



# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**

COUNTY EXECUTIVE

June 5, 2026

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

**Re: Replacement of Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02, Contract for Engineering Design Services  
Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga  
CAP-BR554-02-Design**

Dear Honorable Members:

This resolution requests authorization for the County Executive to execute an agreement with the design firm LaBella Associates for engineering design services. These design services are for the replacement of the Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga.

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,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.  
Erie County Executive

MCP/jtd  
Enclosure

cc: William Geary, Commissioner, Department of Public Works

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature  
**From:** Department of Public Works  
**Re:** Replacement of Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 Contract for Engineering Design Services  
Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga CAP-BR554-02-Design  
**Date:** June 5, 2026

---

### **SUMMARY**

The Department of Public Works is seeking authorization to enter into an agreement with the design firm of LaBella Associates in an amount not to exceed \$220,000 for engineering design services including contingency. These services are for the replacement of Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga. LaBella Associates was selected in accordance with County policy using the County selection process.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The contract for the engineering design phase of this project is \$198,500, with a project contingency of \$21,500, for a total of \$220,000. The total budget is available in Fund 420, Funds Center 123, Project B.22010 – 2022 Capital Bridge Design.

### **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION**

This project is necessary to advance the design in a timely fashion. LaBella Associates is recommended as project design engineers because of their expertise, experience, and manpower to provide the County of Erie with the service required.

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

The existing bridge was built in 1946 and is a single-span reinforced concrete slab with a 23'-0" clear span. The clear pavement width between curbs is 24'-0", with a rail-to-rail width of 26'-11", which is less than current design standards and the adjacent pavement width.

The bridge has a General Recommendation of 3 with a condition rating of 4.393 in the 2025 inspection. The controlling element for this rating is the concrete slab which is severely deteriorated, with exposed, debonded reinforcement. Several Yellow Flags were issued for this condition over the years. In 2022, a load rating Red Flag was issued for this condition which resulted in the bridge being posted for 24 Tons. In 2025, another Red Flag was issued and resulted in the posting being lowered to 20 Tons. Temporary barricades are present on the west shoulder keeping traffic off the fascia or the posting would have to be further reduced.

### **CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION**

If this project is not completed, the bridge will continue to deteriorate, and the load posting on the bridge will continue to decrease. At some point the bridge will become unsafe for any loads, and the bridge would be fully closed to all traffic.

## **STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL**

Upon the Erie County Legislature's approval, the County executive will enter into an agreement with LaBella Associates. Once the agreement is fully executed design work will begin immediately thereafter.

## **COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE REVIEW**

The proposed legislation has been reviewed by the Comptroller's Office and is related to an authorized capital project for which there are sufficient appropriations for the action proposed.

 5/22/20

Timothy C. Callan  
Deputy Comptroller  
Comptroller's Office

B.22010 – 2022 Capital Bridge Design

A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

RE: Replacement of Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 Contract for Engineering Design Services  
Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga CAP-BR554-02-Design

WHEREAS, it is desired to replace the Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga (the "Project"), CAP-BR554-02-Design; and

WHEREAS, the total cost of the Design Engineering phase of this Project is \$220,000, which includes \$198,500 for the design contract and \$21,500 for design contingency, and is available in Fund 420, Funds Center 123, Project B.22010 – 2022 Capital Bridge Design; and

WHEREAS, after the County's selection process, the firm of LaBella Associates, has been selected as having the necessary expertise, experience, and manpower to provide the County of Erie with design engineering services for the replacement of the above referenced bridge in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to execute an agreement between the County of Erie and the selected project design engineers, LaBella Associates, for engineering design services in an amount of \$198,500; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to participate in the project replacing the Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR 554-02 in the Towns of Amherst and Cheektowaga (the "Project"), CAP-BR554-02-Design; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a contingency in the amount of \$21,500 be included in the project with the County Executive of Deputy County Executive authorized to execute any necessary Change Orders; and be it further

RESOLVED, that funding for this Project is hereby appropriated and made available for the project from Fund 420, Fund Center 123, Project B.22010 – 2022 Capital Bridge Design; and be it 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 two certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Department of Public Works, Commissioner's Office, and one copy each to the County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office and Division of Budget and Management.

TO: TIMOTHY CALLAN, 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. CONTRACTOR'S NAME  | <u>LaBella Associates</u>   |
| 2. AMOUNT OF CONTRACT | <u>\$198,500 – Design Contract</u><br><u>\$21,500 - Contingency</u>   |
| 3. PROJECT NUMBER     | <u>B.22010</u>  |
| 4. PROJECT TITLE      | <u>Replacement of Youngs Road (CR 554) Bridge</u><br><u>over Branch Ellicott Creek, BIN 2212990/BR</u><br><u>554-02</u> |
| 5. DEPARTMENT CONTACT | <u>Funding questions: Darlene Svilkos</u><br><u>Letter pickup: Christy Weber at x8301</u>                               |

COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE

COMPLETE ITEMS 6 AND 7

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 6. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS           | <u>\$400,000.00</u>  |
| 7. PERFORMED BY                    | <u></u> |
| Date Sent to Comptroller's Office: | <u>May 21, 2026</u>  |

[55 compt\_10]



**ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - HIGHWAYS**  
**RFP #2026-BR-554-02-Design**  
**PROPOSAL REVIEW COMMITTEE RATINGS - SUMMARY**

| Proposer                | Evaluation Criteria                 |            |     |                                     |            |     |   |            |    |   |            |      |   | Weighted Average Qualifications Score (1 - 10) | Qualifications Ranking |   |    |                                     |            |      |      |      |   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|-----|-------------------------------------|------------|-----|---|------------|----|---|------------|------|---|--|------------------------|---|----|-------------------------------------|------------|------|------|------|---|
|                         | Understanding of Work to be Done    |            |     | Experience with Similar Projects    |            |     | Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff |            |    | Present Workload & Financial Responsibility |            |      | Logistics and Familiarity with Project Area |  |                        | Percentage of MBE/WBE/SVDOB Participation |    |                                     |            |      |      |      |   |
|                         | Weight = 25%                        |            |     | Weight = 25%                        |            |     | Weight = 25%                                    |            |    | Weight = 10%                                |            |      | Weight = 10%                                |  |                        | Weight = 5%                               |    |                                     |            |      |      |      |   |
|                         | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10) | Avg. Score |     | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10) | Avg. Score |     | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10)             | Avg. Score |    | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10)         | Avg. Score |      | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10)         |  |                        | Avg. Score                                |    | Committee Member Raw Score (1 - 10) | Avg. Score |      |      |      |   |
| #1                      | #2                                  | #3         | #1  | #2                                  | #3         | #1  | #2  | #3         | #1 | #2  | #3         | #1   | #2  | #3   | #1                     | #2  | #3 |                                     |            |      |      |      |   |
| Azar Design Co          | 3                                   | 7          | 5   | 5.00                                | 9          | 8   | 10  | 9.00       | 8  | 9   | 9.5        | 8.83 | 7   | 6  | 8                      | 7.00                                      | 9  | 10                                  | 7.5        | 8.83 | 7.65 | 11   |   |
| Barton and Loguidice    | 7                                   | 8          | 6.5 | 7.17                                | 9          | 8.5 | 10  | 9.17       | 8  | 9   | 8          | 8.33 | 8   | 7  | 5.5                    | 6.83                                      | 9  | 10                                  | 6.5        | 8.50 | 8.16 | 8    |   |
| CHA Consulting Inc.     | 6                                   | 8          | 5.5 | 6.50                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 4  | 5   | 3.5        | 4.17 | 9   | 9  | 9                      | 9.00                                      | 9  | 10                                  | 7.5        | 8.83 | 8.05 | 9    |   |
| DiDonato Associates     | 9                                   | 9          | 7   | 8.33                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 4  | 5   | 2.5        | 3.83 | 9   | 9  | 9                      | 9.00                                      | 9  | 10                                  | 9.5        | 9.50 | 8.47 | 5    |   |
| Fisher Associates       | 6                                   | 7          | 7   | 6.67                                | 9          | 8   | 10  | 9.00       | 6  | 5   | 4.5        | 5.17 | 7   | 8  | 5.5                    | 6.83                                      | 9  | 10                                  | 9          | 9.33 | 7.71 | 10   |   |
| Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. | 10                                  | 9          | 7.5 | 8.83                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 9  | 8   | 10         | 9.00 | 4   | 6  | 2                      | 4.00                                      | 9  | 9                                   | 8.5        | 8.83 | 8.52 | 3    |   |
| LaBella Associates      | 10                                  | 9          | 9   | 9.33                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 9  | 9   | 8.5        | 8.83 | 7   | 10   | 9                      | 8.67                                      | 9  | 9                                   | 10         | 9    | 9.33 | 9.08 | 1 |
| Popli Design Group      | 9                                   | 8.5        | 7.5 | 8.33                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 9  | 8.5   | 9          | 8.83 | 4   | 5  | 3                      | 4.00                                      | 8  | 6                                   | 7.33       | 9    | 8.27 | 7    |   |
| Ravi Engineering        | 8                                   | 7.5        | 7   | 7.50                                | 9          | 8.5 | 10  | 9.17       | 9  | 8.5   | 8.5        | 8.67 | 9   | 10   | 8.5                    | 9.17                                      | 8  | 9                                   | 6          | 7.67 | 8.48 | 4    |   |
| Watts Architecture      | 8                                   | 8          | 6.5 | 7.50                                | 9          | 9   | 10  | 9.33       | 9  | 9.5   | 9          | 9.17 | 6   | 6  | 4                      | 5.33                                      | 8  | 9                                   | 9          | 8.67 | 8.33 | 6    |   |
| WSP USA, Inc.           | 8                                   | 9          | 7   | 8.00                                | 9          | 8.5 | 10  | 9.17       | 9  | 8.5   | 8.83       | 9    | 10  | 8  | 9.00                   | 7   | 9  | 8                                   | 8.00       | 9    | 8.67 | 2    |   |

It is my opinion in recommending LaBella Associates the Erie County Department of Public Works has complied with all applicable provisions of Section 19.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code. Scoring sheets and other materials related to this matter are available for review at the Department of Public Works Office during regular business hours.

*William E. Geary, Jr.*  
 William E. Geary, Jr., Commissioner  
 Erie County Department of Public Works

*Lisa M. Chimera*  
 Lisa M. Chimera  
 Deputy County Executive