095.1.23
Asa Warren House Improvements	Eden Historical Society, Inc.	\$81,000	A.22095.1.24
Italian Cultural Center Exhibit	Centro Culturale Italiano di Buffalo	\$60,000	A.22095.1.25
Locust Street Art Improvements	Locust Street Neighborhood Art Classes, Inc.	\$50,000	A.22095.1.26

Starlight Studio and Art Gallery Accessibility	Learning Disabilities Association of Western New York, Inc. and/or Asbury Development, LLC	\$43,437	A.22095.1.27
Heritage Discovery Center	Western New York Railway Historical Society and/or Heritage Discovery Center, LLC	\$39,240	A.22095.1.28
Buffalo Inner City Ballet Bathrooms	Buffalo Inner City Ballet and/or 910 Millersport LLC	\$39,000	A.22095.1.29
Concordia Cemetery Fence & Roof	Concordia Cemetery, Inc.	\$38,353	A.22095.1.30
WNY Book Arts Collaborative	Western New York Book Arts Collaborative	\$27,690	A.22095.1.31
Buffalo Chamber Players Seats	Buffalo Chamber Players, Inc	\$24,890	A.22095.1.32
Sardinia Historical Society Painting	Sardinia Historical Society	\$21,800	A.22095.1.33
Shakespeare In Delaware Park	Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Inc	\$19,833	A.22095.1.34
Holland Historical Society Porch	Holland Historical Society and/or Wahl Enterprises, LLC	\$11,000	A.22095.1.35
Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus Trailer	Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus, Inc.	\$4,127	A.22095.1.36

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Director of Budget and Management to make any necessary budgetary adjustments as needed to administer these projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Comptroller's Office, following the necessary approvals of the Budget Office to make payments up to the contractual limits indicated above, with a total amount not to exceed \$6,798,727, the source shall be Capital Project A.22095, Capital Agency Capital Fund, Fund 410, Funds Center 162; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Department of Law and County Executive/Deputy County Executive to execute easements, deed restrictions, intermunicipal agreements and/or place additional requirements on the aforementioned contracting entities and associated real property (project location) as necessary to implement the projects; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive; the Erie County Comptroller; the Director of Budget and Management; Department of Law; and Department of Environment and Planning.
(5-0)

3. **COMM. 1E-10 (2023) AS AMENDED
COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

WHEREAS, our local small business economy has been adversely affected by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic; and

WHEREAS, there was a record increase in on-line sales transactions during the earlier phases of the pandemic which has resulted in a significant amount of excess sales tax revenue; and

WHEREAS, \$10 million dollars of such sales tax revenue has been set aside to help area businesses with their recovery and continued growth; and

WHEREAS, Erie County seeks to reinvest that surplus sales tax revenue into our local business economy and offer grants of up to \$40,000 to improve the visual aesthetic, functionality, and pedestrian/customer interface of such business facades; and

WHEREAS, Erie County is desirous of engaging a project administration firm to assist with application intake, processing and scoring of applications, contract execution/management between business owners and contractors, and payment processing; and

WHEREAS, in compliance with Section 26.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code a consultant selection process was undertaken to evaluate responses to Request for Proposal #2021-048VF; and

WHEREAS, Erie County desires to work with H. Sicherman & Company, Inc. to provide project administration for this engagement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive to execute an amended contract in an amount not to exceed \$8,900,000 with H. Sicherman & Company, Inc, which includes the previously authorized \$500,000 fee for project administration services via COMM. 6E-27 (2022) and \$8,400,000 for administration of storefront revitalization grants; and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$8,400,000 is available for this purpose in the 2022 Community/Neighborhood Development Budget, Fund 110, Funds Center 1332010, Account #516340 – Storefront Community Revitalization; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to re-appropriate \$8,400,000 in 2022 funding into 2023; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of the Division of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to implement any budget adjustments as required to comply with State and local funding requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office, Division of Budget and Management, Department of Law; and the Department of Environment and Planning.

(5-0)

HOWARD J. JOHNSON, JR.
CHAIR