



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

May 16, 2025

Erie County Legislature  
92 Franklin Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Buffalo, New York 14202

**RE: Erie County Parks Signage Phase 2 Construction**

Dear Honorable Members:

Please find enclosed a memorandum and proposed resolution seeking authorization to enter into an agreement with McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA EdBauer Construction to complete phase 2 installation for the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. The project will complete Phase 2 of the Signage and Wayfinding implementation plan for Erie County Parks.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Troy Schinzel at the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/nb  
Enclosure

cc: Troy Schinzel, Commissioner, Parks, Recreation and Forestry  
Daniel R. Castle, AICP, Commissioner, Environment and Planning  
Mark P. Rountree, Chief Planner, Environment and Planning

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Environment and Planning  
Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry  
**Re:** Erie County Parks Signage Phase 2 Construction  
**Date:** May 16, 2025

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## **SUMMARY**

In 2023, Erie County completed the Parks Signage and Wayfinding Manual and Implementation Plan. The Plan developed consistent signage and wayfinding standards to promote a clear County Parks identity and also aid in wayfinding.

Phase 1 implemented the first phase of signs in 2024. The signs have been well received by the public. The proposed 2025 construction includes additional entry signs as well as directional signs for vehicles and pedestrians. Signage will be installed at the following Parks: Akron Falls, Bennett Beach, Black Rock Canal, Como Lake, Ellicott Creek, Elma Meadows, Grover Cleveland, Isle View, Sprague Brook, and Tow Path.

The Department of Environment and Planning bid Phase 2 construction. It is recommended that the Erie County Legislature approve the attached resolution authorizing the County to enter into a contract with the lowest responsible bidder, McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA Edbauer Construction to complete construction of Phase 2.

The proposed resolution also accepts a \$165,000 grant from the Buffalo and Erie County Greenway Fund Standing Committee (BECGFS) to offset the cost of design and construction of phase 2 and to be included into Capital Project A.19023 – 2019 Exterior Park Signage Project.

## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Funding for this project was allotted for this purpose in the 2019, 2023 and 2024 Capital Budget totaling \$372,456. The McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA Edbauer Construction contract will be in the amount of \$488,597, with a construction and/or construction engineering/ inspection contingency of \$48,859. The project will be offset by a \$165,000 BECGFSC grant. County Funds are available in the following project in:

A.19023 - 2019 Exterior Park Signage Project	\$202,211
A.23059 - 2023 Exterior Signage Project	\$300,000
A.24005 - 2024 Countywide Park Improvements	\$ 35,245
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$537,456</b>
<b>COUNTY FISCAL IMPACT</b>	<b>\$372,456</b>

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

The need for consistent signage and wayfinding standards has been identified as a need within the 2003 Parks Master Plan and the 2019 Parks Master Plan Update. This Project will implement Phase 2 of the Erie County Parks Signage and Wayfinding Manual and Implementation Plan.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Park system contains multiple types of directional, regulatory, identification, and interpretative signage within the 10,000 acres of Parks and Forestry properties. The different types of signage cause confusion from a user standpoint and create difficulties with replacement and maintenance of disparate signage. The Project over several phases seeks to reinforce the Erie County Parks brand through consistent signage throughout the Erie County Parks system.

## **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

In the event the proposed resolution is not passed, Erie County will be unable to proceed with the proposed signage improvements.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon passage, the County will enter into a contract with McLaughlin Construction Corp. DBA Edbauer Construction to complete Phase 2 construction.

## **COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE REVIEW**

The proposed legislation has been reviewed by the Comptroller's Office and is related to authorized capital projects for which there are sufficient appropriations for the action proposed available in A.19023, A.23059 and A.24005.\*

\*The grant funding of \$165,000 is not in SAP at this time.

*Taty COA* 4/30/25

Comptroller's Office

File: A.19023

A.23059

A.24005.12

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING  
AND PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY

RE: Erie County Parks Signage Phase 2 Construction

WHEREAS, the Erie County Parks system contains nearly 10,000 acres of land on 38 sites throughout Erie County; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Parks system includes a variety of types of parks including heritage parks, beaches, recreational trails, urban, and forestry sites; and

WHEREAS, within the Parks system there are numerous different signs which lack a cohesive Erie County Park identity, are difficult to re-create, not context sensitive and outdated; and

WHEREAS, the 2019 *Erie County Parks Master Plan* recommended the County develop a signage and wayfinding manual to guide the future development of signage in a consistent and comprehensive manner; and

WHEREAS, in the approved 2019, 2023 and 2024 Erie County Capital Budgets, funding for the construction of Park Signage was allocated for this purpose; and

WHEREAS, Erie County wishes to procure construction services for Phase 2 of the County Parks Exterior Signage Capital Project; and

WHEREAS, Erie County wishes to accept a Buffalo and Erie County Greenway Fund Standing Committee (BECGFSC) grant in the amount of \$165,000 to offset the cost of design, construction engineering, construction inspection, construction

WHEREAS, in compliance with Erie County Administrative Code a construction bidding process was undertaken for Phase 2 Erie County Parks Signage and Wayfinding construction project; and

WHEREAS, McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA Edbauer Construction was the lowest responsible bidder in the total amount of \$488,597.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to acceptance \$165,000 in grant funding from the Buffalo and Erie County Greenway Standing Committee and/or Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo, Inc., into the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry account (Fund 410, Funds Center 164) Capital Project A.19023 – Exterior Park Signage Project as follows:

**Project A.19023**

**2019 Exterior Park Signage  
Fund 410, Funds Center 164**

<b>REVENUES</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>CHANGE</b>	<b>REVISED BUDGET</b>
420499 Other Local Source Revenue	\$ 0	\$165,000	\$165,000
475000 General Obligation Bond	\$400,000	\$ 0	\$400,000
486000 Interfund Revenue Subsidy	<u>\$264,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$264,000</u>
	<u>\$664,000</u>	<u>\$165,000</u>	<u>\$829,000</u>
 <b>APPROPRIATIONS</b>			
Capital Project Expense	<u>\$664,000</u>	<u>\$165,000</u>	<u>\$829,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u>\$664,000</u>	<u>\$165,000</u>	<u>\$829,000</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorized is hereby given to the County Executive to execute contracts for construction and construction administration with the responsible low bidder, McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA Edbauer Construction, in an amount not to exceed \$488,597; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the County Executive to execute change orders as necessary for design, construction engineering, construction inspection, and construction with McLaughlin Construction Corp DBA Edbauer Construction or Wendel Companies in a total amount not to exceed \$48,859; and be it further

RESOLVED, that funding in the total amount of \$537,456 is available for the Project from the following Parks capital projects in:

**Fund 410, Fund Center 164**

A.19023 - 2019 Exterior Park Signage Project	\$202,211
A.23059 - 2023 Exterior Signage Project	\$300,000
A.24005 - 2024 Countywide Park Improvements	\$ 35,245
<u>TOTAL:</u>	<u>\$537,456</u>

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to execute all agreements necessary to implement this project related to the installation of signs in public right of ways owned or operated by Federal, State, or municipal governments and utilities; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Director of the Division of Budget and Management 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; the Comptroller's Office; Division of Budget and Management; Department of Law; Department of Environment and Planning, Department of Public Works and Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry.

TO:            **COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE**

PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS REQUIRING RULE 55

**CONTRACT APPROVAL CHECKLIST**  
CONFIRMATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS IN CAPITAL PROJECTS

REQUESTING DEPARTMENT

COMPLETE ITEMS 1 THROUGH 5

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| 1. <b>CONTRACTOR'S NAME</b>  | <u>McLaughlin Construction Corp. DBA Edbauer Construction</u>                                      |
| 2. <b>AMOUNT OF CONTRACT</b> | <u>\$488,597 contract, \$48,859 Contingency- \$537,456 (total)</u>                                 |
| 3. <b>PROJECT NUMBER</b>     | <u>A.19023</u><br><u>A.23059</u><br><u>A.24005.12</u>  |
| 4. <b>PROJECT TITLE</b>      | <u>Parks Signage and Wayfinding Phase 2</u><br><br>Funding questions: Mark Rountree/ Kathy Carbone |
| 5. <b>DEPARTMENT CONTACT</b> | <u>Letter pickup: Nancy Brown</u>  |

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

COMPLETE ITEMS 6 AND 7

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 6. <b>AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS</b>           | <u>\$2,234,448.09</u>  |
| 7. <b>PERFORMED BY</b>                    | <u></u> |
| <b>Date Sent to Comptroller's Office:</b> | <u>April 30, 2015</u>  |

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OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER REVIEW

DATE: 4/30/2025

PROJECT TITLE: A.19023 - 2019 County Park Exterior Signage Plan

1) IS THE REASON FOR THIS CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: YES X NO       

IF NO, RETURN THIS REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT  
IF YES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VERIFICATION

2) PROJECT AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION

Total Project Revenues	\$ <u>664,000.00</u>
Total Project Appropriations	\$ <u>664,000.00</u>
Add: Grant Funding	\$ <u>165,000.00</u>
Less: Total Expenditure To Date	\$ <u>551,608.19</u>
Less: Total Commitments	\$ <u>75,179.97</u>
Available Appropriations As Of Date Of Request	\$ <u>202,211.84</u>
Less: Contract Amount	\$ <u>202,211.00</u>
Net Available Appropriations	\$ <u><u>0.84</u></u>

Comments: There is currently \$112,391.81 cash within the project.

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Request Approved: T. J. C. C.

Request Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4/30/25

PROJECT TITLE: A.23059 2023 Exterior Signage Plan Phase 2

1) IS THE REASON FOR THIS CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: YES X NO       

IF NO, RETURN THIS REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT  
IF YES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VERIFICATION

2) PROJECT AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION

Total Project Revenues	\$ <u>300,000.00</u>
Total Project Appropriations	\$ <u>300,000.00</u>
Less: Total Expenditure To Date	\$ <u>      -</u>
Less: Total Commitments	\$ <u>      -</u>
Available Appropriations As Of Date Of Request	\$ <u>300,000.00</u>
Less: Contract Amount	\$ <u>300,000.00</u>
Net Available Appropriations	\$ <u>      -</u>

Comments: No capital trial balance is available at this time. This project is funded as a PAY-AS-YOU-GO.

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Request Approved: T. C. C. C.

Request Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4/30/25

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER REVIEW

DATE: 4/30/2025

PROJECT TITLE: A.24005 - 2024 Countywide Parks Improvements & ADA Accessibility

1) IS THE REASON FOR THIS CONTRACT CONSISTENT WITH THE PURPOSE OF THE PROJECT: YES X NO       

IF NO, RETURN THIS REQUEST TO THE DEPARTMENT  
IF YES, COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VERIFICATION

2) PROJECT AVAILABLE APPROPRIATION

Total Project Revenues	\$ <u>2,300,000.00</u>
Total Project Appropriations	\$ <u>2,300,000.00</u>
Less: Total Expenditure To Date	\$ <u>533,678.40</u>
Less: Total Commitments	\$ <u>34,084.55</u>
Available Appropriations As Of Date Of Request	\$ <u>1,732,237.05</u>
Less: Contract Amount	\$ <u>35,245.00</u>
Net Available Appropriations	\$ <u>1,696,992.05</u>

Comments: There is currently \$1,778,854.35 cash within the project.  
This amount is also funding other projects.  
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Request Approved: T. C. C. C.

Request Denied: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4/30/25