

**REGULAR MEETING  
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, JULY 10, 2007  
3:30 P.M. - SCOTT HEYMAN CONFERENCE ROOM**

Present: K. Luz Herrera, Chair; D. Kiefer (arrived 3:37 p.m.); D. Randall; P. Mackesey  
Excused: G. Stevenson  
Staff: E. Marx, Commissioner of Planning and Public Works; J. Wood, County Attorney; W. Sczesny, Highway Manager; R. Nicholas, Airport; A. LeMaro, Facilities Director; B. Eckstrom, K. Thompson, Solid Waste Division; K. Fuller, Deputy Clerk

**Call to Order**

Ms. Herrera, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

**Agenda Additions or Deletions**

There were no additions to or deletions from the agenda.

**Persons Wishing to Address the Committee**

No one was present to speak.

**Chair's Report**

Ms. Herrera did not have a report.

**Report from the Commissioner of Planning and Public Works**

Mr. Marx reported he met with Mr. Sczesny following his participation in a Resource Committee for the Cornell transportation-related Generic Environmental Impact Statement (TGEIS) that discussed the transportation-related impact of potential growth on campus and what mitigation would be necessary. The study is almost complete and as a result of the analysis has identified which roads would be most impacted, what facilities might require improvement, alternatives to single-occupancy vehicles, etc. Mr. Marx said the purpose of meeting with Mr. Sczesny and him was to discuss specific County roads/facilities and was a result of comments from neighborhoods and traffic analysis projections. Some of the roads are ones that the County has been discussing such as Hanshaw Road, Warren Road, and Pine Tree Road. A main concern in the studies is Pine Tree Road, the number one gateway to campus, which appears to have the need for a total rebuild to provide for vehicles as well as pedestrians and bicycles. Cornell has discussed with New York State Department of Transportation the need for improvement and since they are at the intersection with a State road it has been recognized that the State should complete that particular work. Mr. Marx indicated that since the projects were not recognized following cost benefit analysis perhaps Cornell would be willing to play a role in the projects since the roads are critical to the campus. He said Mr. William Wendt of Cornell transportation has requested cost estimates for the projects that would impact the university. Mr. Marx said another road that was brought up was Ellis Hollow Road that also was not approved within the Transportation Improvement Plan.

Ms. Kiefer arrived at this time.

Ms. Herrera asked if there were any further details about the possibility of Cornell University's participation in the projects mentioned and was informed further communication will occur. Mr. Marx said there are many other roads that are utilized as commuter roads to Cornell University that may be discussed as well.

## Minutes Facilities and Infrastructure – July 10, 2007

Ms. Mackesey reiterated her previous comment regarding Yale University providing \$250 to their county for each student and staff member to offset the local cost of infrastructure; if Cornell University did the same, it would be approximately \$6 million. Ms. Herrera said to do so may cause the City to request a stipend as well. Mr. Marx said this is not the only way that Cornell could contribute to the community, but is certainly one that is in the best interest of all. If a positive feedback is received from Cornell University then a determination could be made on what to do with Ellis Hollow Road; if no commitment is made, the County could work on segment number one that was previously outlined. If need be, the Project Approval Requests will be modified and included in budget discussions.

Ms. Herrera noted that at the Budget and Capital Committee meeting a proposed Expanded Budget Committee calendar would eliminate one meeting (the second one scheduled) in September and one meeting in October. As a result, she would prefer that the Divisions prepare accordingly to prevent the need for special meetings prior to a Legislature meeting.

### Minutes of May 22, 2007

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Kiefer, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to approve the minutes of May 22, 2007, as amended.

### Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport

#### **RESOLUTION NO. - URGING TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (TSA) TO FULLY FUND ITS MANDATED LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER (LEO) PROGRAM AT THE ITHACA TOMPKINS REGIONAL AIRPORT**

Mr. Nicholas noted this is the resolution presented for review by the Committee pertaining to the proposed Cooperative Agreement that reduces the reimbursement rate for Law Enforcement Officers required by mandate, requesting that Congressional representatives work to fully fund this program. The Committee requested that appropriate Federal representatives receive a copy of the resolution as well.

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Ms. Kiefer. Ms. Kiefer asked if other counties are also collecting data on the actual costs compared to reimbursement rates and was informed that the National Airport Organization is working on compilation of data. A voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes – 4 (Legislators Herrera, Kiefer, Mackesey, and Randall); Noes – 0; Excused – 1 (Legislator Stevenson). RESOLUTION ADOPTED.

WHEREAS, the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, created the need for greatly enhanced security screening at the nation's commercial service airports, and

WHEREAS, among these enhanced procedures the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) determined that a need existed to have an armed Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) present at all passenger screening points during screening operations, and

WHEREAS, in order to provide LEO screening point coverage for all flights departing the Ithaca Tompkins Regional Airport, the TSA signed a Reimbursement Contract with the County of Tompkins for the period June 1, 2003, through September 30, 2003, with an option to renew for a further four years through September 30, 2007, and

WHEREAS, said contract reimbursed the County for personnel costs associated with providing said LEOs but contained no allowance for other sundry costs, and

WHEREAS, said contract made provision for annual increases to allow for inflation but the TSA did not pay the inflation-indexed rate for the present final contract year, and

WHEREAS, the TSA has proposed replacing said expiring Reimbursement Contract program with a Cooperative Agreement program that, due to the TSA's stated budgetary constraints, would further reduce the funding and only reimburse the County for approximately sixty-five percent (65%) of the LEO

costs, resulting in an estimated shortfall averaging \$100,000 per year for each of the five contract years, and

WHEREAS, the total shortfall of more than \$500,000 over the life of the new contract would drive up the airport's costs and severely compromise its ability to attract and sustain air service, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee, That the Tompkins County Legislature does strenuously object to the continued under-funding of this mandated program,

RESOLVED, further, That the County's Congressional Delegation be and hereby is urged in the strongest possible terms to exert its influence to increase funding for this program so that all LEO costs are fully reimbursed.

**SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-27**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Solid Waste Management**

Project #: 07-12 – Single Stream Recycling.

Ms. Eckstrom said the recent proposal received from Waste Management was not acceptable at this time due to the manner the contract would be amended. She has continued studying single-stream recycling and believes it is in the best interest for the County to go to. As a result she will be developing a Request for Proposals utilizing County staff that will go out to two to three national companies. Ms. Eckstrom related the present desire to go to single stream to fifteen years ago when the present system of collection was introduced. She noted that presently recycling has reached a plateau, partly due to the cost of collection. She would like approval for the project with the understanding that the County Attorney, Finance Director, and Solid Waste staff will be working together on the proposal. Ms. Eckstrom does not anticipate the proposal to be ready until the end of the year and when following the General Municipal Law relating to it will take nine months to a year.

Mr. Wood addressed the issue and indicated that it is a unique Request for Proposals specific to solid waste facilities and recycling contracts under General Municipal Law Section 120w, that provides a special process for the RFP, giving specific time periods for each step. Although the law's time requirements make it a long process, it also provides more flexibility as well. Ms. Eckstrom said that it will provide for the opportunity to select which specific components will work the best for the County, whether it be in-house operations or utilizing other facilities rather than building infrastructure ourselves. Mr. Wood said the final package would allow for broader negotiations ability as well. Ms. Eckstrom said the draft RFP will be provided to the Committee for review. The present contract expires in four years however, there is a buy-out clause if deemed appropriate.

In response to a question by Ms. Kiefer, Ms. Eckstrom said there are 3 to 4 firms that the RFP could go to. She stated one is FCR Recycling in Charlotte, NC, which is owned by Casella; Waste Management, and two other new firms she is presently researching. She believes that the success of the County programs will be a valuable asset when reviewing proposals.

Ms. Jayne answered Ms. Kiefer's questions related to the Project Approval Request form, noting the selection of project type of the actual form is from a specific number of options and this project did not fit into the selections. In addition, Ms. Eckstrom noted it is not a new project as it was approved the previous year. With regard to other alternatives/actions, she said if the County does not move forward it may lose one-half the recycling. Ms. Kiefer expressed her belief that other available alternatives could be flow-control or expanding the space to provide additional capacity at the facility. Ms. Eckstrom disagreed with Ms. Kiefer, stating that expansion of the facility has not been recommended, particularly when a regional center is within forty-five minutes to an hour from the County.

## Minutes Facilities and Infrastructure – July 10, 2007

It was MOVED by Ms. Mackesey, seconded by Mr. Randall, to recommend approval of the following Solid Waste Division Project Approval Request by the full Legislature:

Project #: 07-12 – Single Stream Recycling.

A voice vote on the motion resulted as follows: Ayes – 3 (Legislators Herrera, Mackesey, and Randall); Noes – 1 (Legislator Kiefer); Excused – 1 (Legislator Stevenson). PROJECT APPROVAL REQUEST APPROVED.

### **Project #: 08-07 – Emergency Backup Generators**

Ms. Martel-Moore shared the following background information with the Committee:

At the request of County Administration and pursuant to ongoing legislative emergency preparedness initiatives, the Emergency Management Strategic Group (EMSG) formed in Spring 2006. One of EMSG's first goals called for the identification of county government operations, services, and infrastructures considered mission critical; and therefore, required standby power in the event of an emergency. EMSG requested a feasibility report from the Facilities Division in consultation with LaBella Associates. Currently the following county-owned facilities have emergency standby generators: Public Works Facility, Public Safety Building, Emergency Response Center, Airport Terminal, CFR Building, Building C Annex and limited/partial standby power (elevators and emergency lighting) at the Mental Health Building.

After consultation with County Department Heads, and careful review of the June 27, 2006, feasibility report prepared by LaBella Associates, EMSG originally recommended a three-year implementation plan to address the standby power needs of the Public Health Department, Mental Health Building, and Human Services Building. In 2006, the team recommended \$85,000 via the Contingency Fund for the purchase and installation of transfer switches and a 150-KW portable generator for the Public Health Department. Shortly thereafter, the Public Health Department suffered an emergency power outage, and Facilities Division completed this project late winter of 2006.

EMSG requested a revised feasibility report, which the Facilities Division prepared on April 20, 2007. This report included Foodnet, which is located in a county-owned building, and provides contractual services on behalf of the Office of Aging, to wit: the preparation of '500+' meals per day to our vulnerable population. This county-owned building is currently without standby power/generator capabilities. With standby power Foodnet will be able to continue daily operations, and provide additional meals in the event of an emergency or disaster, under the guidance of the County Emergency Management Plan.

The feasibility reports provided options for both permanent generator installations and provisions for a portable generator connection into each building, as well as, options for diesel, natural gas, and combined "bi-fuel" generation. In an effort to control cost, while simultaneously addressing emergency response and recovery gaps, EMSG recommended future funding be integrated into the County's long-term capital plans and the use of a tailored, cost effective approach. Highlights of team's decision-making process included, but were not limited to, the following factors:

- Cost of wiring 1<sup>st</sup> /2<sup>nd</sup> floors versus the entire building
- Ability to purchase or rent portable generators versus cost of permanent generators, and the high probability and necessity of responding to controlled emergency incidents (ex. Health Department power outage of 2006)
- The increase in fiscal cost, human capital, and the ability to recover after a disaster, by delaying infrastructure panel wiring/transfer switch construction
- Location of building resources, the type services, and the necessity of continuing mission critical services (ex. Mental Health required to provide medication and cold storage is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor)

## Minutes Facilities and Infrastructure – July 10, 2007

- Ability to relocate staff, resources, and provide continuity of non-deferrable county government services

Accordingly, the team submitted for your review and approval the following recommendations: the purchase and installation of electrical panel/transfer switches for the Mental Health, Human Services, and Foodnet Buildings, and the purchase of one 150-KW portable generator. By the year 2009, the county should have three ("3") portable 150-KW portable generators available. In the absence of available generators, the above-mentioned buildings will be prepared to accept rental generators to continue non-deferrable, mission critical services to the public-at-large.

Ms. Martel-Moore noted that the cost of the generators and appropriate wiring necessary to operate them has had significant increases in a short period of time; this trend is expected to continue over the course of the next several years.

Ms. Mackesey indicated she would support the request but expressed concern that funds be spent for an item that may not be required, when there are many other programs requiring funding to maintain operations. While she would like to ensure that residents would be kept safe, she believes what the County can do and spend should be limited.

Mr. Marx agreed, but indicated that the plan was carefully reviewed and alternatives provided to develop the most efficient solution in the event of an emergency. Ms. Martel-Moore spoke of wiring buildings to accept portable generators rather than the purchase and placement of a permanent generator. In addition, she spoke of utilizing information gained from the Health Department when a power-loss occurred in order to fully understand possible ramifications of relocation of staff, program needs, etc.

Ms. Herrera said she also has some misgivings about purchasing generators. She shared information that when discussing emergencies many individuals speak of going to Cornell University who has many of the back-up emergency generators and services in place.

Mr. Randall shared many of the same thoughts as Ms. Mackesey. He said that while there has not been a major power outage in over twenty years, he is aware of the increased frequency of localized outage problems due to load factors. As a result of this, he will support the request.

Ms. Kiefer shared the same thoughts as other Committee members with regard to how funds are spent. *She also requested that the form indicate the actual wattage of the generators.* Mr. Marx provided the basic information and the form will be amended.

It was MOVED by Mr. Randall, seconded by Ms. Mackesey, and unanimously adopted by voice vote by members present, to recommend approval of the following Solid Waste Division Project Approval Request by the full Legislature:

Project #: 08-07 – Emergency Backup Generators

PROJECT APPROVAL REQUEST APPROVED.

### **Sustainability Team**

Ms. Nelson provided the following report to the Committee:

Sub Committee Updates – Several policies will be forthcoming for Legislature approval through GO Committee. Some of the policies will outline and solidify things that have been underway already.

## Minutes Facilities and Infrastructure – July 10, 2007

1. Emissions/Greenhouse Gas – Planning has hired an intern that is working on the analysis to see if the target of reducing greenhouse gas by 20% from 1998 – 2008 has been met. This information should be available in August.
2. Energy Consumption and Efficiency – Working on a policy to move forward to department heads and the Legislature. Preliminary reports from the energy performance contract with Johnson Controls are favorable and being monitored by Facilities. Preliminary reports show substantial reductions in usage in the Bostwick Rd. facility, Human Services Building, and Courthouse complex. The first formal reports from Johnson Controls will be received in the spring of 2008.
3. Green Fleet – The sub-committee will be researching other green fleet counties and organizations that could be used as models for drafting a Tompkins County green fleet policy. Some departments are interested in knowing more about hybrids and their cost benefit analysis. The sub-committee is looking at ways to develop an internal procedure for analyzing these requests for the departments. Highway has purchased five flex-fuel vehicles that will run on regular gasoline or ethanol, however there are no ethanol sources in the area.
4. Waste Reduction - This sub-committee has nearly finalized a policy for advancement through review and approval process. Two major components of this policy will be to discuss waste assessments in county buildings, which is part of the Solid Waste Management division's work plan and a revised process for handling computer and electronic equipment no longer needed for county applications.
5. Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) – This sub-committee is finalizing a policy that will be forthcoming for your review and approval. The Facilities division has switched to EPP products in the cleaning of county buildings (refer to last County Corridors with a focus on Barb O'Brien, Cleaning Supervisor and her staff's efforts in this area). The policy will also make recommendation for purchasing office paper that has a minimum of 30% recycled content for use in copiers, printers, and fax machines by all county departments. This sub-committee was the catalyst for forming a consortium with others (i.e., Cornell, IC, BOCES, City of Ithaca and others) to investigate the EPP on a larger scale, impact on large-volume pricing, etc.
6. Employee Participation – This sub-committee is discussing ways to reach out to employees with information and to solicit involvement from employees. The County Corridors has, and will continue to spotlight employees that are doing sustainable tasks or making sustainable choices in their work. Employees will be given an opportunity to participate in the waste assessments in the county buildings and learn information that can benefit at both work and a home. Other ideas suggested are employee competitions, and including sustainability as part of new employee orientation.
7. Infrastructure Design – This sub-committee has not met, but will become fully engaged in the design of the new Health Dept. building once a location is selected. The Library may be eligible for some level of LEED certification due to the photovoltaic panels. This needs to be further investigated
8. Natural Resources/TC Comprehensive Plan – The Planning Dept. continues to advance their work plans based on the information in the plan. One item of late was the presentation to the Legislature by Kate Hackett and the county's consultant on watershed inventory.

### Next Steps:

- Sending a letter to all county employees about the Sustainability Team
- Finalization and approval of the various administrative policies referenced above
- Waste assessments in county buildings continuing/increasing recycling and reuse opportunities in County buildings
- Employee participation and knowledge from the waste assessments
- Green fleet policy and life-cycle analysis for hybrid requests
- LEED certification for the new Health Dept. and possibly the Library
- Analysis of Johnson Controls reports of energy consumption in county buildings early 2008
- Report on greenhouse gas emissions from county operations

- Development of an action plan for 2008

### **Emergency Management Training Update**

Ms. Nelson reported that upon determining that the Public Works Division would be included as a first responder; in the event of an emergency, specific training is required. At this time, staff has completed IS700 training and supervisors are required to attend additional trainings (ISC 200, 300, and 400). She reported that previously Mr. Shurtleff, Emergency Response Director, was required to sign-off a compliance form in order to receive mitigation funds; with the new system in place, the compliance reporting is done electronically; if it is not complete the mitigation funds are not released.

### **Solar Panels**

Ms. Mackesey inquired whether any update has been received regarding mitigation of damage to the library solar panels as a result of thrown objects. She was informed that no information or discussions have taken place since June. Ms. Herrera said at the recent Diversity Roundtable she had been told something would be done. Mr. LeMaro noted he has been contacted by *The Ithaca Journal* to discuss the broken panels. It was the consensus of the Committee that the City should be contacted prior to any discussions with the newspaper.

### **Food Waste Composting**

Ms. Eckstrom said local wineries are utilizing the food compost that is available as a result of the recently begun food waste compost program. Individuals may also purchase the compost through the vendor located in Trumansburg.

### **Adjournment**

On motion, the meeting adjourned at 4:42 p.m.