

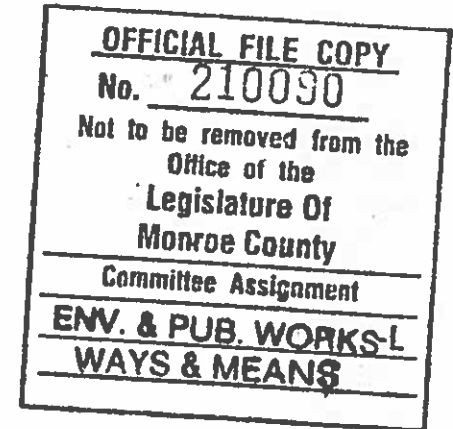


# Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello  
County Executive

March 5, 2021



To The Honorable  
Monroe County Legislature  
407 County Office Building  
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Acceptance of a Grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Climate Smart Communities Project – Regional Community Rating System Strategy Project and Authorize a Contract with Bergmann Associates, Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects & Surveyors, D.P.C.

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body accept a grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Climate Smart Communities Project – Regional Community Rating System Strategy Project in the amount of \$249,153 and authorize a contract with Bergmann Associates, Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects & Surveyors, D.P.C. in the amount of \$150,000 for consulting services.

Funding for the project has been secured through the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The Community Rating System (“CRS”) is a voluntary incentive program that recognizes and encourages community floodplain management practices that exceed the minimum requirements of the National Flood Insurance Program. Over 1,500 communities participate nationwide. The Town of Greece is currently the only local municipality that participates in the program. In CRS communities, flood insurance premium rates are discounted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from the community’s efforts that reduce and avoid flood damage to insurable property, strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the National Flood Insurance Program, and foster comprehensive floodplain management. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation contributed over \$11 million to the New York State Consolidated Funding Application for the Climate Smart Communities Grant Program.

This project will bring new communities into the CRS, increase credit points for existing CRS communities, and research new ways that CRS credit can be achieved. Issues and opportunities to be addressed include understanding CRS participation based on flood risk in the State, identifying potential barriers to entry, identifying why existing communities are not receiving potential credits, identifying eligible communities, and providing assistance to interested communities

A Request for Qualifications was issued with Bergmann Associates, Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects & Surveyors, D.P.C. the sole respondent. Bergmann Associates will be providing services to bring additional local communities into the CRS program and assist in increasing credits for existing and new participating communities.

**The specific legislative actions required are:**

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a \$249,153 grant from, and to execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the Climate Smart Communities Project – Regional Community Rating System Strategy Project.
2. Amend the 2021 operating budget of the Department of Environmental Services by appropriating the sum of \$249,153 into general fund 9300, funds center 8301010000 Engineering.
3. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute a contract with Bergmann Associates, Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects & Surveyors, D.P.C., 280 East Broad Street, Suite 200, Rochester, New York 14604, in the amount of \$150,000 for consulting services for the Climate Smart Communities Project – Regional Community Rating System Strategy Project, and any amendments necessary to complete the project within the total fund(s) appropriation.
4. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to appropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, and to make any necessary funding modifications within the grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments.
5. Should funding of this program be modified or terminated for any reason, the County Executive is hereby authorized to terminate or modify the program and, where applicable, to terminate or abolish some or all positions funded under such program. Any termination or abolishment of positions shall be in accordance with New York State Civil Service Law and, when applicable, the terms of any labor agreement affecting such positions.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(24) (“information collection including basic data collection and research, water quality and pollution studies, traffic counts, engineering studies, surveys, subsurface investigations and soils studies that do not commit the agency to undertake, fund or approve any Type I or Unlisted action,”) and (26) (“routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment”) and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

This grant is 100% funded by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

The records in the Office of the Monroe County Treasury have indicated that neither Bergmann Associates, Architects, Engineers, Landscape Architects & Surveyors, D.P.C., nor any of its principal officers, owe any delinquent Monroe County property taxes. The principal officers of the firm are:

Pietro V. Giovenco – CEO, President  
Richard Chelotti – Senior Vice President  
Andrew J. Raus – Senior Vice President

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,  
  
Adam J. Bello  
Monroe County Executive