



APR 20 2015

# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

March 20, 2026

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

**Re: Authorization to Accept a Donation for the Betterment of the Erie  
County Parks**

Dear Honorable Members:

This resolution is requesting authorization for the County Executive and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to accept a donation for the betterment of the Erie County Parks System from the Alex Peace Production Company in accordance with approved Parks Donation Policy.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Troy P. 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/sm  
Enclosure

cc: Troy P. Schinzel, Commissioner

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry  
**Re:** Authorization to Accept a Donation for the Betterment of the Erie County Parks  
**Date:** March 20, 2026

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### **SUMMARY**

This resolution is requesting authorization for the County Executive and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to accept a donation from Alex Peace Productions to be used for the betterment of the Erie County Parks (“Parks”). Alex Peace Productions has been in the Western New York area recently shooting a movie. Sprague Brook Park is one of the locations Alex Peace Productions has requested to shoot footage. In exchange for the use of the Park, Alex Peace Productions has agreed to donate funds to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to be used for the betterment of the Erie County Parks per the Parks Donation Policy

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

Alex Peace Productions has agreed to donate Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) for the betterment of the Parks System.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

To allow Erie County to officially accept the donation of Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) from Alex Peace Productions.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The Erie County Legislature approved of Parks Donation Policy (22COMM.10E-15), which allowed Parks to accept all donations valued at less than \$10,000, while those valued at greater than \$10,000 would still require subsequent legislative approval. 22COMM. 10E-15 also created the Parks Donation Fund (Fund 610, Funds Center 16410, Account 227110) where all such donations would be held in trust for their intended use.

Alex Peace Productions recently contacted the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry seeking permission to shoot scenes for a movie at Sprague Brook Park. In cooperation with the Buffalo Niagara Film Commission, the production is spending an estimated Ten to Fifteen Million Dollars in our region over several months. They are providing over 150 skilled manufacturing jobs, which are mostly local union craft positions. These local workers are members of the International Alliance of Theatrical & Stage Employees (IATSE) Local 52, Local 600, and Local 829. In addition to this, members of Teamsters Locals 449 and 817, the Director’s Guild of America and other movie related labor alliances will be working on this project. By the end of production, it

is estimated that over 1,800 hotel room nights and 100 short-term housing rentals will be utilized by traveling crew. In exchange for the use of County property, Alex Peace Productions would like to make a donation to the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

The Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry will be unable to accept the monetary donation for the betterment of the Erie County Parks System. In the future, filming requests may not be able to be accommodated.

### **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon Legislative approval, the County Executive and Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry will accept the monetary donation for the Parks Department and work to identify various park improvements that can be accomplished and/or put toward various Department special events, which are free of charge and open to the public.

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND FORESTRY

RE: Authorization to Accept a Donation for the Betterment of The Erie County Parks

WHEREAS, the Erie County Legislature approved the Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry's ("Parks") Donation Policy as COMM. 10E-15 (2022); and

WHEREAS, the Donation Policy allowed for acceptance of all donations less than \$10,000, while donations greater than \$10,000 would still require legislative approval; and

WHEREAS, Parks deposits all donations into the Parks Donation Fund (Fund 610, Funds Center 16410, Account 227110); and

WHEREAS, Alex Peace Productions has selected the County of Erie and neighboring areas to be the location for a movie shoot; and

WHEREAS, Parks received a request from Alex Peace Productions to use a portion of Sprague Brook Park as a location to conduct a shoot; and

WHEREAS, the presence of Alex Peace Productions has been good for the community and the County of Erie has been working to support their efforts; and

WHEREAS, in exchange for the use of Alex Peace Productions as a shoot location, Alex Peace Productions has offered to make a donation of Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) to Parks to be used toward the betterment of the parks,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the acceptance of a donation from Alex Peace Productions in the amount of Forty-One Thousand Dollars (\$41,000) for purposes of the betterment of the Parks based on the approved Parks Donation Policy; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature forward one certified copy of this Resolution to the County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office, Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry, Department of Law and the Division of Budget and Management.