



Onondaga County Legislature

JULIE ABBOTT

County Legislator – 6th District
111 East Lake Street, Skaneateles, New York 13152
Leg (315) 435-2070
julieabbott@ongov.net

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE AGENDA

Livestream Available: <https://www.facebook.com/OnondagaCountyLegislature>

1:00 p.m.
February 18, 2025

401 Montgomery St., Room 407 Court House
Syracuse, New York 13202

- A. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting.
- B. Presentation of Resolutions and Local Laws:

1. ONONDAGA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY (OCWA):

- a. Confirming Appointment to the Onondaga County Water Authority (John Dougherty)
(Sponsored by Mr. Burtis)

2. OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT:

- a. **BOND:** A Resolution Authorizing Ash Tree Management in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$750,000, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$750,000 Bonds of Said County to Pay Costs Thereof (\$750,000)

3. WATER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION:

- a. 2024 Transfer Resolution (\$35,000)

- C. Adjournment

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Mr. Burtis

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CONFIRMING APPOINTMENT TO THE ONONDAGA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of the Public Authorities Law and appointments heretofore made to the Onondaga County Water Authority one vacancy exists due to the resignation of John Bianchini; and

WHEREAS, the Chairman of the Onondaga County Legislature has designated and appointed John Dougherty to serve as a member of the Onondaga County Water Authority, subject to confirmation of this Legislature; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Onondaga County Legislature hereby confirms the appointment of the following individual to the Onondaga County Water Authority for the term specified:

APPOINTMENT:

John Dougherty
4350 Loveland Drive
Liverpool, New York 13090

TERM EXPIRES:

July 1, 2028

John C. Dougherty

4350 Loveland Drive, Liverpool, New York 13090, (315) 657-7640

EDUCATION

SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY, Syracuse, New York
Master's in Business Administration, December 2005**SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY**, Syracuse, New York
Master of Science, Electrical Engineering, May 1999**STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT BUFFALO**, Buffalo, New York
Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering, May 1996**WORK EXPERIENCE**

SRC Inc., Syracuse, New York*Chief Scientist**January 2001 - Present*

- Previously held titles of Technical Area Manager, Business Development Manager, Program Manager, and Senior Principal Systems Engineer
- Responsible for guiding technical direction of Defense Systems and Technology division, defining system architecture, performing algorithm development, and testing of a wide range of radar and electronic warfare products for a variety of US and foreign government customers
- Leads interdisciplinary teams in requirement definition, proposal writing, and to ensure that existing contracts are executed on budget and on schedule
- Experienced in patent disclosure, recruiting, corporate process development, and business development
- Lead system engineer on the "Lightweight Counter-Mortar Radar" which went from a concept to a fielded system in less than two years while earning the distinction of "Top 10 Army Greatest Invention" award in 2004

ONONDAGA COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY, Syracuse, New York*Vice Chairman, Board of Directors**July 2018 – July 2022*

- Applied technical experience to review construction plans and financial statements
- Oversaw executive leadership related to spending, setting customer rates, human resource decisions, and expansion of services
- Taught several courses as part of OCWA University related to best management practices

ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE, Syracuse, New York*County Legislator**Jan 2009 – December 2017*

- Elected to represent approximately 25,000 residents in the Town of Clay
- Participated in the development and modification of the annual County budget
- Served on Public Safety, Facilities, and Planning committees
- Led various initiatives to reduce costs, improve the quality of life of County residents, and to improve law enforcement's effectiveness within Onondaga County

LOCKHEED MARTIN OCEAN, RADAR, AND SENSOR SYSTEMS, Syracuse, New York*Senior Systems Engineer**May 1998 – December 2000*

- Worked as a technical lead for several internal R&D radar programs
- Developed, tested, and wrote software and firmware for Airborne Early Warning radar system
- Designed, developed, and tested "next generation" AEW solid-state transmitter
- Graduate of Lockheed Martin's Engineering Leadership Development Program

MISCELLANEOUS

- Awarded US Patents 7541972, 8704705, 10209344, 11650308, and 12189051 with several other patents pending
- IEEE Senior Member since 2017
- Served on the Town of Clay Planning Board, Friends of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo Board of Directors, Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, and CNY Works

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Ms. Abbott

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOND RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ASH TREE MANAGEMENT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$750,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$750,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY COSTS THEREOF

BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the County Legislature of the County of Onondaga, New York, as follows:

Section 1. Ash tree management, including incidental costs in connection therewith, is hereby authorized in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$750,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of \$750,000 bonds of said County, hereby authorized to be issued therefor pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid specific object or purpose is five years pursuant to subdivision 57 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said County of Onondaga, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. To the extent not available from other sources, there shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said County a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the Chief Fiscal Officer of such County. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said Chief Fiscal Officer, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the Chief Fiscal Officer, the chief fiscal officer of such County. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the Chief Fiscal Officer shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said County is not authorized to expend money, or

- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or
- 3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. The County Executive is authorized to enter into contracts to implement the intent of this resolution. In the event that General Fund Operating Surplus Funds are available at the end of the fiscal year, and if the Chief Fiscal Officer of Onondaga County deems it fiscally advantageous to use surplus funds rather than borrowing, all or a portion of the cost of the improvements authorized herein shall be paid using such surplus funds. Further, in the event that General Fund Operating Surplus Funds are so utilized, then the authorization to issue bonds provided within this resolution is hereby rescinded accordingly, reduced by the amount of funds utilized.

Section 9. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 10. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary form in the *Syracuse Post Standard*, the official newspaper of said County, together with a notice of the Clerk of the County Legislature in substantially the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

ADOPTED: AYES: _____ NAYS: _____ ABSENT: _____

Dated: _____

Approved: _____
County Executive, Onondaga County

LEGAL NOTICE OF ESTOPPEL

The bond resolution, summary of which is published herewith, has been adopted on March 4, 2025, and the validity of the obligations authorized by such resolution may be hereafter contested only if such obligations were authorized for an object or purpose for which the County of Onondaga, New York, is not authorized to expend money, or if the provisions of law which should have been complied with as of the date of publication of this notice were not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of publication of this notice, or such obligations were authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

A complete copy of the resolution summarized herewith is available for public inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Clerk of the County Legislature for a period of twenty days from the date of publication of this Notice.

Dated: Syracuse, New York,

_____ 2025.

Clerk, County Legislature

BOND RESOLUTION DATED March 4, 2025.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ASH TREE MANAGEMENT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$750,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$750,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY COSTS THEREOF.

Object or purpose:	Ash tree management
Maximum estimated cost:	\$750,000
Period of probable usefulness:	Five years
Amount of obligations to be issued:	\$750,000 bonds

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Ash Tree Management

DEPARTMENT:	Office of the Environment
PROJECT TYPE:	Environment & Sustainability
PROJECT STATUS	Ongoing
BUDGET STATUS:	Partially Authorized
PHASE STATUS:	Implementing



SUMMARY

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), an invasive species of beetle that kills ash trees, arrived in the U.S. around 2002 and is spreading across the Country. The beetle is already infesting ash trees in Onondaga County. One in nine trees in Onondaga County is an ash tree.

FUNDING BY SOURCE (000's)

SOURCE	Prior	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	6-Year	Total
Authorized Borrowing	4,050	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,050
Borrowing to Authorize	-	750	750	750	750	-	-	3,000	3,000
Cash for Capital	250	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	250
TOTALS	4,300	750	750	750	750	-	-	3,000	7,300

SCOPE & DETAILS

Onondaga County has developed and is implementing an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) management strategy in order to minimize the hazard risk to the community, the impact of EAB on County operations and to plan for and minimize EAB costs (tree removal/inoculation, manpower and equipment, disposal and tree replacement). All County-owned ash trees with potential targets in the drop zone (people or physical assets) will need to be removed or inoculated to protect the public, protect assets and reduce liability.

The County owns approximately 300 parcels of land covering roughly 8,000 acres (including parkland, water supply and wastewater treatment plants, drainage districts, pumping stations, radio towers and institutional campuses for uses including administration, correctional facilities, emergency response operations and more) and nearly 800 miles of highway rights-of-way. These properties are home to tens of thousands of ash trees. Steps must be taken by the County to ensure that the threat of harm to humans and/or damage to County-owned property is minimized, that the public cost of managing affected trees on County-owned property is minimized and that overall disruption in the community is minimized (including tree replacement needs). To this end the County has taken the following steps:

- 1) Conducted an inventory of ash trees on County-owned property
- 2) Managing ash trees on county owned properties (treating or removing)
- 3) Helping organize a community-wide task force to coordinate a Community EAB Management Strategy.

The inventory of ash trees (location, size, health, nearby targets) was initiated in 2012 and was completed in 2014. Early management efforts have been aimed at removing priority hazard trees, and damaged trees that are likely to become

CAPITAL PROJECTS

priority hazard trees in critical areas.

Onondaga County will implement a balanced or “selective” ash tree management strategy. The benefit of this balanced approach is that management of ash trees can be optimized at each location, preserving tree functions where they provide the greatest value, restoring lost canopy over time in other locations, and preemptively removing less valuable trees before they become a safety hazard. Since the program's inception the following has been accomplished (as of December 2023):

- 1) Preemptive removal of approximately 25,590 ash trees over a period of 10 years.
- 2) Replacement of approximately 3,270 non-ash trees in 59 different species
- 3) Preservation of 393 ash trees through injection treatment.

To carry out the County's Ash Tree Management Strategy, the County Office of Environment has continued to renew its agreement with the Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) to prepare bid documents, administer contracts with vendors and to oversee tree removal and replacement. The SWCD has also assist the County with other EAB associated activities such as monitoring for infestations, and held 16 community outreach and engagement events.

When this project started the projected cost to carry out the County's ash tree management strategy over 25 years was \$15.8 million. At this point, due to more competitive bidding as well as saving due to the fact that we are not hiring outside contractors for inoculating the trees, we have reduced the total cost of the project to about \$8 million.

Total Cost of project for tree removal, tree replacement, tree inoculation, and administrative/oversight costs (over 10 years): \$3.51 million

Annual tree removal, tree replacement, tree inoculation, and administrative/oversight costs: \$0.75 million
Estimated total cost (over 25 years): \$10 million.

In spring 2025 we intend to seek legislative authorization for \$750,000.

January 8, 2025

VIA E-MAIL (DanMulvihill@ongov.net)

Mr. Dan Mulvihill
Administrative Officer
County of Onondaga
John H. Mulroy Civic Center
421 Montgomery Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: County of Onondaga, New York
Ash Tree Management - \$750,000
Orrick File: 42427-2-539

Dear Dan:

In accordance with your request, we are enclosing a draft form of the bond resolution in connection with the above matter. As you know, the resolution must be adopted by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the entire voting strength of the County Legislature.

Also enclosed is the summary Legal Notice of Estoppel which should be published as soon as possible in the official newspaper of the County after adoption of the resolution.

When available, please see that we are provided with an originally certified copy of the bond resolution, as well as an original printer's affidavit of publication of the Legal Notice of estoppel.

With best wishes,

Very truly yours,

Tom

Thomas E. Myers
/es
Enclosures

cc: Aaron Kohler (AaronKohler@ongov.net)
Kristi Smiley (KristiSmiley@ongov.net)
Benjamin Yaus (BenjaminYaus@ongov.net)
Tammy Barber (TammyBarber@ongov.net)

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Ms. Abbott

RESOLUTION NO. _____

2024 TRANSFER RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the following transfer be made:

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
Admin Unit 3300000000	Admin Unit 3300000000	
Water Environment Protection	Water Environment Protection	
Speed Type #483040	Speed Type #484040	
Acct. 641010	Acct. 694100	
Regular Employee Salaries	All Other Expenses	\$35,000

3a.



J. Ryan McMahon, County Executive
Shannon L. Harty, P.E., Commissioner
650 Hiawatha Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204-1194
(315) 435-2260 or (315) 435-6820
FAX (315) 435-5023
<http://www.ongov.net/wep/>

MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Title: AMENDING THE 2024 COUNTY BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM SALARIES TO PAY FOR ADDITIONAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH INCREASED SLUDGE/BIOSOLID DISPOSAL

Purpose: WEP is seeking to transfer funds from Regular Salaries to All Other Expenses for the supplementary costs associated with unpredicted sludge/biosolid disposal. Sludge/biosolid disposal costs have increased due to delays in getting the Metro WWTP sludge dryer fully operational which has resulted in unbudgeted expenses. A transfer of funds is requested in the amount of \$35,000.

Summary: The 2024 410 – All Other Expenses budget assumed that the Metro Sludge Dryer would be fully functional by the end of Q1 2024. The dryer, when operational, will remove significant amounts of water from the waste biosolids reducing the tonnage of material to be disposed at a landfill. Unforeseen delays in getting the sludge dryer fully functional has regrettably increased the removal costs for sludge/biosolids resulting in costs exceeding the 2024 Supplies and Materials Budget. To cover costs already incurred, as well as costs projected through the end of this year, a transfer of \$35,000 is being requested for the 410 – All Other Expenses account from 101 – Regular Salaries.

Fiscal Impact: This will have no impact on the budget – net \$0.