



Office of the County Executive
Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

July 8, 2022

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	220226
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
PLAN & EC DEV	-L
ENV. & PUB. WORKS	
WAYS & MEANS	

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

Subject: Amend the 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program and the 2022 Capital Budget to Add a Project Entitled "Multimodal Freight Initiative Planning Project" and Authorize Financing for the Project

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body amend the 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program and the 2022 Capital Budget to add a project entitled "Multimodal Freight Initiative Planning Project" (the "Project") in the amount of \$1,000,000 and authorize financing for the Project in the amount of \$1,000,000.

Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority and Genesee Transportation Council studies have reviewed freight-related issues in the region and made recommendations for future projects. Several of the recommendations are focused on infrastructure in Monroe County and include expansion of the main (04-22) runway at the Frederick Douglas Greater Rochester International Airport ("ROC"), creation of a regional-scale multimodal transfer facility, marine facilities, expansion of railroad sidings, and safety improvements to rail and highway infrastructure. The COVID-19 pandemic and recent international conflicts have exacerbated an already fragile supply chain. Coastal multimodal facilities are experiencing increased delays in docking ships and off-loading freight, and there is an increased utilization of air freight solutions. Monroe County is well-positioned to relieve these regional and national supply chain limitations based on our unique combination of air (ROC), rail (CSX), and highway (I-90, I-390, I-490, I-590) infrastructure with direct access to North American and global markets.

The Departments of Environmental Services ("DES") and Planning and Development ("P&D") have reviewed the recent regional studies; initiatives planned or undertaken by other municipalities across the state and county; and federal, state and local grant opportunities, as well as assessed the feasibility of undertaking an initiative to site a multimodal facility in Monroe County to transload bulk materials and provide centralized paper and food-grade storage. Based on the aggregate of information, DES and P&D believe that multimodal facilities are viable and could reap real benefits in terms of economic growth and job creation and retention. DES and P&D recommend that a nationally-recognized consultant be engaged to prepare a planning-level business plan and prospectus for a Multimodal Freight Initiative. The initial task of this is an economic and marketing assessments. In the event the economic and marketing assessments determine that the Multimodal Freight Initiative is viable, more detailed work would be completed on infrastructure assessments, environmental assessments, preliminary engineering, and grant applications. These succeeding tasks would be the subject of future referrals to advance the additional planning of the Project.

This project is scheduled to be considered by the Monroe County Planning Board on July 28, 2022.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Amend the 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program to add a project entitled "Multimodal Freight Initiative Planning Project," in the amount of \$1,000,000.
2. Amend the 2022 Capital Budget to add a project entitled "Multimodal Freight Initiative Planning Project," in the amount of \$1,000,000.
3. Authorize financing for the project entitled "Multimodal Freight Initiative Planning Project," in the amount of \$1,000,000.

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 (27) ("conducting concurrent environmental, engineering, economic, feasibility and other studies and preliminary planning and budgetary processes necessary to the formulation of a proposal for action, provided those activities do not commit the agency to commence, engage in or approve such action"), and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Funding for this project, consistent with authorized uses, will be included in the capital fund to be created and any other capital fund(s) created for the same intended purpose. No additional net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

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

AJB:db