

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR DUPRE**

Re: Erie County Urban Initiative Program

WHEREAS, the Erie County Urban Initiatives program was created in 2019 to address the imbalance of County investment in infrastructure in Erie County's three cities, the City of Buffalo, the City of Tonawanda, and the City of Lackawanna; and

WHEREAS, these funds have been used to strengthen public infrastructure in the City of Buffalo, the City of Tonawanda, and the City of Lackawanna; and

WHEREAS, Urban Initiatives has invested in the creation of the City of Tonawanda Police Boat Dock, the renovation of Taggart Park in Lackawanna, the resurfacing of Suffolk Avenue in Buffalo, and many other valuable projects; and

WHEREAS, this program has had a major positive impact on the City of Buffalo, the City of Tonawanda, and the City of Lackawanna, three municipalities that have very few County-owned roads, parks, and other public facilities compared to the towns and villages of Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the Urban Initiative program provides County-funded capital improvements in areas that have minimal opportunities for traditional County capital improvement investment due to very few County-owned properties in the cities of Buffalo, Tonawanda, and Lackawanna; and

WHEREAS, the funding is also used as a multiplier to enhance and expediate capital projects in Buffalo, Lackawanna, and Tonawanda; and

WHEREAS, over 13 million dollars has been allocated to the Urban Initiatives program since its creation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that Urban Initiatives program shall be an annual budget allocation as it provides County-funded infrastructure parity between the cities, towns, and villages of Erie County; and be it further

RESOLVED, projects eligible for Urban Initiative program funding shall be limited to capital projects and infrastructure projects led by The City of Buffalo, The City of Lackawanna, The City of Tonawanda, or a non-profit organization based in one of the three cities herein; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Clerk of the Legislature shall send a copy of this resolution to the County Executive, the County Comptroller, the Budget Director, The City of Buffalo Mayor, City of Lackawanna Mayor, City of Tonawanda Mayor, and any other parties deemed necessary.