



**ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE AGENDA
MS. RITA CURRAN, CHAIR
MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024
BOARD ROOM AND VIA YOUTUBE
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING SERVICES**



RUTH A. DOYLE
County Administrator

DAVID FORSYTHE
Chair, Board of Legislators

1. CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 16

3. THE EVOLUTION OF CYBER-CRIMINAL ENTERPRISES PERTAINING TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS - FBI Special Agent Kevin Conine and Paul Romeo, Principal Cyber Security Consultant, NYSTEC

4. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – RICK JOHNSON

- A. Authorizing the Chair to Sign a Cyber Information Sharing and Collaboration Agreement with the New York State Office of Information Technology Services and the New York State Division of Homeland Security Services for Information Technology (Res)

5. PROBATION – TIM LEPAGE

- A. Modifying the 2024 Budget for Probation for Funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (Res)

6. SHERIFF – PATRICK ENGLE

- A. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for Donations Received for K9 Supplies and Other Expenses (Res)
- B. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for Prescription Costs at the Correctional Facility (Res)
- C. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program Prescription Costs at the Correction Facility (Res)
- D. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office to Accept a FY25 Police Traffic Services (PTS) Grant from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee (Res)
- E. Accepting a 2023 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant from New York Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) and Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office (Res)
- F. Modifying the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for the Purchase of Equipment and Supplies (Res)

7. LEGISLATOR CURRAN

- A. Urging the State of New York to Enact the Rescue EMS Package to Strengthen Emergency Medical Services in St. Lawrence County (Res)
- B. Urging New York State to Enact Senate Bill S.4583-A and Assembly Bill A.5942-A, Amending the County Law in Relation to the Next Generation 911 System (Res)
- C. Opposing Adoption of Proposition 1, Known as the "Equal Rights Amendment" (Res)

8. LEGISLATOR SMITHERS

- A. Encouraging Governor Kathy C. Hochul and the New York State Legislature to Increase the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Budget Allocation for County Jails (Res)
- B. Encouraging the State Legislature and Governor to Enact Technical Edits to Components of the Raise the Age Law (Res)
- C. Encouraging Governor Kathy Hochul to Recognize New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act Rulemaking and Its Impact on Critical Local Highway, Bridge, and Culvert Projects (Res)
- D. Urging Governor Kathy Hochul and State Legislators to Adjust the 5-Year Transportation Capital Plan for New York State (Res)
- E. Calling on Governor Kathy Hochul with Concerns about the Impacts of Efforts to Electrify Highway Department Vehicles by Adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule (Res)

9. VACANCY REVIEW COMMITTEE - RUTH DOYLE

- A. Information Technology
 - 1. Fill Computer Technician, Position No. 202700001

10. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - RUTH DOYLE

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Agriculture & Farmland Protection Board (Denesha)
- B. Alternative to Incarceration Board (Burke)
- C. Board of Trustees for Supreme Court Library (Haggard)
- D. Emergency Medical Services Advisory Board (Curran)
- E. Environmental Management Council (Terminelli)
- F. Fire Advisory Board (Denesha)
- G. Jury Board (Sheridan)
- H. Planning Board (Fay)

12. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. Litigation
- B. Negotiations
- C. Personnel
- D. Appointments

14. ADJOURNMENT – If there is no further business.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A CYBER INFORMATION SHARING AND
COLLABORATION AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES AND THE NEW YORK STATE
DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY SERVICES FOR INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, New York State established a Joint Security Operations Center (JSOC) to serve as an around-the-clock operational center for the purpose of sharing cyber threat information that is uniquely positioned as a sharing hub to integrate information and facilitate operational collaboration from multiple sources, and

WHEREAS, the New York Security Operations Center Initiative (NY SOC) is a one-of-a-kind cooperative approach between state and local governments to enhance collective cybersecurity and risk management capabilities and provide Participating Entities with actionable information to prevent, detect, respond to, and recover from cyberattacks, and

WHEREAS, Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) is required to work with federal, state, local, and private entities to protect critical infrastructure of the State from cyber threats and vulnerabilities and to coordinate and facilitate information and intelligence sharing among these entities to assist in the early identification of and response to natural and man-made disasters, and

WHEREAS, Information Technology Services (ITS) is responsible for protecting the cybersecurity infrastructure of New York State Government and does so by employing a multi-faceted approach that includes coordinating policies, standards and programs on cybersecurity across the State, partnering with State agencies and law enforcement, monitoring the technology assets of the State and responding to abnormalities and threats to their systems, and

WHEREAS, the Participating Entity provides vital services to the residents of New York State, specifically St. Lawrence County, within its jurisdictional boundaries, and

WHEREAS, the Participating Entity will provide the State with Confidential Information or Cyber Information and logging data to contribute to an unprecedented level of visibility into potential threats across the State and increase efficiency in detecting and responding to cybersecurity events and incidents, and

WHEREAS, the State will receive, analyze, integrate and disseminate Confidential Information and Cyber Information from the Participating Entity and improve the collective cybersecurity and risk management capabilities of the State, and

WHEREAS, the State is equipped to facilitate the exchange of Confidential Information and Cyber Information and offer a variety of services to Participating Entities,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Chair to Sign a Cyber Information Sharing Agreement with the New York State Office of Information Technology and the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for the Information Technology Department, upon approval of the County Attorney.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR PROBATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE
NEW YORK STATE DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Probation has received unique funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) for pretrial services in the amount of \$206,976, and

WHEREAS, the State has approved funds to be used for an alarm system, defensive tactics, deescalation training, and two-way radios,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for Probation for funding from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

Q1031404 43007	Q Other Fees & Services	\$92,678
Q1G31404 423SS	Q Gouv Security System	1,589
Q1031404 41102	Q Educational Workshops	<u>8,600</u>
		\$102,867

INCREASE REVENUE:

Q1033105 56000 ATI	Q SA ATI Pre Trial	\$102,867
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November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR DONATIONS
RECEIVED FOR K9 SUPPLIES AND OTHER EXPENSES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has received unanticipated donations from the community that were not budgeted in the 2024 Sheriff's Office Budget, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be used to purchase supplies and other expenses needed for K9 Officers and their dogs

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for donations received for K9 supplies and other expenses, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S6027055 55000 K92	S Sheriff Donations K Unit #2	\$1,100
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S6031104 42800 K92	S DGTF K92 Other Supplies	\$1,100
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November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR
PRESCRIPTION COSTS AT THE CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the cost of prescriptions associated with general medical care has exceeded the 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, the challenges of pharmaceutical prices rising, along with the challenge of predicting the population in the jail and medications that may be needed throughout the year, makes establishing an annual budget difficult, and

WHEREAS, the law mandates that incarcerated people receive health care, but prohibits the use of Medicaid funds for services provided to an inmate of a public institution,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for prescription costs at the Correctional Facility, as follows:

DECREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

B1019904 49700	B SPEC Contingency Account	\$90,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4031504 45100	S Jail Medical Supplies	\$90,000
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November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE
MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) PROGRAM PRESCRIPTION COSTS
AT THE CORRECTION FACILITY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the mandated Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program expenses have exceeded the budget for 2024, and

WHEREAS, the extraordinary increases in pharmaceutical prices along with the unpredictability of the jail population and their medication requirements require careful monitoring and when necessary, staff to make recommendations to modify the budget to support the Program, and

WHEREAS, the MAT Program is in its second full year which complicates the analysis to support the recommendations for budget, therefore, midyear modifications continue to be necessary,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office for the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program prescription costs at the Correctional Facility as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S4727355 55000	MAT Opioid Settlement Funds	\$150,000
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INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4743204 45100	S MAT Medical Supplies & Expenses	\$150,000
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November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE TO ACCEPT A
FY25 POLICE TRAFFIC SERVICES (PTS) GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW
YORK GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has been awarded a Police Traffic Services (PTS) Grant in the amount of \$8,184 through the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, and

WHEREAS, this 2025 PTS Grant provides funding to cover overtime costs related to planned events intended to increase seat belt usage in efforts to reduce dangerous driving behaviors,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office to accept a FY25 Police Traffic Services (PTS) Grant from the State of New York Governor's Traffic Safety Committee, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S1Z31101 18000 GTSC	S CRIM PTS Grant Overtime	\$8,184
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INCREASE REVENUE:

S1Z33895 56000 GTSC	S SA CRIM State Aid	\$8,184
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

ACCEPTING A 2023 DOMESTIC TERRORISM PREVENTION GRANT FROM NEW YORK DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (DHSES) AND MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has been awarded a Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant in the amount of \$172,413 from the New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services, with a contract period of September 1, 2024, to August 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, this grant is directed to be utilized to support the capability of the County to prevent targeted violence and domestic terrorism through the utilization of Threat Assessment and Management (TAM) Teams and the development of comprehensive Domestic Terrorism Plans,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the acceptance of a 2023 Domestic Terrorism Prevention Grant from New York Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES), as follows:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer is authorized to modify the 2024 Budget for the Sheriff's Office, as follows:

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S1Z31101 12000 DT3	S CRIM Supervisory/Admin	\$51,822
S1Z31101 14000 DT3	S CRIM Clerical	47,835
S1Z31104 43007 DT3	S CRIM Other Fees and Services	20,000
S1Z31108 81000 DT3	S CRIM Retirement	11,312
S1Z31108 83000 DT3	S CRIM Social Security	7,233
S1Z31108 84000 DT3	S CRIM Workers Compensation	2,499
S1Z31108 84500 DT3	S CRIM Group Life Insurance	182
S1Z31108 86000 DT3	S Hospital & Medical Insurance	29,851
S1Z31108 86500 DT3	S CRIM Dental Insurance	1,281
S1Z31108 89000 DT3	S CRIM Vision Insurance	398
		<u>\$172,413</u>

INCREASE REVENUE:

S1Z43895 57000 DT	S FA DT Federal Aid	\$172,413
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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any remaining funds will be rolled over to future budgets until the grant is fully expended.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**MODIFYING THE 2024 BUDGET FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR THE
PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has received revenue from workers compensation reimbursement and housing inmates from nearby counties that was not budgeted in the 2024 Budget, and

WHEREAS, these funds will be utilized to purchase technical equipment to provide transparency, liability, and safety enhancements in the Sheriff's Office Correctional Facility, as well as, building and food supplies for the Correctional Facility,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators authorizes the Treasurer to modify the 2024 Budget for the purchase of equipment and supplies, as follows:

INCREASE REVENUE:

S4026835 550WC	S LR W/C Reimbursement Salary	\$66,476
S5022645 550CO	S IH County Inmate Housing	<u>22,606</u>
		\$89,082

INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS:

S4031502 25000	S JAIL Technical Equipment	\$31,082
S4031504 40900	S JAIL Building Supplies & Exp	18,000
S4031504 45200	S JAIL Food Supplies & Expense	<u>40,000</u>
		\$89,082

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**URGING THE STATE OF NEW YORK TO ENACT THE RESCUE EMS PACKAGE
TO STRENGTHEN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES IN ST. LAWRENCE
COUNTY**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) is a vital resource, necessary to the health and well-being of communities across New York, and

WHEREAS, as a system that provides a wide range of pre-hospital medical care to sick or injured people in emergency situations, the difference between a municipality that provides for EMS and one that does not can often make the difference between life and death, and

WHEREAS, despite its vast importance, there is an ongoing EMS crisis in New York, particularly in how it is funded, staffed, and operated, and

WHEREAS, much of this stems from a fundamental misconception about EMS and other critical services like police and fire, and this is reflected in New York State law, which fails to recognize the essential nature of EMS, and

WHEREAS, as a result, EMS providers are often undervalued and under-respected for the critical role they play in our communities, and

WHEREAS, the State Legislature passed through both houses several components of the Rescue EMS Package, but despite these bills being successfully passed during the 2024 legislative session, more work needs to be done to address the crisis, and

WHEREAS, the EMS framework in New York includes an array of private, public, or not-for-profit providers that have expanded across the State in a scattered, patchwork approach, and

WHEREAS, this leaves many New York residents uncertain whether an EMS provider will be available in their community at the time of need, which necessitates greater flexibility for municipalities to ensure EMS can meet unique local challenges and build the foundation for a stronger and more efficient EMS system,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges the New York State to enact the Rescue EMS Package to strengthen Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in St. Lawrence County, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

URGING NEW YORK STATE TO ENACT SENATE BILL S.4583-A AND ASSEMBLY BILL A.5942-A, AMENDING THE COUNTY LAW IN RELATION TO THE NEXT GENERATION 911 SYSTEM

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, Next Generation 911 (NG911) is a digital, internet protocol (IP)-based system that will replace the analog 911 infrastructure that has been in place for decades, and it is expected that the FCC will soon mandate 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) to support NG911, and

WHEREAS, NG911 involves the latest 911 technology, including upgrades for pinpointing the exact location of cell phone callers, translating text messages at a 911 PSAP, and ensuring counties have back up resources with other similar counties, and

WHEREAS, while the technology to implement these new IP-based 911 systems is available, the transition to NG911 involves much more than just new computer hardware and software, and

WHEREAS, implementing NG911 in states and counties nationwide will require the coordination of resources and support of a variety of emergency communication, public safety, legislative and governing entities, and

WHEREAS, according to the Federal Government back in 2018- the cost to deploy NG911 across the nation is estimated to be \$9.5 billion to \$12.7 billion, and the full 10-year complete life cycle cost estimate to deploy and operate NG911 nationwide is between \$13.5 billion and \$16.1 billion, and

WHEREAS, the estimated price tag in New York State for NG911 is expected to be upwards of \$2 billion over the next ten (10) years, and County 911 departments do not have the adequate funding to take on the task of building their own ESInet and risk having a patchwork system that does not properly follow the intent of NextGen 911 or provide the necessary safety upgrades to the 911 system and the people of New York, and

WHEREAS, today, 911 centers face a wide range of challenges, ranging from funding, staffing issues, and high call volumes to helping people with special needs and the proliferation of the use of new communications technologies and an adequate amount of funding is necessary, and

WHEREAS, Senate Bill S.4583-A and Assembly Bill A.5942-A would codify into law the requirements for NG911 and require the State to build the Next Generation Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESInet) which is a network capable of connecting calls, texts, and other forms of media from the public to 911 PSAPs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators urges New York State to enact Senate Bill S.4583-A and Assembly Bill A.5942-A, amending the County Law in relation to the Next Generation 911 System (NG911), and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

OPPOSING ADOPTION OF PROPOSITION 1, KNOWN AS THE "EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT"

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in November of 2024, citizens of New York State will have the opportunity to vote on a ballot measure titled “Proposition 1”, also known as the “Equal Rights Amendment”, and

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 seeks to amend Section 11 of Article 1 of the New York State Constitution to read as follows (bold represents amended language):

§ 11. **a.** No person shall be denied the equal protection of the laws of this state or any subdivision thereof. No person shall, because of race, color, **ethnicity, national origin, age, disability**, creed [or], religion, **or sex, including sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and reproductive healthcare and autonomy**, be subjected to any discrimination in **[his or her] their** civil rights by any other person or by any firm, corporation, or institution, or by the state or any agency or subdivision of the state, **pursuant to law**,

b. Nothing in this section shall invalidate or prevent the adoption of any law, regulation, program, or practice that is designed to prevent or dismantle discrimination on the basis of a characteristic listed in this section, nor shall any characteristic listed in this section be interpreted to interfere with, limit, or deny the civil rights of any person based upon any other characteristic identified in this section,

WHEREAS, Proposition 1 consists of two distinct provisions that will revise Section 11, Article 1 of the New York State Constitution, and

WHEREAS, the ballot measure, with the stated aim of ‘protecting abortion’ constitutes a ‘trojan horse of epic proportions’, and

WHEREAS, Part A adds such terms as “gender identity” and “gender expression” to existing protected statuses to the previously, easily understandable, and long-recognized categories of race, color, creed, and religion, and

WHEREAS, the addition of such language has raised concerns from women’s rights advocates, parents’ groups and others over the potential usurpation of parental rights, the destruction of spaces for girls and women in public settings, and the decimation of girls’ sports, and

WHEREAS, some critics even see the ballot measure as a potential backdoor to allow non-citizen and migrant voting, given the addition of “national origin” as a protected class, and

WHEREAS, Part b of Proposition 1 could be even more catastrophic due to the fact that such language permits the government, as long as the goal is to “prevent or dismantle discrimination,” all the status protections in Part a and elsewhere in state law — the familiar protections based on race and religion, and the new ones, too — to discriminate against others under the guise of “dismantling discrimination” against another, utilizing such policies as affirmative action in both schools and the workplace, discrimination provisions against parents objecting to shared restrooms, etc., and

WHEREAS, while New Yorkers would retain some federal constitutional protections, under this amendment the broad and sweeping protections of the human rights laws of New York would be forced to give way to this new constitutional right to discriminate,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators opposes Proposition 1, known as the "Equal Rights Amendment"

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR KATHY C. HOCHUL AND THE NEW YORK STATE
LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE THE MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT)
BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR COUNTY JAILS**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, local correctional facilities are obligated by Mental Hygiene Law Section 19.18-c to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) services to incarcerated individuals who have been diagnosed with a substance-use disorder, and

WHEREAS, the provision of the MAT Program must also be accompanied by tangential therapeutic services including counseling, peer support, and discharge planning, and

WHEREAS, in many circumstances, obtaining the specific medications necessary to be compliant with the law, is a costly and time-intensive endeavor, and

WHEREAS, the annual appropriation provided in the State Aid to Localities Budget has remained static at the insufficient amount of \$8.865 million, to support the efforts of fifty-six (56) county jails,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages Governor Kathy C. Hochul and the New York State Legislature to increase the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) budget allocation for County jails, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**ENCOURAGING THE STATE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR TO ENACT
TECHNICAL EDITS TO COMPONENTS OF THE RAISE THE AGE LAW**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the Raise the Age Law was enacted on April 17, 2017, and

WHEREAS, Raise the Age prohibits 16 and 17-year-olds from being held in adult jails and prisons, makes substantive changes to the procedures and mechanisms used to process these individuals in the criminal justice and youth justice systems, and allows for additional services for youth and alters the types of detention and/or placement they may receive, and

WHEREAS, State statute authorizes, and the State Financial Plan assumes one-hundred percent (100%) State reimbursement to eligible localities for Raise the Age-related expenditures, including all incremental capital, personnel, and non-personnel costs counties/municipalities incur because of Raise the Age, and

WHEREAS, the State will cover incremental costs, such as law enforcement, local detention, court services, transportation by the Sheriff's Office, probation services, youth placement, and aftercare services, and

WHEREAS, the Raise the Age law went into effect for 16-year-olds on October 1, 2018, and for 17-year-olds on October 1, 2019, and

WHEREAS, the law has now been in effect for five (5) years and to build upon the success of Raise the Age, counties have identified areas of opportunity to improve the statute,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages the State Legislature and Governor to enact technical edits to components of the Raise the Age Law, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**ENCOURAGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL TO RECOGNIZE NEW YORK'S
FRESHWATER WETLANDS ACT RULEMAKING AND ITS IMPACT ON CRITICAL
LOCAL HIGHWAY, BRIDGE, AND CULVERT PROJECTS**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in 2022, New York's Freshwater Wetlands Act (Environmental Conservation Law Article 24) was amended to increase application fees and make several significant changes to program administration, and

WHEREAS, beginning January 1, 2023, water quality permit application fees were increased for public works projects in certain wetlands to support wetland resource protection activities by the State Environmental Conservation Department, and

WHEREAS, beginning in 2025, the current official New York State Freshwater Wetlands Maps will no longer limit NYSDEC regulatory jurisdiction to wetlands depicted on those maps and instead, maps will become informational and any wetlands that meet new applicable definitions and criteria will be regulated by NYSDEC and subject to permitting, regardless of whether they appear on the informational maps, and

WHEREAS, by January 1, 2028, the default size threshold for regulated wetlands will decrease from 12.4 acres to 7.4 acres, and small wetlands of "unusual importance" will continue to be regulated if they meet only one (1) of eleven (11) newly established criteria, and

WHEREAS, consequently, NYSDEC recently submitted and published in the State Register a proposed rulemaking to implement, administer and enforce these changes, and

WHEREAS, this regulatory action comes on the heels of the recent issuance of draft guidance for the review of bridge and culvert projects in non-tidal waters requiring a protection of waters permit, and a water quality certificate used by NYSDEC, division of fish and wildlife (DFW) during the review of stream crossing (bridge and culvert) projects requiring a permit from NYSDEC, and

WHEREAS, for many counties and towns, these changes are likely to double the number of locally owned culvert and bridge replacement, reconstruction and/or maintenance projects that would require State approval, additional oversight and a design of a structure for 150 percent span of the full bank—causing, for example, a \$90,000 culvert replacement project to become a \$1 million-plus bridge project, and

WHEREAS, if the volume of permit applications as a result of the new wetlands regulations and stream crossing guidance doubles, it could overwhelm an already time-consuming and burdensome process and could make many of these vital public works projects cost prohibitive, and

WHEREAS, the expanded number of increased applications for permits can be expected to render the water protection programs unworkable or, at best, prevent timely processing of applications for critical projects that may have wider impacts such as those impacting important wetlands and those in AA and AA (T), A and A (T), B and B (T), and C (T) streams, and

WHEREAS, local highway maintenance resources are already stretched to the limit, and the added burden and delay in permitting could be untenable for many local governments and could result in inordinate road closures, possible flooding and disruptions of travel within communities that would have to find ways around a failed culvert or bridge crossing for an extended amount of time before state permission may be granted, and the additional funds become available, which could be never depending on competing priorities, and

WHEREAS, a bill passed by the legislature to add mostly inconsequential C Streams to the list of streams where transportation projects would be required to be permitted was vetoed in 2020, and again by Governor Kathy Hochul in 2022 and 2023, who wrote as justification for rejecting the legislation, that the bill “would have significant regulatory impacts on state and local transportation projects and would carry substantial costs for the State, as well as for local governments and the communities that would bear the impact of these new requirements”, and

WHEREAS, in addition to using state licensed engineers and consultants, counties already receive significant oversight and guidance from the state’s County Soil and Water Conservation Districts to address environmental activities, implement flood prevention and recovery programs and provide technical expertise to municipalities on infrastructure needs,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators encourages Governor Kathy Hochul to recognize New York’s Freshwater Wetlands Act rulemaking and its impact on critical local highway, bridge and culvert projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these new regulations, if not designed appropriately, could have a detrimental impact on the very wetlands and streams they are intended to protect by overwhelming the permitting process, increasing project costs and delays significantly, and creating unnecessary operational burdens on county efforts to maintain transportation infrastructure, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED as part of the regulatory process, consideration needs to be given to developing an MOU or general permit program that can address the intent of the wetlands and stream protection statutes, regulations and guidance and at the same time, allow for a uniform and expedited permit and review process for local public works projects, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that permit fees be waived for local government-sponsored transportation and public works projects as these are necessary activities intended to address a public purpose and as such applying these fees should not be subject to state assessments, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**URGING GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL AND STATE LEGISLATORS TO ADJUST
THE 5-YEAR TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL PLAN FOR NEW YORK STATE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, the 5-Year Transportation Capital Plan for New York State provides significant support for local governments to maintain and improve roads and bridges highlighted by the Consolidated Local Streets and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS), BRIDGE-NY, PAVE-NY, Extreme Winter Recovery (EWR), State Touring Routes, and Operation Pave Our Potholes (POP) Programs, and

WHEREAS, each year the Governor presents to the Legislature in January an Executive Budget that routinely appropriates funding for these programs at levels commensurate with the levels established by the plan, which was the case again for the third year in the SFY 2025 budget, and

WHEREAS, unprecedented inflationary impacts continue to place enormous pressure on local governments to maintain existing levels of transportation construction, maintenance, and service on what constitutes 87 percent of the State's 110,000 miles of roadways, 50 percent of 18,000 bridges, and 46 percent of the vehicle miles traveled in New York, and

WHEREAS, the cost of highway and bridge projects has continued to skyrocket, as costs have increased by well over 60 percent since the end of 2020, according to the Federal Highway Administration's National Highway Construction Cost Index which shows that inflation in this sector is more extreme than in the general economy, eroding more than \$1 billion in the value of local construction budgets, resulting in fewer critical road, bridge, and culvert projects that are able to be undertaken, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Infrastructure and Jobs Act provides New York State with an additional \$4.6 billion from 2022-2027; however, the vast majority (nearly 90 percent) of local roads are not eligible to receive these federal highway funds, and

WHEREAS, this vast system of local roads, bridges and culverts now requires incremental increases in levels of funding each year over the next 2 years just to hold local governments harmless from the loss of buying power to reverse the deterioration of our aged and ailing transportation infrastructure, account for inflation and build up the systems' resiliency and resistance to severe storms and other natural disasters, and

WHEREAS, local highway departments are under pressure to do more to address environmental concerns, transition construction vehicles and equipment to zero emissions, follow stricter guidelines for doing bridge and culvert work in streams, adopting more aggressive smart growth and complete street principles, and utilizing green construction materials in projects, requiring significant additional funding, and

WHEREAS, a safe and efficient transportation infrastructure is necessary for trade, economic development and revitalization, job creation and retention, schools, agriculture, businesses, health and hospital facilities and emergency responders, as well as for the general traveling public,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators is urging Governor Kathy Hochul to recognize the critical situation facing our transportation infrastructure resulting from unprecedented construction inflation and increasing infrastructure needs by adjusting the 5-Year Capital Plan levels for local transportation programs over the next two fiscal years starting with the SFY 2026 Executive Budget proposal, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that St. Lawrence County supports a \$500 million increase in CHIPS and other state aid to local transportation programs in the next state budget as a necessary first step in restoring the purchasing power originally contemplated in the 5-Year Transportation Capital Plan for local projects; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blackenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

November 4, 2024

Operations Committee: 10-21-2024

RESOLUTION NO.

**CALLING ON GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL WITH CONCERNS ABOUT THE
IMPACTS OF EFFORTS TO ELECTRIFY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT VEHICLES BY
ADOPTION OF THE ADVANCED CLEAN TRUCK RULE**

By Ms. Curran, Chair, Operations Committee

WHEREAS, in 2019, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA) was signed into law to require New York to reduce economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions forty percent (40%) by 2030 and no less than eighty-five percent (85%) by 2050 from 1990 levels, and

WHEREAS, the CLCPA directs the development of performance-based standards for sources of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including for the transportation sector by reducing GHG emissions from motor vehicles, and

WHEREAS, New York State adopted California's Advanced Clean Trucks (ACT) Rule in December 2021 that requires applicable medium and heavy-duty (M/HD) vehicle manufacturers to sell a percentage of their total sales in New York as zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) starting in model year (MY) 2025 with increasing ZEV sales through MY 2035, and

WHEREAS, the cost of transitioning utility and construction vehicles, snowplows, and equipment to run on battery power for state and local highway departments, as mandated by ACT and other state strategies, is at this juncture incalculable, but expected to exceed the ability to be financed without substantial sources of new revenues directed strictly for the retrofit or procurement of such ZEVs and equipment, and

WHEREAS, as commercial production of M/HD large-scale, electric construction vehicles is today a nascent industry, the ability of local highway departments to plan for this transition, with its concomitant mandates that fuel and electricity charging sources be carbon-free, is of tremendous concern considering that the transportation system at all levels of New York government is significantly underfunded, and

WHEREAS, while ACT regulations do not require M/HD fleets, owners, operators, or dealerships to purchase ZEVs, the sales mandates on vehicle manufacturers are expected to lead to shortages in supply of not only complying electric vehicles but of traditional gasoline and diesel vehicles as well, and

WHEREAS, alarmingly, some M/HD vehicle dealerships have notified highway departments that, due to manufacturers' need to plan for the sales mandates adopted by New York and some other states, many orders for trucks are being delayed or canceled, and

WHEREAS, notably, Maine, North Carolina and Connecticut among other states recently stepped back from adopting ACT regulations citing concerns over the availability of heavy-duty vehicle charging stations and the high cost of zero-emission trucks, and

WHEREAS, in July 2024, the New York State Comptroller released an audit on the State's progress in meeting Climate Act goals and noted several deficiencies including the need to increase communication with stakeholders and provide more accurate cost estimates. The audit goes on to add that the lack of cost estimates jeopardizes the chances of success in meeting climate goals. The comptroller urges the state to clarify for key stakeholders, especially energy ratepayers, the extent to which ratepayers will be responsible for Climate Act implementation costs, and

WHEREAS, climate goals of New York must be implemented in a way that is affordable while assuring adequate supplies of these specialized vehicles and functional highway construction equipment that meet state specifications, estimated to increase the cost of a new truck by about one-third, and

WHEREAS, the rush to introduce electric vehicles in New York can be counter-productive to the environment as the bulk of the power generation used to charge new vehicle batteries is produced by fossil fuels, and is a reason to move more slowly to sync with the pace of the transition to a zero-emission electric grid by 2040, and

WHEREAS, recognizing these potential impacts on the ability of local governments to continue to deliver necessary transportation services and facilities to the traveling public it is vital that state elected representatives and agencies assist county highway departments in developing strategies, funding sources and realistic timelines for achieving these aggressive GHG emissions reduction goals in the face of market and fiscal barriers to the transition, and

WHEREAS, all levels of government need to work together throughout the regulatory process to assure strategies and mandates put in place to meet the CLCPA goals for the transportation sector are realistic and achievable and will benefit the environment,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Legislators calls on the Governor Kathy Hochul with concerns about the impacts of efforts to electrify highway department vehicles by adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor consider a pause or suspension of the implementation of ACT until there is strong evidence that the state has in place the necessary direct financial assistance and incentives and charging infrastructure necessary, and can definitively determine that vehicle manufacturers are prepared to effectively supply the New York market without disruption to the critical work needed to maintain the state's vast and aging infrastructure, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the state recognizes that highway construction, maintenance vehicles, and equipment are critical to governments' mission to maintain a safe and functional transportation system by designating these municipally owned vehicle and equipment as a category among "transit buses, motor coaches, and emergency vehicles," and thus exempt from ACT regulation, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Kathy Hochul; Senator Mark Walczyk; Senator Dan Stec; Assemblyman Ken Blankenbush; and Assemblyman Scott Gray.

St. Lawrence County Vacancy Authorization Form



Type:

Subunit (If Applicable):

Date Submitted:

Reason Vacated:

Position Number:

Date Vacated:

Position # Abolished:

Position Status:

Last Fill Date:

Jurisdictional Class:

Appointee Will Be:

Hrs Per Week:

Shift Length:

FTE:

Budget

Salary of Person Leaving:

Fill Request Timeline:

Benefits:

Revenue Generating: %

Base Salary:

Reimbursed by Local,
State or Federal Funds: %

Base Hourly:

Grade:

Net County Cost:

*Net County Cost is calculated from salary of person leaving, if available

Detailed Justification

What is the impact on your department if this position is not filled? Please provide, in detail, the need to fill the position. Please include the service provided, if it is mandated, number of people (clients) affected, and what you will do if the position is not filled.

Department Head Initials (type):

Approved?

Yes No

County Administrator:

Resolution #:

Job Qualifications

For Human Resources Use Only:
Job Qualifications Listed here: