



# Onondaga County Legislature

DEBORAH L. MATURO  
Clerk

J. RYAN McMAHON, II  
Chairman

KATHERINE FRENCH  
Deputy Clerk

401 Montgomery Street • Court House • Room 407 • Syracuse, New York 13202  
Phone: 315.435.2070 Fax: 315.435.8434

[www.ongov.net](http://www.ongov.net)

## WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE MINUTES MARCH 24, 2014 DAVID H. KNAPP, CHAIRMAN

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Holmquist, Mr. Jordan, Ms. Williams, Mrs. Ervin  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Legislators Kilmartin and May  
**ALSO PRESENT:** Chairman McMahon, *see also attached list*

Chairman Knapp called the meeting to order at 8:55 a.m. *A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Ervin, to waive the reading of the minutes of the processing of the previous committee. MOTION CARRIED. A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Ervin, to approve the minutes of the proceedings of the previous committee. MOTION CARRIED.*

1. **CNY WORKS:** William Fisher, Deputy County Executive
  - a. **Confirming Appointment to the CNY Works Board of Directors (Timothy C. Penix)**Mr. Fisher reviewed Mr. Penix's experience and skills.

*A motion was made by Ms. Ervin, seconded by Ms. Williams to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

2. **CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES:** Ann Rooney, Deputy County Executive/Human Services
  - a. **Amending the 2014 County Budget to Release Contingency Funds for a Department of Children and Family Services Deputy Commissioner Position (\$103,148)**

Ms. Rooney:

- Linda Lopez, Director of OnCare, will be appointed to Deputy Commissioner, Children & Family Services
- She is a tremendous advocate for children through work at Rescue Mission, Salvation Army, and OnCare
- During budget time the legislature put funds for the position in contingency, until it the reorganization was all set
- Now known what all of her duties will be: oversee all aspects of mental health/children for the department, and assist Commissioner Sutkowy

In answer to Mrs. Ervin, Ms. Rooney said that this was an existing position. Chairman Knapp said it is in the budget and planned as part of the reorg.

*A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

3. **SHERIFF:** Chief John Balloni
  - a. **Amend the 2014 County Budget to Accept Funds for the 2013 Tactical Team Grant Program and Authorize the County Executive to Enter into Contracts to Implement this Resolution (\$100,000)**

Chief Balloni:

- Competitive grant from US Dept. of Homeland Security, passed down from NYS Div. of Homeland Security and Emergency Services
- Items for tactical team:
  - overtime and backfill cost for training - \$18,000
  - portable lighting - \$4,000
  - binoculars - \$1,600

- body armor - \$12,400
- portable radio and accessories (headsets) - \$32,000
- supplies for training - \$8,064
- travel expenses for training - \$16,304
- registration fees for training - \$7,200
- training is one of the expensive parts of having a tactical team – constant practice and training together
- grant will help avoid spending a lot of local dollars on these things

Chairman Knapp asked if the tactical team has to go somewhere for the training. Chief Balloni said that this money would send them to a school, but they also have required training on a monthly basis. He did not know where the school is located.

In answer to Mr. Jordan, Chief Balloni said that in some cases this money will be used for supplementing equipment and in some cases it will be used to replace equipment. Vests have a five-year shelf life, and then need to be replaced. There is some funding available for initial purchase of vests, but after that the cost to replace them comes out of the budget. This will allow replacing them without using local dollars. In answer to Mr. Jordan, Chief Balloni said that the vest manufacturers only guarantee vests for 5 years; the reality is that unless it gets wet the life expectancy is much longer. There is a protective cover on the vest; if fabric gets wet, it loses its integrity. Chairman Knapp said that the armor itself is fine, it is the elastic material that holds it together that breaks down.

***A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**b. 2014 Transfer Resolution – Sheriff Police/Civil (\$168,512)**

Chief Balloni distributed the following.

	<b>2014 Sheriff's Overtime Projection (as of 3/15/14)</b>		
	<b>Police/Civil</b>	<b>Custody</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Overtime through March 15, 2013</b>	\$ 313,784	\$ 573,243	\$ 887,027
<b>Overtime through March 15, 2014</b>	\$ 210,574	\$ 523,959	\$ 734,533
<b>% Change (2014-2013)</b>	-32.9%	-8.6%	-17.2%
<b>Actual Overtime 2013</b>	\$2,130,312	\$3,591,418	\$5,721,730
<b>Projected Overtime 2014</b>	\$1,678,451	\$3,708,986	\$5,387,437
<b>% Change (2014-2013)</b>	-21.2%	3.3%	-5.8%
<b>Budgeted* Overtime 2014</b>	\$1,700,000	\$3,100,000	\$4,800,000
<b>Variance (Projected – Budgeted 2014)</b>	(21,549)	\$ 608,986	\$ 587,437
<b>% Variance to Budget</b>	-1.3%	19.6%	12.2%

\* includes Adopted and Contingent

*Mr. Morgan pointed out an error regarding the adopted numbers – the above chart reflects the correction.*

Chief Balloni:

- requesting funding to be released from contingency to allow them to continue to work in the second quarter on both the police and custody sides
- because of the upfront money, it is less than 25% of the remaining money
- being held in contingency because of overtime cost overruns

Chief Balloni reviewed the chart and noted that overtime on the police side is down nearly 33% from 2013; custody side down 8.6%; in total down 17.2%. On the custody side, there is less they can do to control overtime costs because of the mandatory staffing that the State Commission of Corrections has established. Also, hospital details and one on ones are often times mandatory overtime. In the past year they have implemented a new medical contract; have seen a decrease already in first several months for hospital details and one on one constant watch. The constant watch and hospital details have resulted in this decrease, and expect it to continue to improve.

On the police/civil side, mandatory staffing levels have been cut--cutting the number of police officers on the street. Where there was mandatory minimum staffing, it has been reduced – stretching resources farther, with an eye towards maintaining the safety of the resources. The largest cuts are in the minimum staffing area – substantial cuts.

Projected overtime in 2014 – Management and Budget provided the projections. He noted that different amounts of overtime are used at different times of the year. Projections are down 21% on police/civil; up 3.3% in custody – total decrease of 5.5% from the prior years. Projections were measured against this year's budget – a total of 25.3% increase. This year's budget is not the amount spent last year. From the Sheriff's office point of view – have managed to cut the numbers very significantly in 1<sup>st</sup> two month of the year. Based on some of the improvements put in place on both sides of the house; those improvements will continue and get better as the year goes forward. Any projection made at this point in the year is really a best guess based on the prior year. It is not without merit, but the numbers will be much more solid and gain strength as the year goes on. At this point they can only measure against the first 2 months of the year, which is very limited information, and shows a substantial decrease in both overtime accounts.

Chairman McMahon asked Chief Balloni if he does not believe that the Sheriff's Office will pierce its budget by \$1 million, based on Management and Budget's projection. Chief Balloni said "that is correct"; he does not believe it at this point. Exactly where they will fall is difficult to measure at this point in the year. It is very difficult to predict what is going to happen over the next 10 months with the limited information that we have. Right now they are seeing substantial declines based on the programs that have been implemented, and believes they will continue through the year. He thinks the custody side will improve; the biggest overtime on the police side occurs in the summer – that is when crime goes up and jail population goes up.

Mr. Holmquist referred to the mandatory minimum staffing levels being reduced and asked if that is the primary driver on why overtime numbers went down or are there other factors. Chief Balloni said that there is a multiplicity of factors that weigh into overtime. Major cases weigh in, training weighs in; have made a very conscious effort to reduce overtime, even in training programs. At this point, overtime spent on training literally needs his personal signoff before it goes forward. Overtime has been cut in a number of areas and it is showing some very dramatic differences. In answer to Mr. Holmquist, Chief Balloni said that they are able to have the greatest impact in scheduled overtime – all areas that are controllable are the exact areas that they are focusing on. A major case, i.e. a missing person or an abduction, can come in at any time and skew numbers for a short period of time. Mr. Holmquist asked if anything that is scheduled or predicated would require Chief Balloni's sign off in advance. Chief Balloni clarified that he signs off on training area; the police sign off on the minimum overtime areas; custody signs off in their areas. The custody side watches their numbers very closely daily, and are working on getting the database in shape to predict what is happening on a daily basis.

Mr. Holmquist asked if there have been any procedural changes that have happened in relation to the unpredictable things – i.e. big cases, influx in jail. Chief Balloni said that the Chief of the Police Division has asked the CID commander to identify any areas that overtime can be controlled. Some of these things are person power incidents--there is very little control with some of the major incidents in terms of the amount that is going to be expended on an individual incident.

Chairman McMahon asked who signs off on the police side; Chief Balloni said that Chief Bottsford is in charge of that and Chief Gonzales is in charge on the custody end. On any given incident, i.e. an incident occurring at 3:00 a.m., the supervisor would sign off on authorizing people to work. Regarding the established minimums, those are the control areas that Chief Bottsford would have control over – he changes those and expects his supervisors to live by the numbers that he establishes. Chairman McMahon asked who the Community Relations

Division falls under. Chief Balloni said that it is a separate division run directly through the undersheriff. It falls under the police/civil budget but is run directly by the undersheriff. Chairman McMahon asked if the undersheriff would be responsible for that overtime; Chief Balloni said “yes”.

Chairman McMahon referred to item 3a and asked if the overtime allocation in the grant will pay for overtime that is already being done or is it for additional overtime work that now can be done. Chief Balloni said that it is for overtime for when they are sent to training – it causes overtime in terms of backfill. If they are scheduled for training on their days off, they incur overtime. Those numbers are included in the grant – whatever it costs for backfilling them while they are away and whatever it costs to pay them is included in the \$18,000. It will not affect the budget; it will not affect local dollar overtime.

Chairman Knapp said for item 3b, this is a transfer of \$168,513. Chief Balloni said that where they requested transfers, they asked themselves if they were going to need funding in a particular area in this particular quarter. If the answer was no; it was not included. If the answer was yes, they included 25% of the year’s funding that was still withheld. There are areas that they have not requested any money, i.e. equipment for cars--haven’t ordered any cars and haven’t asked for any of that money yet because it wouldn’t be spent until the final quarter of the year.

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Holmquist to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**c. 2014 Transfer Resolution – Sheriff/Custody (\$206,866)**

Chief Balloni said that they went through the areas of the budget where funding was held in contingency; looked at areas where they will need funding to operate and requested 25% of that funding. No money was requested for custody vehicles.

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mr. Holmquist to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**4. FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: Lee Klosowski, Director, Energy & Sustainability**

**a. A Local Law Authorizing the Installation of a Solar System and Lease to Solar City of County Property Located in the Town of Clay at the Soule Road Water Storage Tank Site**

Mr. Klosowski:

- property to be leased is approximately 9 acres at Oak Orchard Wastewater Treatment plant; approximately 3 acres from the rooftops of covered reservoir storage tanks at MWB site on Soule Road
- SEQRs completed--conclude that leases will not result in any significant, adverse environmental impact
- Lease term – 20 years with option of two 5 year extension
- Lease agreements – part of 20 year power purchase agreements between the county and Solar City
- County will purchase electricity output by Solar City systems
- Electricity produced/purchased expected to cover about 25% of the electricity needs at MWB and 80% of electricity needs at Oak Orchard WWT site
- Production of the solar cells is about 4% of overall county electric needs
- Electricity prices are below County’s forecast for electricity prices; substantially below the average price of the last 12 month period – had a big price run up in the last 2 months
- Prices in power purchase agreement are estimated at 2%/year for the course of the contract
- \$27,000 1<sup>st</sup> year savings estimate
- Reduces County’s greenhouse gas emissions by 2.5%

Mr. Jordan asked if there are any costs associated with this for the County. Mr. Klosowski said “no” - the only obligation is to purchase the electricity produced by the system. They are owned, operated, and maintained by the developer.

Mr. Jordan said that a senior community was recently constructed near the tanks and asked if there would be any type of reflection off of the solar panels. Mr. Klosowski said that the ones on tanks at MWB will be elevated; there is no real reflection – trying to absorb that energy.

In answer to Chairman Knapp asked if Solar City is getting NYSERDA grant to cover a lot of the costs. Mr. Klosowski said that they are; this was achieved through a competitive process. NYSERDA is covering about \$3.5 million of the cost of this project.

Chairman Knapp asked what happens if something happens to Solar City---will it be the County's responsibility to remove them. Mr. Klosowski said that under the power purchase agreement it is the obligation of the owner of the cells to remove them at the end of the lease period. Solar City will ultimately be transferring ownership to a lending agency that is financing this deal. The banks will own it; Solar City will operate it under contract with those banks. If Solar City goes bankrupt, those banks would have someone else step in to operate. The term of this is 20 years; the value of these from a revenue standpoint is over 30 years. Even at the end of the term, there would be property of value that people would want to get back and re-contract for.

Chairman Knapp summarized – there is no capital outlay on the County's part; incentive back is to purchase electricity at a reduced rate. Mr. Klosowski said that the County can get an environmental benefit at a savings. Electric prices go up and down; currently this is a great deal – still a money saver over the length of the project.

***A motion was made by Mrs. Ervin, seconded by Ms. Williams to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**b. A Local Law Authorizing the Installation of a Solar System and Lease to Solar City of County Property Located in the Town of Clay at the Oak Orchard Waste Water Treatment Plant**

***A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**5. AMERICANIZATION LEAGUE: Michael Puntschenko, Syracuse City School District**

**a. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Make Funds Available to the Americanization League of Syracuse and Onondaga County, Inc. (\$45,000)**

Mr. Puntschenko:

- City School District partners with Americanization League of Onondaga County
- Americanization League has existed for over 100 years
- Supports refugees and immigrants coming into the community – helping them with their green card paperwork – allowing them to be employed in the community
- \$45,000 will fund approx. half of a FTE; the other half is funding by grant funds received by Syracuse School Dist.

Chairman Knapp asked if the program is administered through the Syracuse City School District; Mr. Puntschenko said that they pay for the staff portion.

Mrs. Ervin asked if it is an existing program; Mr. Puntschenko said that it is. Chairman Knapp said that funds were part of the 2014 budget; funds held in contingency.

In answer to Chairman Knapp, Mr. Puntschenko said that there is one person currently; there was 2. They are working with Catholic Charities to do some transitioning of the support services, so that the school district can focus more on the education side of it. There is a lot of paperwork that needs to be filled out; the school district works with them to do that so that they can move forward to the next step to getting their green card. The program helps about 1,000 people per year.

Chairman Knapp asked how people find out about it. Mr. Puntschenko said that a lot of times it is word of mouth. They also work with Catholic Charities and Interfaith Works, and people come to them from there.

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**6. GREATER SYRACUSE LAND BANK: William Fisher, Deputy County Executive**

**a. Authorizing the Transfer of Tax Delinquent Properties to the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation**

- Transfer tax delinquent properties that are adjacent to St. Camillus, Geddes

- Landbank has asked that the properties be transferred to them based on failure of owners to pay taxes
- Properties are in an estate; owners were trying to transfer the properties to St. Camillus, but it wasn't possible to do it directly
- The landbank will make the properties available to St. Camillus for \$1

Chairman Knapp said that the landbank will be a conduit; Mr. Fisher agreed. Mr. Weber explained that the property has been tax delinquent for years; tried to auction them in 2009, but they are landlocked; they are off of a paper street that doesn't really exist. In answer to Chairman Knapp, Mr. Weber said that the assessed value for both properties combined is about \$2,500.

Mr. Jordan stated that these have been offered for sale and no one has bid on them; Mr. Weber agreed.

***A motion was made by Mrs. Ervin, seconded by Ms. Williams to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

Chairman Knapp asked if these properties will go off the tax rolls; Mr. Weber said that he believes St. Camillus is non-profit.

***A vote was taken on the motion. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**b. Amending the 2014 Budget to Provide Support for the Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation and to Encourage Redevelopment of Blighted Properties (\$500,000)**

Mr. Fisher:

- County Executive proposed \$500,000 in the budget for the landbank, based on the improved collection of taxes in the City
- Have seen a very significant increase in the collection of delinquent taxes and it is above budget
- The legislature put the \$500,000 into a contingent account
- This amendment would remove the funds from contingency and make available in a contract to the landbank

Mrs. Tarolli said that the contract has been finalized and can provide copies to members. Mr. Fisher said that Chairman McMahon wanted to see some things done in the contract. There is \$150,000 available for a loan program; there are no fees on it. The other \$350,000 will go towards deconstructing homes that the landbank owns, and for a program in the village of Jordan, Town of Elbridge and Village of Baldwinsville. The landbank would be able to acquire a 10% administration fee on the \$350,000.

Chairman McMahon said that there are 3 phases – 1. Deconstruction – City is knocking down a lot of properties – more environmentally friendly – getting a new industry in that space – wanted to incentivize for that; 2. Money going directly into villages and towns – the 3 that have asked for help to date have been Village of Jordan, Village of Baldwinsville, and Town of Elbridge – so money was earmarked there; 3. A pot of money that will create a loan guarantee, which will help people that actually take over properties that the landbank sells that can't get traditional financing – they could partnership with Home Headquarters and get a loan there. This is a strong program, and he fully supports it.

Mr. Jordan asked for a description of how the landbank functions. He is concerned that the landbank is competing with investors who do this for a living and questions why we would subsidize an entity that would compete with our own taxpayers. Mr. Fisher said that the landbank is actually welcoming investors to get involved with them. To leverage this program most effectively, they would bring private capital into it, so that it is not just government dollars. Mr. Jordan asked what the landbank's role is in this transaction. Mr. Fisher said that the landbank is eligible to receive the transfer of property that a legislature has approved, following the foreclosure by the City or another entity. It is an alternative to a tax sale. Once the property transfers into a landbank, they have money to fix up places for the short term. Their goal is to get it into the hands of owners again so it gets back on the tax rolls. There are various tools that are uniquely available to them under NYS law. Funding comes from the NYS Attorney General and a significant amount from the City, where more of these properties are. Over time it is thought that there will be opportunities in the towns. Mr. Jordan asked why the properties are not first put up for a tax—then, the properties that don't sell can be transferred to the landbank. Mr. Fisher said that is what the County is doing. These are properties that were put into the tax sale and didn't sell. If they chose not to do that, they inform the legislature that the properties haven't come up for sale. The

City hasn't been selling their properties at all. Chairman McMahon said that it is also a tool to help control occupancy. Especially in the city, a lot of time dealers come in and gobble up a bunch of cheap real estate and it creates neighborhood issues. There are certain cases where you are going to want investors to own properties – i.e. a residential owner occupied street with one property that becomes a problem. This is a tool to help control occupancy to get a homeowner in there.

Chairman Knapp asked Mr. DeMore how Community Development acquires property compared to the landbank. Mr. DeMore said that it is very similar – they have two in the landbank now. One in the Town of Onondaga, off of Salina Street, which has a tree through the roof. The building is sound, but needs a lot of money. If it went to the auction, he doubts it would have sold or someone would figure out that they can't afford to fix it. Community Development has a \$500,000 grant from the State and are working through the landbank to fix up some of the properties. They will buy 10 houses over the next two years – have 2 already.

Chairman McMahon indicated that he is comfortable with the changes that have been made to the contract and said that this is a balanced approach to making sure it meets the objective that the Legislature has, who actually voted on the enabling legislation.

Chairman Knapp noted that the \$500,000 is already in the budget; this is asking to have it released.

**Ms. Williams asked to be provided with a copy of the final contract. Ms. Tarolli said that she will provide it to members.**

***A motion was made by Mrs. Ervin, seconded by Ms. Williams to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

## **7. LEGISLATURE:**

### **a. Confirming the Appointment of Darcie L. Lesniak as Legislative Analyst of the Onondaga County Legislature**

Chairman McMahon stated that there is no pay increase with this appointment; it is just a title change.

Mrs. Ervin asked if the aide position will be replaced. Chairman McMahon said that it will be at some point.

***A motion was made by Mr. Holmquist, seconded by Mr. Jordan to approve this item. AYES: 4 (Knapp, Jordan, Holmquist, Williams); NOES: 0; ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Ervin). MOTION CARRIED.***

## **8. CNY ARTS: Stephen Butler, Executive Director**

### **a. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Make Funds available to CNY Arts for Distribution to Musical Associates of Central New York, Inc. (\$125,000)**

Mr. Butler:

- Asking for funds to be released from contingency for economic development projects for arts culture initiatives
- Projects were looked at: Can they stimulate economic development in the county; can they generate tourism
- The panel approved four projects

Mr. Butler provided the following:

**Onondaga County**  
**Economic Development Grants**  
 Panel Funding Recommendations  
 Administered by CNY Arts



**CNY Arts**  
 John H. Mulroy Civic Center, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 421 Montgomery Street  
 Syracuse, NY 13202  
 (315) 435-2155

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The purpose of this grant program is to provide partial funding for projects that utilize art, culture, history, and heritage to provide a tangible and measurable benefit to the economic development of Onondaga County.

Grant guidelines and applications were distributed to potential applicants and posted on [cnyarts.org](http://cnyarts.org). Dedicated arts and culture agencies that are eligible to receive funding through CNY Arts and the Tier 1/Tier 2 Process (page 9), and that own or operate a venue year-round were eligible for both grant programs.

All of the submitted applications were then reviewed carefully by three panelists based on the following criteria:

- Immediate economic impact of project on the economy of Onondaga County
- The ability to capitalize on increase in attendance/economic activity following the event
- The ability for organizations and businesses to partner and collaborate

We provided the applications to the panel for review one week before the panel meeting and allowed panelists the opportunity to direct follow up questions to the agencies through CNY Arts Staff. Each member of the panel independently ranks the applications and submits the Preliminary Findings to CNY Arts in advance of the meeting. The panel met once to review applications. The recommended awards reflect their consensus.

## CNY Arts – Onondaga County Economic Development Grant Panel

Panelists were chosen to reflect expertise in distribution of philanthropic resources, nonprofit management, arts presenting, and the tourism industry.

### Dr. Shena Ashley

Shena Ashley, PhD is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Public Administration in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. She teaches graduate courses in the areas of nonprofit management and quantitative research methods and conducts research concerning the selection of grant recipients and distribution of philanthropic resources. Her research has been published in several journals including *Nonprofit Management and Leadership*, *New Directions for Evaluation* and the *American Review of Public Administration*.

Prior to joining the Maxwell School in the fall of 2009, she was a member of the faculty at the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies in Atlanta, GA. In addition, she combined her academic experience with a professional career as the Director of Research and Policy at the Annie E. Casey Foundation Atlanta Civic Site. At the Foundation, she led the performance tracking and evaluation activities of a major place-based community change initiative that integrated workforce development, education reform, and housing stabilization to provide opportunity for the most vulnerable families living in five of Atlanta's most distressed neighborhoods.

### David Holder

The Syracuse Convention & Visitors Bureau (SCVB), a division of CenterState CEO, plays a vital role in Onondaga County's economic development strategy through its focus on growing the area's \$716 million tourism industry. As the county's official and accredited destination marketing organization, the SCVB works to generate short-term and future income for businesses, employment for residents and tax revenue for local government.

From a slight southern drawl to a love of cheese grits, you'll quickly recognize that David Holder did not grow up in Central New York. He may not be a native but he is definitely one of our area's greatest cheerleaders. A love of our area's outdoors, weather (yes, you heard correctly), great food, and overall quality of life drive David's passion for the Syracuse area. It is a good thing he loves our area as he is responsible for leading the team at the Syracuse Convention and Visitors Bureau that works daily to promote and sell Syracuse to convention planners, sporting event organizers and leisure visitors from around the world.

Prior to joining the Syracuse Convention and Visitors Bureau, Mr. Holder directed the tourism and economic development efforts for the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia and led the Steuben County Conference and Visitors Bureau in Corning, New York. Mr. Holder earned both a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Tourism Management from North Carolina State University. He is a native of North Carolina and resides in Fayetteville (NY not NC) with his wife, two children, and two dogs.

### John Shaffer

John Shaffer, Director of Arts Programming at SUNY Oswego, holds an M.A. in arts administration from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His previous professional experience includes nine years at the National Endowment for the Arts as a Policy and Planning Specialist and Assistant Director of the Challenge Grant program. He also served as the first Managing Director of Spirit Square, a downtown arts center developed as part of the Cultural Action Plan for the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. He currently serves on the State and Local Partnership panel for the New York State Council on the Arts and the Regional Advisory Committee of CNY Arts.

## Panel Recommendation Summary

Total Number of Grants Received: 6

Total Amount of Funds Requested: \$209,120

### Economic Development Recommendations:

<b>MOST</b>	<i>Dinomania Exhibit at the MOST</i>	\$50,000
<b>Syracuse Stage</b>	Mainstage Production of <i>Hairspray</i>	\$50,000
<b>Open Hand Theater</b>	International Arts and Puppet Festival	\$17,500
<b>Light Work</b>	Summer Film under the Stars	\$ 7,500

### Panel Recommendations:



The panel recommends that all of these projects concentrate on their marketing plans for maximum reach throughout the region. In order to have the greatest economic impact, these grant awards will in large part be required to be spent on marketing plans and bolstering attendance strategies. Awardees will also be required to attend the CNY Arts marketing workshop in June with Nonprofit Marketing Leader, Nancy Schwartz.

Specific panel recommendations are mentioned in each Project Summation page.

## SYRACUSE STAGE MAINSTAGE SUPPORT FOR HAIRSPRAY

Recommended Award: \$50,000  
Project Cash Expenses: \$116,780 for the additional week (\$583,900 total)  
Forecasted Onondaga County Attendance: 2,100 (10,500 total)  
Forecasted Out-Of-County Attendance: 1,000 (4,500 total)  
Estimated Audience Spending: \$99,123 for the additional week



**Project Summary:** Syracuse Stage will extend the run of its holiday show “Hairspray” from November 29<sup>th</sup> through January 4<sup>th</sup> with eight performances per week. This fully-staged, professional production of *Hairspray* will of Syracuse Stage’s 2014/2015 mainstage subscription season, performed in the 499-seat Archibald Theatre. The production will run more performances than Syracuse Stage normally runs the holiday show, which is a new venture. Typically the run for the holiday production is from late November, ending right before Christmas. This show is set to run through January 4, 2015 which will allow for performances on New Year’s Eve and into the first weekend in January.

Preliminary attendance projections are for a total audience of at least 15,000. Based on historical ticket sales from previous holiday productions, 30% of patrons reside outside Onondaga County – ranging from Watertown to Ithaca to Auburn and Utica. However, with the anticipated broad appeal of *Hairspray*, it is expected that an audience will come from a wider region and especially on New Year’s Eve Weekend as an alternative to other kinds of New Year’s celebration.

**Promotion:** This project will be promoted throughout the Central New York region. Feature stories, interviews, and publicity surrounding ancillary events, flyers, mailers, the emailing of show trailers, PSA’s, and social media will be used. The Syracuse Stage website attracts on average 50,000 visitors per month, will include video interviews, and significant publicity information. Marketing efforts will commence in April as part of the 2014/15 subscription series and will intensify in mid-October, when cast and crew begin rehearsals. Advertisements will be placed in The Post Standard, Syracuse.com, The New Times, Central New York radio stations, Time Warner Cable, and billboards on I-690.

**Panel Recommendations:** The contract with Syracuse Stage will require staff to work with the Convention and Visitors Bureau to broaden their marketing reach outside of the Central New York region and develop concrete strategies to do so. With the mass appeal of the show *Hairspray*, and performance on New Year’s Eve (one of the very few events offered on New Year’s Eve) Syracuse Stage has the potential to capitalize on a large audience.

## DISCOVERY CENTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (MOST) DINOMANIA EXHIBIT AT THE MOST

Recommended Award: \$50,000  
Project Cash Expenses: \$110,000  
Forecasted Onondaga County Attendance: 55,000  
Forecasted Out-Of-County Attendance: 16,500  
Estimated Audience Spending: \$1,476,000



**Project Summary:** Dinomania provides a tremendous opportunity for the MOST to provide a blockbuster science educational attraction that will attract thousands of additional visitors to downtown Syracuse during its three-month run. Economically, it will drive the MOST’s attendance and provide substantial earned income to support the MOST’s education mission.

Audience is anticipated at over 55,000 visitors, which represents a 37% increase in attendance for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

The Syracuse Convention and Visitors Bureau helped determine that 73% of visitors to the MOST are local, 19% are regional day-trippers and 8% are overnight stays.

**Economic Impact:** The MOST also confirmed that the Dinosaur exhibit is not scheduled anywhere within a 100-mile radius of the MOST. For this reason, Dinomania is likely to draw more than 30% non-local visitors, meaning that 16,500 visitors will travel to the MOST to see this unique exhibit. The economic impact of these visitors represents \$915,000. Using the grant funds, the 38,000 local visitors will provide an economic impact of \$556,000. Thus, a \$50,000 economic development grant from the County will create \$1,476,000 of economic impact for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2014.

**Promotion:** The MOST will have a significant regional marketing campaign for Dinomania, using television, radio, online ads, as well as an exhibit.

**Panel Recommendations:** The panel found the MOST’s project very attractive as a destination family vacation. They believe it would benefit as part of a multi-attraction and enhanced marketing plan. The MOST demonstrated a reasonable Return on Investment and economic impact for the County. The panel recommends funding to enhance the marketing plan that will involve DestinyUSA packaging to create new audiences, in addition to packaging a wider range of hotels other than Armory Square for family audiences.

**OPEN HAND THEATER****INTERNATIONAL ARTS AND PUPPET FESTIVAL**

Recommended Award: \$20,000  
 Project Cash Expenses: \$46,328  
 Forecasted Onondaga County Attendance: 7,000  
 Forecasted Out-Of-County Attendance: 2,000  
 Estimated Audience Spending: \$190,000 - \$299,300



**Project Summary:** Open Hand Theater plans to bring back the International Arts and Puppet Festival to showcase the Syracuse Northside taking place on North Salina Street in Little Italy. The Puppet Festival serves as a highly visible festival to vitally propel development on the Northside of the city. The festival will feature pop-up galleries, vendors with food from around the world, international performances and guests traveling puppetry troupes on three performance stages, hands-on activities for youth, guest artists and the Giant Puppets. The overall goal of the festival is to help develop the larger brand of the Northside as a culturally diverse and vibrant place to visit and live.

**Promotion:** Using demographic data collected from last year's festival, in combination with Mosaic demographic projections, marketing and outreach will be targeted at specific groups, particularly intergenerational audiences. The Puppet Festival will include strategic collaborations for publicity and marketing endeavors based on this information. Direct mail, newspapers, posters, TV, radio, emails, Facebook, blogs, websites, YouTube, and Giant Puppet appearances at other events will be utilized in addition to direct mail reaching 17,000 targeted households, schools, organizations and individuals.

**Economic Impact:** This Festival can project an immediate economic impact of between \$190,000 and \$299,300. Creating a total of:

Full-time Equivalent Jobs ranging between:	7.128	9.728
Household income Paid to Residents between:	\$154,942	\$237,713
Revenue Generated to Local Government:	\$16,530	\$29,096
Revenue Generated to State Government:	\$10,841	\$17,627

**Panel Recommendations:** The panel recommended Open Hand distribute fliers and marketing materials to the State Fair audience to increase their regional draw. The panel believed the Festival will generate audience economic activity that will have long term benefits to the community by creating a sense of place. This will also keep residents visiting and spending within the County as opposed to outside or not participating at all.

**LIGHT WORK / URBAN VIDEO PROJECT****SUMMER FILM UNDER THE STARS**

Recommended Award: \$7,500  
 Project Cash Expenses: \$26,241  
 Forecasted Onondaga County Attendance: 2,300  
 Forecasted Out-of-County Attendance: 500  
 Estimated Audience Spending: \$21,801



**Project Summary:** Light Work and the Urban Video Project, in partnership with the Everson Museum of Art and the Connective Corridor, will present a summer outdoor film screening series culminating in a final major event combining a film screening with an arts and cultural fair representing twenty local organizations. All films in the series are free and open to the public. The screenings will project directly onto the side of the Everson's I.M. Pei- designed building. The summer series has a long term impact of introducing Syracuse University students to Downtown Syracuse and in turn generating downtown increased economic activity.

**Promotion:** Promotions will include print media advertisements in local and regional papers, including the Finger Lakes Summer Supplement which is disbursed via the Syracuse New Times, Ithaca Times, and Rochester City News; WRVO spots; and billboards.

Outreach efforts will begin in March via press releases with the film titles and dates to follow with an emphasis on longer lead periodicals such as *CNY Life Magazine*. They will filter through regional publications and broadcast media as well as fliers and social media will be utilized throughout the University area, including promotions through RA orientation for SU students.

**Economic Impact:** For the five screenings planned, attendance is estimated at 2,700 and projected to grow over 3,400. Not only will the screenings draw the current audience, but also reach unplanned or incidental audiences, both local and non-, who encounter and join the event. This will continue to enhance the brand of downtown Syracuse as a place where exciting things are happening. Based on audience self-reports, the Summer Film Series has drawn attendees from as far away as Ithaca and Rochester. Assuming the average attendee spends an average of \$25.93 through parking, gas, food, amenities, etc., the forecasted peripheral spending impact for all five movies would come to \$59,639. Estimated direct local expenditures total \$21,801.

**Panel Recommendations:** The panel believed Light Work had a strong track record of continued audience growth. Light Work also presented a very comprehensive and effective marketing plan that strategically reaches key demographics and prospective audiences.

**Onondaga County Arts Agency Funding Tiers****All agencies must meet the following criteria:**

- Arts and culture is a part of agency mission
- Have capacity to report on financial status and attendance on an annual basis or upon request
- Have principal office in Onondaga County
- Conduct the majority of its activities in New York State and primarily benefit residents of Onondaga County

- Are designated as 501(c)3
- Have capacity to utilize funds within the grant year.
- Have non-discrimination policy in effect
- Must operate in accordance with guidelines for Onondaga County agencies, New York State non-profit agencies, and 501(c)3 agencies

**The following types of agencies will never be considered for any tier:**

- Any agency of the County (includes libraries)
- Any educational institution, school or educational foundation
- Any radio or television broadcasting network or station
- Any cable communications system
- Any newspaper or magazine
- Any organization that is engaged solely in the acquisition or physical restoration of property
- Any agency that receives funding from Onondaga County directly

<b>Tier One Qualifications – Cultural Institutions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual budget \$800,000 &amp; up</li> <li>• Established 10 years</li> <li>• Full time director</li> <li>• Board of Directors</li> <li>• Year round operation</li> <li>• Annual audit</li> <li>• Historically funded by Onondaga County</li> </ul>	Tier One agencies must provide evidence of audience impact and financial viability and are required to match County funds with corporate, foundation and individual donations. Government funds are not admissible for this match. Tier One agencies must report on their activities quarterly to CNY Arts, and must provide data for zip code analysis annually.
<b>Tier Two Qualifications – Midsize Agencies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Budget \$250,000 -799,999</li> <li>• Established 5 years</li> <li>• Board of directors</li> <li>• Annual audit</li> <li>• Historically funded by Onondaga County</li> </ul>	Tier Two agencies must provide evidence of audience impact and financial viability. Tier Two agencies must report on their activities quarterly to CNY Arts, and must provide data for zip code analysis annually.
<b>Tier Three Qualifications – Smaller &amp; New Agencies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Budget \$25,000 - \$249,999</li> <li>• Established 3 years</li> <li>• Board of directors</li> <li>• Public component of work, including but not limited to performance, exhibition, arts education, or public discourse</li> <li>• Organizations that meet the criteria of Tier One or Two but are not historically funded by Onondaga County</li> </ul>	Tier Three agencies are not eligible for Onondaga County General Operating Support. When funds allow, Tier Three agencies may apply for Project Support or Economic Development grants.

**2014 Tier One Agencies**

Everson Museum of Art  
Museum of Science & Technology  
Symphoria  
Syracuse Jazzfest  
Syracuse Opera Company  
Syracuse Stage

**2014 Tier Two Agencies**

CNY Arts  
CNY Jazz Arts Foundation  
Landmark Theatre  
Redhouse Arts Center, Inc.  
Salt City Playhouse II  
Skaneateles Festival  
Syracuse City Ballet  
Syracuse International Film & Video Festival  
YMCA of Greater Syracuse

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**9. PURCHASE: Sean Carroll, Director**  
**a. Revenue Contract Report**

TO: David Knapp, Chairman, Ways and Means  
Committee Members, Ways and Means  
FROM: Sean Carroll, Director  
DATE: March 24, 2014  
SUBJECT: Reporting Requirements under 2010-241 and 2010-242, Revenue Contracts

There are no new updates for Revenue Contracts

Correction to February Report:

In February we reported that the County wide vending contract had been released. This information was premature. When we reviewed the document we discovered an opportunity to strengthen the scope. This RFP will be released as soon as this language is clarified.

Mr. Carroll:

- No additional contracts to report on
- Correction to Feb. report–premature on his presentation. The language was not strong enough in the RFP re: making sure vendors knew what was not included (i.e. sponsors painted on under ice for Crunch, other sponsorships for events not allowed to conflict). Made language stronger; RFP should go out this month
- Print management RFP due this Friday

**Chairman Knapp asked to be to be informed of the responses to the print management RFP.**

# **10. PARKS & RECREATION: William Lansley, Commissioner**

## **a. Report – Lights on the Lake**

Mr. Lansley provided the following:

### **Lights on the Lake Legislative Information Request**

The Onondaga County Legislature has requested the following information:

1. A line by line breakdown of income and expenses. This is provided in Attachment A.
2. The electricity costs including number and cost savings for LED Displays. This information is provided in Attachment B.
3. Media information on how much was spent on print, TV, and radio. This information is provided in Attachment C.
4. An overall information sheet is attached as Attachment D.

### **Attachment A**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>2013 Actual</b>
Display Rehabilitation	\$ 23,746.00
Personnel	\$ 114,373.48
Show Operations	\$ 76,407.84
Utilities	\$ 11,492.18
Storage	\$ 28,873.65
Traffic/Safety	\$ 3,234.21
Total Expenses	\$ 258,127.36

Base Revenue	\$ 314,000.00
Total Revenue	\$ 314,000.00

New Displays for 2013	
Show	\$ 51,995.00

<b>Attachment B</b>		
<b><u>December Utility Bills for Onondaga Lake Park</u></b>		
	<b>Kwh Usage</b>	<b>Total Expense</b>
<b>2011</b>	96,618.00	\$ 12,333.16
<b>2012</b>	74,389.00	\$ 10,081.38
<b>2013</b>	67,095.00	\$ 6,573.27
<b>Change</b>	(7,294.00)	(3,508.11)
		-35%
<b>% Change</b>	-10%	

- Have spent a lot of time working on LED upgrades & purchase of equipment -LED enabled
- Utility bill gone down dramatically over last several years
- Usage has dropped considerably

**Attachment C****Galaxy Events***Recap of Advertising Expense 2013-2014***Radio**

	Station	Units	Rate	Total
60 second spots				
	WTKW	1168	150	175200
	WZUN	1766	60	105960
	WKRL	1363	85	115855
	WTLA	1197	45	53865
15 second spots				
	WTKW	398	25	9950
	WZUN	626	25	15650
	WKRL	398	25	9950
	WTLA	398	25	9950
Station promos				
	WTKW	535	150	80250
	WZUN	1420	60	85200
	WKRL	480	85	40800
	WOUR	75	85	6375
	MIX	75	50	3750
<b>Other</b>				
Billboard- Lamar Advertising				9200
TV- CNY Central				25920
Newspaper- The Post-Standard				5480
<b>Total</b>				<u><u>\$753,355</u></u>

**Attachment D**

	2012	2013
Charitable Walks (Attendance)	14,000	12,000
Charitable Donations	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,929
First Night CNY Attendance	7,000	1,000
Vehicle Count	38,271	35,855
Overall Attendance	193,219.50	174,347.50
Light Displays	281	285
LED Displays	88	256
Percentage of Bulbs that are LED	31%	90%
Website Page Views	88,900	104,625
Advertising Expenses	\$ 820,960	\$ 753,355
Operating Expenses	\$266,347.42	\$258,127.36
Operating Revenue	\$ 336,740	\$314,000

- 5<sup>th</sup> best year in last 10 years
- Had rough weather that kept numbers low

Mr. Jordan said revenues are down, is it because attendance was lighter. Mr. Lansley said that the car count was down compared to last year, which affects attendance and revenues.

Chairman Knapp asked if the overall attendance is people or cars. Mr. Lansley said that is it people – multiple of 4.5 people/car.

Mr. Lansley said that they are in great shape, hope to get to 100% LED with rehabs; have great displays coming for next year.

**b. Report – Capital Projects**

Mr. Lansley provided the following:

## Capital Project Update


### Ways & Means Committee Report March 24, 2014

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#### Onondaga County Parks

JOANNE M. MAHONEY, COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
WILLIAM J. LANSLEY, COMMISSIONER

**ONONDAGA COUNTY**  
*Parks*



### Funding Approved in 2011



### Table of Contents

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**Section 1:**  
Funding approved in 2011

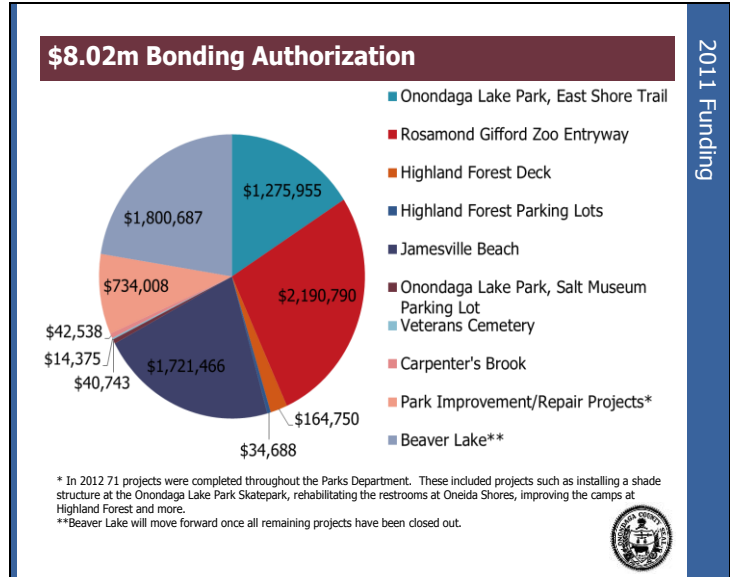
- Onondaga Lake Park, East Shore Trail
- Rosamond Gifford Zoo Entryway
- Highland Forest, Skyline Lodge Deck
- Jamesville Beach, Parking Lots and Drainage
- Beaver Lake Entrance
- Onondaga Lake Park, Salt Museum Parking Lot
- Veterans Cemetery Expansion Study
- Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery Study

**Section 2:**  
Funding approved in 2012

- Rosamond Gifford Zoo HVAC
- West Shore Trail Repair
- Loop the Lake South West Extension

*We are awesome, we control costs, and we have some proposals/capital projects that we think are worth spending money on.*


- *The Parks are an integral part of the community.*
  - *In 2010, we saw record attendance*
  - *In 2010 the Parks were also hugely involved in the community through many charity events*
- *In 2011 we have not sat back and rested on this success, but we have worked very hard to maintain and build momentum*
  - *New management initiatives*
    - *Public – Private Partnerships*
  - *Continuing to work with friends groups and volunteers to make the Parks awesome. We are not throwing up our hands and saying that we can't do it, we are aggressively seeking out new ways to get the job done more efficiently*
  - *Working with the County Executive to make her initiatives happen*
    - *Green*
    - *Save the rain*
  - *Completed Parks for Tomorrow II which provided a significant amount of new infrastructure improvements*
- *An Introduction to the Parks*
  - *Highlights public private partnerships*
  - *Highlights capital investment*
  - *Highlights friends groups*
  - *Highlights events integral to the community*
- *2011 Budget review*
  - *Some accounts below what their long term trend would predict*
  - *We are going to come in on budget due to aggressive management strategies*
- *2012 Budget Overview*
  - *We are holding the line on expenses*
    - *Increase in Local is due to one shot transfers not being in the budget and employee benefits*
  - *Several new and innovative ideas*
    - *Hopkins*
    - *RecPro*
    - *Work Order outsourcing*
- *Strategic Priorities*
  - *CIP*
  - *Parkwide PM Plan*
  - *Parkwide Paving Plan*



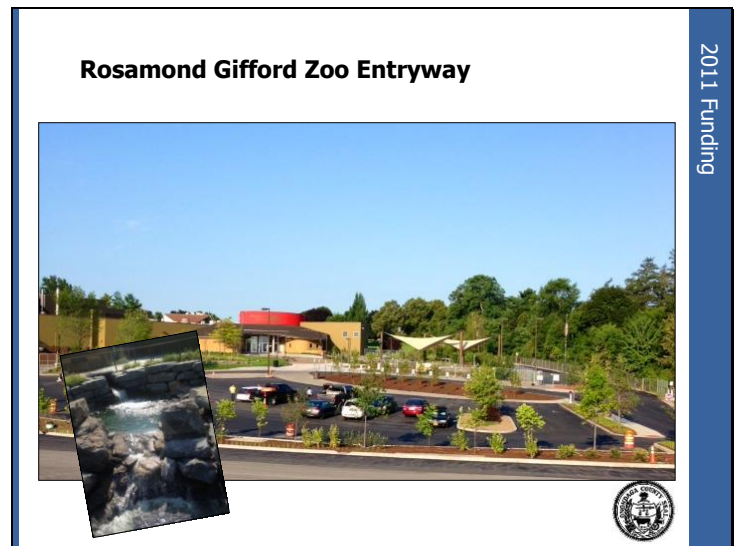
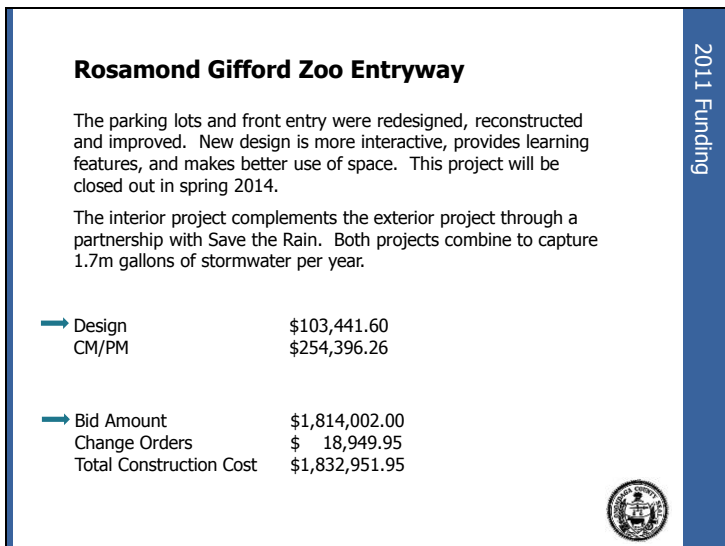
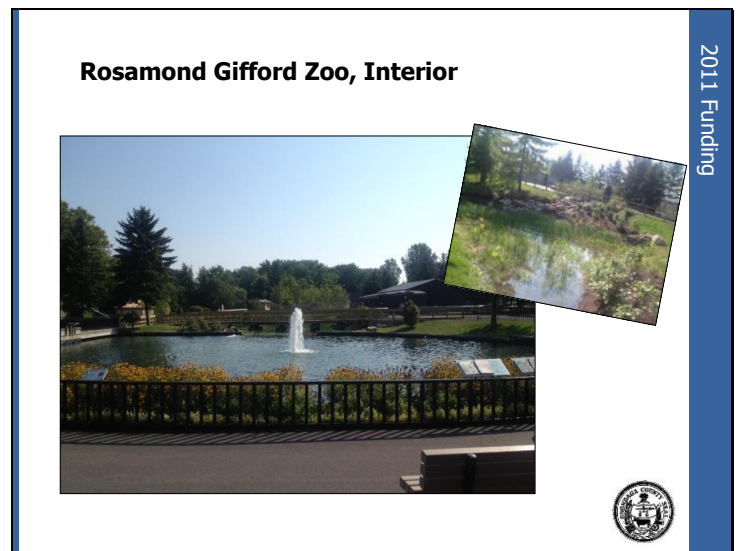
### Onondaga Lake Park East Shore Trail

The East Shore Trail was reconstructed and repaved in the fall of 2013. This project will be closed out in the spring of 2014.

→ Design	\$ 141,581.30
CM/PM	\$ 122,052.13
→ Bid Amount	\$ 954,010.81
Change Orders	\$ 58,311.00
Total Construction Cost	\$1,012,321.81







Entire front of zoo was redone; wetland area had deteriorated – was reconstruction with addl. Seating and shade areas  
Saving millions of gallons of water that was running into combined sewer system

Water pumped up near bear exhibit into cistern, mainly – filtered water constantly recirculating  
Overflow goes into retention pond areas and held until absorbed into the surface

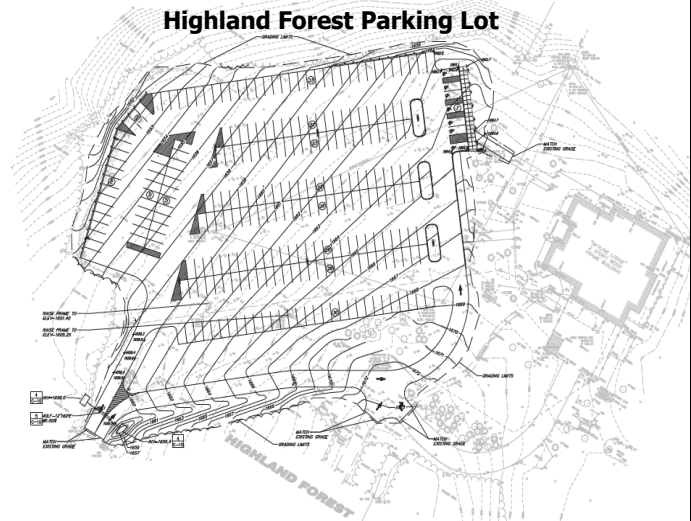
## Highland Forest Skyline Lodge Deck

This project designed and constructed a new 3,200 square foot deck at Highland Forest's Skyline Lodge. This project will be closed out in spring 2014.

→ Design	\$ 34,480.91
CM/PM	\$ 8,919.58
→ Bid Amount	\$ 121,350.00
Change Orders	
Total Construction Cost	\$ 121,350.00



2011 Funding



added deck

## Highland Forest Skyline Lodge



## Jamesville Beach Park

This project improves the drainage system as well as repaving and reconstructing the current roads and parking lots.

→ Design	\$ 74,820.61
CM/PM	\$ 47,089.28
→ Bid Amount	\$ 1,572,000.00
Change Orders	\$ 27,556.00
Total Construction Cost	\$ 1,599,556.00



2011 Funding

had a lot of damage; it is now a completely new park – when Ironman is there with thousands of people biking and running, they are not going to be held back by potholes and things

## Highland Forest Parking Lot

This project designed improvements to and an expansion of the parking lot at Highland Forest.

Design \$ 34,687.82



2011 Funding



- in design to put new parking lot in; some parking has stone put in

- put in a bioretention swale with a stormwater retention areas above left parking lot – it is piped down to the creek



**Jamesville Beach Park**

2011 Funding

**Onondaga Lake Park Salt Museum Parking Lot**

This project will redesign and reconstruct the parking lot next to the Salt Museum. One of two main parking lots for users of the East Shore Trail.

Design \$ 40,743.36



2011 Funding

**Beaver Lake Nature Center Entrance**

• This project will redesign, reconstruct, and repave the entry areas at Beaver Lake.

• Proposed features are:

- Paving the entrance road
- Renovating the main entrance and adding a front porch
- Installing a rain runoff retention system
- Installing an education and picnic area
- Replacing blacktop with green space
- Replacing the current gate entry/exit system

2011 Funding

**Salt Museum**

- Design of parking lot; in tough conditions, being so close to water table, when the lake rises, there is flooding
- Shovel ready

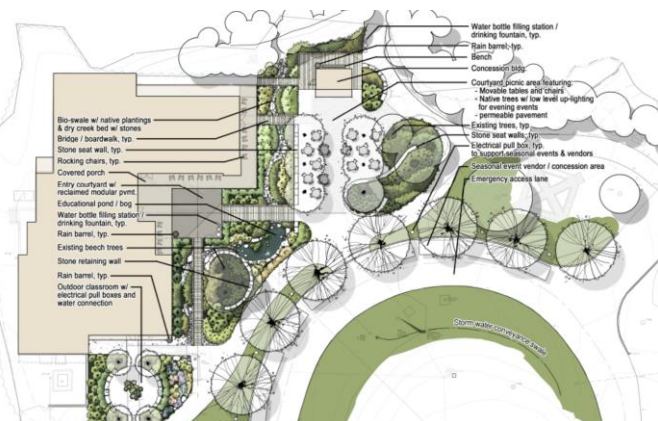
**Veterans Cemetery Expansion Study**

This project will design an expansion for the Veteran's Cemetery.

Cost \$ 14,374.83

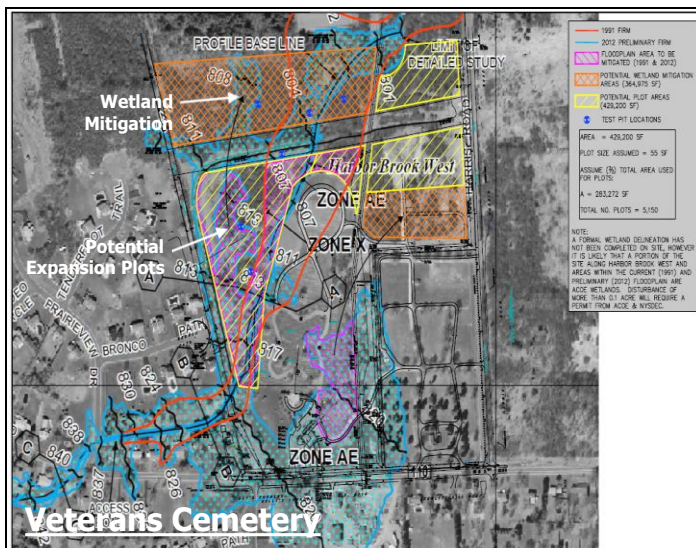


2011 Funding

**Beaver Lake Nature Center**

- Entrance was a mass of black tar; now a lot of additional green space – show more attention to water retention and educational purposes
- Boardwalk will have a dry and active creek running through it, roof run off will be put into that system
- Patio will be put along the front with a lot of seating
- Will complete these project after details are completed at Rosamond Gifford Zoo

- In preliminary stages; looking for civil engineers to do a more detailed, strategic plan of the cemetery
- Will need to expand within the next 1.5 years
- Have done some analysis of what is surrounding existing plots – some areas need to be remediated



Funding Approved in 2012



### Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery Study

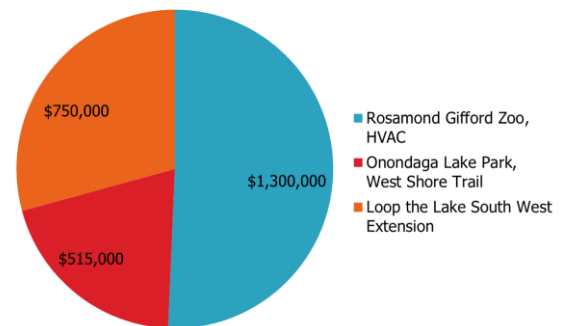
This project will evaluate the structural abilities of the current hatchery and recommend needed structural improvements to ensure that the Hatchery is viable for the foreseeable future.

Cost \$ 42,537.78

2011 Funding



### \$2.565m Bonding Authorization



2012 Funding



- Studied for water cultures; approved for continued use and possible expansion
- Buildings are in difficult shape – a future project



**Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery**

### Rosamond Gifford Zoo HVAC

The objective of this project is to replace the current HVAC system. This project is under way and on schedule to be completed by mid June 2014. The funds under contract for this project are:

→ CM/PM \$ 199,000.00

→ Bid Amount \$ 952,370.00  
Change Orders \$ 11,566.47  
Total Construction Cost \$ 963,936.47

Note: This project is currently projected to be completed at \$137,063.53 under budget.

2012 Funding





### Rosamond Gifford Zoo HVAC



2012 Funding

- about halfway through project – should be completed in June 2014
- covers all main buildings, interior exhibits

### Onondaga Lake Park West Shore Trail Repairs

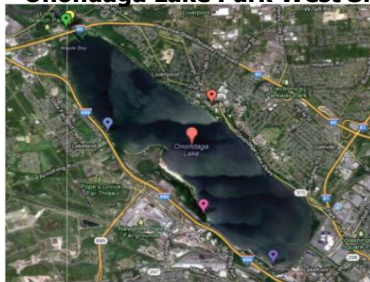
Repairs will be made in spring 2014 to the existing West Shore Trail.

➔ Design Estimate	\$ 25,000.00
➔ CM/PM Estimate	\$ 25,000.00
➔ Bid Amount Estimate	\$ 465,000.00
➔ Change Orders	
➔ Total Construction Cost	\$ 465,000.00

2012 Funding

- existing trail from Long Branch to new trail opening early this year
- tree root damage; crossovers from Geddes new paving and rework

### Onondaga Lake Park West Shore Trail Repairs



The repairs will take place from the beginning of the west shore trail to where the new west shore trail extension begins. (From the green marker to the blue marker)

- ➔ Griffin Visitor Center  
The trail starts here. The reconstruction and repaving of this section of the trail, to the Long Branch Bridge, will take place this year. The project will go out to bid on 4/9/13.
- ➔ Long Branch Bridge  
2.3 miles from the Griffin Visitor Center.
- ➔ West Shore Trail  
This is the beginning of the West Shore Trail (existing.)
- ➔ New West Shore Trail Expansion Begins  
This portion of the trail is currently under construction. Stated to open Fall 2013.
- ➔ New West Shore Trail Expansion Ends  
This is the end of the West Shore Trail Expansion.
- ➔ Future Trail Ending  
(Unimproved property)

2012 Funding

### Loop the Lake South West Extension

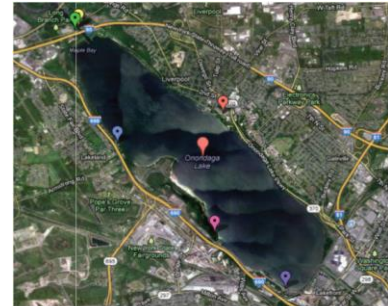
Onondaga County received funding through the New York State Land and Water Revitalization Program, as well as \$750,000 in local funding approved by the Onondaga County Legislature in 2012, to review the feasibility of the Onondaga Lake Loop the Lake trail southwestern trail extension. The study will include an analysis of the area's environmental conditions, land use characteristics and ownership, natural resources, and pedestrian and vehicular circulation aspects. An advisory committee has been selected to provide ongoing input into the planning process. Once a preferred trail route has been determined, schematic plans and cost estimates for future funding of the trails construction will be prepared.

Onondaga County Executive Joanie Mahoney invites the community to a public informational meeting on March 25, 2014 from 6:30-8:30PM in the Destiny USA's Skydeck located on the 6th floor where a presentation will be given describing the various alternatives in selecting a preferred trail route that will extend a two-mile section of the Onondaga Loop the Lake trail system along the southwestern section of the lake connecting to the Syracuse Creekwalk.

2012 Funding

- **NOTE:** informational meeting will not be held 3/25 – Mr. Millea said it is being rescheduled for better notification

The South West Extension will connect the future trail ending point (purple marker) with the Creekwalk.



Design \$ 750,000.00

- ➔ Griffin Visitor Center  
The trail starts here. The reconstruction and repaving of this section of the trail, to the Long Branch Bridge, will take place this year. The project will go out to bid on 4/9/13.
- ➔ Long Branch Bridge  
2.3 miles from the Griffin Visitor Center.
- ➔ West Shore Trail  
This is the beginning of the West Shore Trail (existing.)
- ➔ New West Shore Trail Expansion Begins  
This portion of the trail is currently under construction. Stated to open Fall 2013.
- ➔ New West Shore Trail Expansion Ends  
This is the end of the West Shore Trail Expansion.
- ➔ Future Trail Ending  
(Unimproved property)

2012 Funding

- study of where the extension is going to be – specifically for a bridge needed to cross over to CSX tracks to get to next phase and connect to Creekwalk



Over 500 events & programs

Events &amp; Programs

Funding Summary

## Funding Summary

Total Authorized Funding in 2011 and 2012	\$10,585,000
Onondaga Lake Park, East Shore Trail	\$ 1,275,955
Rosamond Gifford Zoo Entryway	\$ 2,190,790
Highland Forest Deck	\$ 164,750
Highland Forest Parking Lot	\$ 34,688
Jamesville Beach Park	\$ 1,721,466
Onondaga Lake Park, Salt Museum Parking Lot	\$ 40,743
Veterans Cemetery	\$ 14,375
Carpenter's Brook Fish Hatchery	\$ 42,538
Park Improvement/Repair Projects	\$ 734,008
Beaver Lake Nature Center	\$ 1,800,687
Rosamond Gifford Zoo, HVAC	\$ 1,300,000
Onondaga Lake Park, West Shore Trail (Repairs)	\$ 515,000
Loop the Lake South West Extension	\$ 750,000



Chairman Knapp referred to Jamesville Beach Park – noting that Iron Man and Balloon Fest is coming back, and asked if Jazz Fest will be there. Mr. Lansley said that they do not have confirmation of Jazz Fest at this time.

Chairman Knapp referred to the Veterans Cemetery expansion, and asked if the County owns the property for expansion. Mr. Lansley said that the County own a lot of property, but there is a lot of rock and wetlands – need to figure out where the expansion can be.

Mr. Lansley:

- named one of the 6<sup>th</sup> best Triathlon Cities in America by *Active Magazine* last year. The County is becoming a very active environment for these types of activities—the parks improvements are substantial for keeping it going.
- over 1500 facility rentals within the parks system

Mr. Jordan said that he raised concern about the Veterans Cemetery at budget time; understanding that the Veterans Administration will reimburse up to \$1,500 in some cases towards the cost of funerals. The County charges \$500; the average reimbursement may be up to \$750. The veteran's family puts the money up and applies to the VA for reimbursement of expenditures. He has asked questions and hasn't really received a lot of information. Some information isn't being kept track of, i.e. whether or not the people resided in Onondaga County and what types of reimbursements they may be eligible for. The County is burying them for \$500, which is less than what he believes the cost is. If there are burials on weekends, there is overtime. Mr. Lansley said that the Park's Department doesn't handle the dollar end of it; it is done through Veteran's Administration. Mr. Stevens said that Veterans Administration handles the financials and collects the money. Once the veteran is interned, the money is transferred to the Park's operating budget.

Mr. Jordan asked what the source of revenue is that pays the County \$500 for burials. Mr. Stevens said the money is received directly from the families through Veteran's Administration. Mr. Lansley said that Parks does not handle the paperwork or take the money; it just does the internment. Mr. Morgan said that his office will work with the Veterans Service Director to try to get the requested information – will have it written up and sent to the legislature. Mr. Jordan said that he has asked for the information for many months, followed up with various individuals and has been told "we don't know", "we don't have that information", "we don't keep track of these types of questions". He said that money is being left on the table. Mr. Morgan said that there is a whole other aspect to that; there are indigent burials also with reimbursement through Social Services. **He will put together a comprehensive document for Mr. Jordan.**

Chairman Knapp said that based on the information Mr. Morgan provides, Veterans Services Committee can be invited to the Ways & Means Committee to answer questions.

#### **11. CIVIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION: William Fisher, Deputy County Executive**

- Scheduling a Public Hearing Pursuant to Not-For-Profit Corporation Law Section 1411 to Consider the Lease of Hancock Airpark to the Onondaga Civic Development Corporation**

- Hancock Airpark has been in the hands of Hancock Field Development Corp since 1987 – established by MDA, representation from Executive branch (Mary Beth Primo) and legislative branch (Kathy Rapp)
- The lease that Hancock Field Development Corp. had on the property has expired
- Over a year ago, they indicated that they do not want to renew the lease – County exercised option to extend it for year, but it expired December 31<sup>st</sup>
- Airpark has been very successful – a number of successful companies
- Some properties remain vacant, but by and large have either been sold or are under lease to companies
- Business of running the park loses money every year – leasing out the properties doesn't cover costs
- County looked at options – Onondaga Civic Development Corp has many of the advantages that Hancock Field Development Corp had
- OCDC would be the best forum for this property
- There would be a lease between County and OCDC, which replaces the lease between the County and Hancock Field Development Corp
- Julie Cerio appointed provisionally as Director of Economic Development; is Executive Director of OCDC
- The OCDC Board voted unanimously for Ms. Cerio to enter into this lease
- Lease will begin once some money is put into the business--OCDC doesn't have funds set aside to lose money on this business
- A sale pending of property no. 1, which should produce approx. \$300k; netting out final costs approximately \$270,000 from Hancock Field Development Corporation
- Funds need to be paid first to OCIDA - \$203,768.30; OCIDA will use part of it to pay off balance of the loan that the County made to OCIDA – County will be made whole on the money it puts into this
- OCIDA will be owed interest; and will continue to receive interest only by sales of more property
- Chairman McMahon proposed that 60% of subsequent sales be dedicated towards the interest-OCIDA; 40% would be available to OCDC to put into a fund to pay for maintenance and marketing costs at the airpark
- OCDC will need \$60-\$70k for the next 3 years to cover expenses that come in from leases; would like to put \$50k in there for capital reserve
- Lease provides for those funds to be made available from the proceeds of the sale that don't go back to OCIDA – the money left over will go into a special re-development account
- When the County receives its money from OCIDA, approx. \$65k will go into the amount that OCDC has
- OCDC Board does not want to budget any money to take care of the losses – wants it to come from the County
- OCDC will pay for a portion of the staff salaries, which they are already paying for, that might be required for paying bills, marketing, collecting rents, etc.

Mr. Jordan asked why the Airpark is losing money. Mr. Fisher said that it makes money when it sells property; takes the money and pays us back. Now that there is less and less land to sell, it becomes difficult to cover the ongoing costs. Mr. Jordan referred to an example wherein a proportionate cost is charged to every property owner in the Radisson community for overhead. He would assume there would be a similar mechanism in the airpark. Mr. Fisher said that the difference here is that it is an Economic Development function – leases tend to be below market rate. The judgment over the years is that it is OK – willing not to have it run on a profit/loss basis because of the economic benefits that they get – taking land close to an airport and marketing it as a business park. Mr. Jordan asked what happens when the last parcel is sold off – who pays for the common elements. Ms. Smiley explained that there are no common areas – all the roads have been turned over to the Town of Cicero. The only costs are for the two tenants that the County has there, landscaping for pieces that haven't been sold, and trash & debris for those areas. When the last piece gets sold, there will be no costs any longer to the County. The ultimate goal is to sell the parcels and get them on the tax rolls. In answer to Mr. Jordan, Ms. Smiley agreed that the losses are on the undeveloped land.

In answer to Chairman Knapp, Ms. Smiley said that there are about 7 or 8 parcels left, 50 acres: 10 acres of which are wetlands and very hard to sell; about 8 acres is a small strip along the back that is not attractive. There is about 25 acres that are attractive and have seen a lot of interest in the last 6 – 8 months.

Mr. Jordan asked what happens with the wet lands and the 8 unattractive acres--if we can't sell them, will we still have the ongoing costs of maintaining them. Ms. Smiley said "yes", but there would be very little for those pieces. The County will need to have conversations about long-term goals for those pieces.

Mr. Fisher said that it probably doesn't make sense for OCDC to stay in this business for the long term. It might make sense to think about other property that is out there. Noting that the City owns the barracks property, leased it to the Airport Authority and the Airport Authority has other property leased on Taft Road. It could make

sense to take the property at Hancock Airpark, the barracks, and other airport property, and put them together. He referenced unmanned aerial vehicles – noting that the airport is one of 5 test sites in the country.

Chairman Knapp asked what happens if the legislature says “no”. Mr. Fisher said that it would go into the Facilities Management portfolio--County owns the land. Chairman Knapp said it sounds like it loses about \$20,000 per year.

Chairman Knapp said that OCDC will take over the management of it; there is sale pending, which will cover the cost for a few years. Mr. Fisher said after that, if there is not another sale, they would probably come back in the 2017 budget year and ask for appropriations out of general funds.

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Ervin to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

**a. Amending the 2014 County Budget to Provide for an Analysis to be Conducted Regarding the Potential Market Impact of a Convention Center Hotel (\$15,000)**

Mr. McMahon:

- Conduct a feasibility study for a convention center hotel next door to the convention center
- City IDA is going through eminent domain process for the Hotel Syracuse; if process goes well, there is an opportunity for the developer to do what he wants to do, which includes asking the legislature for a designation at the convention center hotel and a room block agreement
- Confident that the process will move forward, but is not confident that we are prepared if it doesn't
- When in Arlington, TX, courting the bowlers-men's and women's open conference, he heard firsthand that the major concern is that there isn't enough hotel rooms on line in this community for that type of business
- Rooms are needed online to want to compete with tier 1 type of convention business
- not an acceptable alternative to sit by and let a process go forward where eminent domain may not go well, and having the Hotel Syracuse project derailed because of it, then have to wait 2 or 3 more years
- The \$15,000 is from a contingent account at the legislature
- Scope of study should look at potentially what hotels would look like in the inner harbor, mall, and Hotel Syracuse
- This is more of an insurance policy, in case something goes defunct with the eminent domain process

Mr. Jordan said that this has been done over and over for years and questioned spending another \$15,000 to do a study that has been done. Chairman McMahon said that the information is not accurate from the previous study. Mr. Jordan doesn't see any benefit – CVB could probably update it – there haven't been a lot of hotels that went on line since the last study was done. For a nominal costs, the numbers could be tweaked that add another 100 hotel rooms available and what impact they have on determinations that were made with the last study that was done. Chairman McMahon said that the last study was done over a decade ago; Mr. Jordan disagreed. Chairman McMahon said that to go out with a new RFP, a new feasibility study is needed.

Chairman McMahon said that it is a policy decision – if it is thought that the eminent domain process is going to go well and there will be a convention center hotel, then that is fine. This is a hedge; \$15,000 isn't a lot of money in the scope of it. If things don't go well there – there is a chance to vote for something to make sure things didn't happen – having to wait 18 months down the road for something to get done. Mr. Jordan said that this is the same discussion from 5 or 6 years ago. Chairman McMahon agreed and said that the Hotel Syracuse policy decision was made by our State elected officials, and the County Executive asked the legislature to consider it. The easy answer was to build one next door, but there was still the problem with what to do with vacant building down the street. Mr. Jordan said that that was all part of the study that was done. Chairman McMahon said that the Pioneer Company study was done in 2004.

In answer to Mr. Jordan, Chairman McMahon explained that if the eminent domain proceeding doesn't go well, the developer can't get title to the company and that deal is dead. We wouldn't have ability to go do a new RFP because we don't have a feasibility study – can't go off of the same information done a decade ago—Pioneer Company, and then slightly adjusted when Wilmont wanted to build a hotel and racino. It is not accurate information to go forward with a convention center hotel.

Ms. Williams questioned why we can't tweak what we already have; not a lot of information has changed; have been down every avenue. Chairman McMahon said that this is a tweak – regular feasibility study would cost about \$40,000. It is essentially asking to update it to what the needs are next door.

Mr. Holder said that it is important to recognize that our community has changed a great deal since the last time the study was conducted – 180 rooms were adding in Armory Square. The other critical piece is what happens with the hotels that are proposed right now. There are 700-750 rooms being proposed for the community that are not adjacent to the convention center; not in near access to the convention center. The convention center format has changed. The need for this property hasn't changed; there is business out there that is not choosing Syracuse, because we don't have that property. This is a tweak – a full-scale feasibility study would be a much larger project than this. If this project moves forward, we have to invest this money anyway because nobody is going to look at it without this feasibility study.

Mr. Holmquist asked how the \$15,000 was derived vs. a full study for \$40,000; who will be conducting the study. Chairman McMahon said that \$15,000 comes from contingency accounts, essentially from ROT budget. An RFP process would be done to determine who would do the study. Mr. Holmquist asked if the study would include the potential of a privately built hotel, publicly built hotel, or a combination. Chairman McMahon said that he doesn't think there is a need for a publicly built hotel – there is plenty of private developers that would build it. It is not a question of building a hotel next to the convention center. The issue is: how would the CVB and SMG help market the property if right down the street there is a big, vacant hotel. That is why Hotel Syracuse needs to go first, but we can't put all of our eggs in that basket with all of the false starts there have been with that project over the last decade.

Mr. Holmquist asked if the idea is that this sets the stage in case the Hotel Syracuse doesn't work out – this study would set it up and give more information for a private developer. Chairman McMahon agreed and added that considering the Hotel Syracuse being on line, and having heard from CVB and SMG that two hotels are needed, with one being next door, this study could look at that and see if two really are needed.

Mr. Holmquist said that an ancillary concern is that prior there was a lot of discussion about having a project labor agreement if State money is received. It was a circular argument because no one wanted for vote for a PLA, and the State said we wouldn't get money unless we did. He asked if that applies to this. Chairman McMahon said that is an issue that would need to be addressed when there is a real plan. He doesn't think there is a PLA with the Hotel Syracuse.

Mrs. Ervin doesn't agree with \$15,000 being spent on this study.

In answer to Ms. Williams, Chairman McMahon said that a feasibility study is good for as long as the market conditions are somewhat accurate. The issue is that 10 years ago is a long time; market conditions have changed drastically for the positive in the community. The County made a commitment to a very large convention, with a very large investment in, to have a convention center hotel online. Right now eggs are in one basket for a developer going through an eminent domain process. Mr. Jordan said that either the Hotel Syracuse gets redeveloped, or Pyramid builds their hotel, more hotel rooms are going on line – it is a moving target. Chairman McMahon said that the study would include all potential developments on line. Mr. Jordan referenced that this was the same discussion when Wilmont was looking to build – it has all been part of the mix all along.

Mr. Holder noted that this will not be a topic that will go away. The first concern is learning more about what happens with the fate of the Hotel Syracuse. The fact that the Chairman is bringing this forward is a cautionary move. It is really looking at time savings – how to get prepared in case the Hotel Syracuse project doesn't happen. This community is leaving money on the table from conventions that are choosing to get elsewhere because we don't have a hotel. He would like to pull together a time line showing all of the different steps with all of the information that has been collected. The conversations on what needs to happen won't matter to a developer or a bank, they need to have the feasibility in line. Mr. Jordan said that is part of doing business--to some extent, it is the burden of the developer. Mr. Holder said that it is in the case when they control the property. In this case, the property is controlled by the County – the County is seeking a developer to take the project on. This is one of the information tools that the County would want to have in its pocket to solicit the best response



from a future developer. They will end up doing additional research on top of this that they will have to submit to financial institutions, but they need this to really consider if the project makes sense.

Chairman Knapp said that this is new; he will not ask for a vote for it today. It has been considered. **He would like to see a timeline and a copy of the most recent study that was performed.**

**13. LAW: Kathy Dougherty, Senior Deputy County Attorney**  
**a. Litigation Update**

***A motion was made by Mr. Jordan to enter executive session for purposes of discussing litigation in the case of Dinkins vs. Onondaga County and Widewaters Farrell Road Company vs. Onondaga County, seconded by Ms. Williams. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

***A motion was made by Mr. Jordan, seconded by Mrs. Ervin, to exit executive session and enter regular session. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

Chairman Knapp noted for the record that no action was taken during executive session.

**A resolution was distributed entitled “Authorizing the Settlement of the Action Filed with the Supreme Court of the State of New York, County of Onondaga, Ann Dinkins, Individually and as a Personal Representative for Edna Heard V. County of Onondaga and Van Duyn Home and Hospital”.**

***A motion was made by Ms. Williams, seconded by Mrs. Ervin, to approve this resolution. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.***

The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Deborah L. Maturo*

DEBORAH L. MATURO, Clerk

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: *Ways and Means*

DATE: *3/24/14*

NAME	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
PLEASE PRINT	
<i>Nate Stevens</i>	<i>Parks</i>
<i>Susan Dean</i>	<i>Fin Ops</i>
<i>Mary Beth P...</i>	<i>Law</i>
<i>Corey Tamm</i>	<i>Rgn</i>
<i>Pete L...</i>	<i>Parks</i>
<i>Marsha Christiano</i>	<i>DMB</i>
<i>Jennifer Fricano</i>	<i>Fin ops</i>
<i>Michael Rutschky</i>	<i>SSD</i>
<i>Seamus Carroll</i>	<i>urching</i>
<i>John Ballou</i>	<i>OLSO</i>
<i>Amy McQuarrie</i>	<i>DMB</i>
<i>Lee Klossowski</i>	<i>CCFM</i>
<i>David Colum</i>	<i>Office Env.</i>
<i>Bill Kinne</i>	<i>LEL</i>
<i>Michelle Buerden</i>	<i>Post Standard</i>
<i>Bob De Mon</i>	<i>CD</i>
<i>John Smith</i>	<i>WAER</i>
<i>Stephen Butch</i>	<i>CNY Arts</i>
<i>Sue Stanczyk</i>	<i>leg</i>