



COUNTY OF ERIE

MARK C. POLONCARZ

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

RECEIVED 9/23/2025 12:40

September 5, 2025

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Highways Budget Transfer – 2025 Operating Budget

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find a memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Public Works pertaining to the transfer of funds between budgetary and operating accounts for the Highway's Cost Center.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner William E. Geary at the Department of Public Works. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark C. Poloncarz", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/ks
Enclosure

cc: William Geary, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

MEMORANDUM

To: Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
From: Department of Public Works
Re: Highways Budget Transfer – 2025 Operating Budget
Date: September 5, 2025

SUMMARY

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is seeking authorization to transfer funds between accounts within the 2025 Road Fund Budget, specifically the Highway Division's Cost Center – 1231010 – in Fund 210, BA 123.

Given the rising costs of both electric and natural gas utilities, as well as the addition of a new maintenance district facility, the preliminary budget for Commitment Item 575040 – Interfund Expense - Utility is not sufficient. Additional funds are needed to ensure these costs are covered through the end of the current fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The resolution is budget neutral. Funds will be transferred from Commitment Item 505600 – Auto, Truck and Heavy Equipment Supplies, Commitment Item 516020 – Professional Services, and Commitment Item 561410 – Lab and Technical Equipment to Commitment Item 575040 – Interfund Expense-Utility in Fund 210, BA 123, Cost Center 1231010.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

This transfer is needed to ensure that the division can cover the cost of utilities necessary to remain in operation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The cost of supply, utility and management fees for both Erie County's electricity and natural gas utility programs has risen drastically since the previous fiscal year. The Electric Program rates per kilowatt for Erie County have increased to \$0.12975 from \$0.10052, while the Natural Gas Program rates per million cubic feet have increased to \$6.42077 from \$4.77853.

In addition, Highways completed the construction of a new maintenance district facility in Lancaster and its utilities have been added to the aggregate utility interfund account.

CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

The division would not be able to cover the cost of utilities, which are integral in maintaining operational efficiency and completing projects.

STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

Upon Legislative approval, DPW will initiate the transfer of funds in coordination with the Division of Budget and Management.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RE: Highways Budget Transfer – 2025 Operating Budget

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works – Highways has been negatively impacted by the unforeseen rise in electric and natural gas supply, utility and management fee program costs; and

WHEREAS, due to these circumstances, a budget transfer from Commitment Item 505600 – Auto, Truck and Heavy Equipment Supplies, Commitment Item 516020 – Professional Services, and Commitment Item 561410 – Lab and Technical Equipment to Commitment Item 575040 – Interfund Expense-Utility in Fund 210, BA 123, Cost Center 1231010 is necessary; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the Department of Public Works' 2025 Road Fund Budget (Fund 210, Funds Center 1231010) to be amended as follows:

Department of Public Works
Fund 210, Funds Center 1231010

APPROPRIATIONS	CHANGE
505600 Auto, Truck and Heavy Equipment Supplies	(\$ 25,000)
516020 Prof Services, Contracts and Fees	(100,000)
561410 Lab and Technical Equipment	(25,000)
575040 Interfund Expense - Utility	\$150,000
TOTAL	<u>\$ 0</u>

and it be further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works - Highways, the Office of the County Executive, the Division of Budget and Management and the Office of the Comptroller.