



Onondaga County Legislature

CODY M. KELLY

County Legislator – 14th District
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HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

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

12:30 p.m.
February 19, 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. CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:

- a. **BOND:** A Resolution Authorizing Construction of the Hillbrook Vocational Building in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$5,500,000, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$5,500,000 Bonds of Said County to Pay Costs Thereof (\$5,500,000)
- b. Concerning Certain Proposed Improvements to the Hillbrook Juvenile Detention Center; Approving the Classification of an Unlisted Action Under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); Accepting the Environmental Assessment Form; and Accepting and Adopting the Negative Declaration

2. HEALTH:

- a. 2025 Transfer Resolution (\$100,000)

- C. Adjournment

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Dr. Kelly

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOND RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONSTRUCTION OF THE HILLBROOK VOCATIONAL BUILDING IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$5,500,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,500,000 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. Construction of the Hillbrook Vocational Building, including improvements and costs incidental thereto, is hereby authorized in and for the County of Onondaga, New York, at a maximum estimated cost of \$5,500,000.

Section 2. The plan for the financing thereof is by the issuance of \$5,500,000 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 thirty years pursuant to subdivision 11(a)(1) 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

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
Construction of the Hillbrook Vocational Building - \$5,500,000
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)

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Hillbrook Vocational Building & Improvements (NEW)

DEPARTMENT: Children & Family Services (CFS)
PROJECT TYPE: Renovations & Upgrades
PROJECT STATUS: Proposed
BUDGET STATUS: Partially Authorized
PHASE STATUS: Design/Engineering



SUMMARY

Children & Family Services (CFS) intend to construct a vocational instruction building on the Hillbrook Detention Center grounds. This building will expand instructional programs to maintain compliance with mandates. Additional facility improvements will be included in the work.

FUNDING BY SOURCE (000's)

SOURCE	Prior	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	6-Year	Total
Borrowing to Authorize	-	5,500	-	-	-	-	-	5,500	5,500
State Aid	200	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200
TOTALS	200	5,500	-	-	-	-	-	5,500	5,700

SCOPE & DETAILS

An earlier version of this project was included in last year's CIP, but the project has since refined its scope. This project has since been resubmitted to reflect the changes.

Hillbrook Juvenile Detention Center, under the Department of Children and Family Services has planned to develop and construct a vocational instruction building on land behind the existing facility building. Additional elements will include a covered outdoor exercise structure, a secondary perimeter detention fence line, select upgrades to secure doors and hardware, an expansion of the parking area, additional exterior lighting and CCTV, a staff break area, a sensory room, an various technology upgrades. This new building will house 3-4 classrooms, an administrative/staff office, a break room and restrooms. This proposed building will help the department comply with mandates.

In 2020, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) authorized \$200,000 for the design phase of this project. An Architectural and engineering firm has been selected, funded by a previous authorization. The design is expected to be completed in early 2025 and authorization for the funding of construction will be requested January 2025. This new building will house 3-4 classrooms, an administrative office, a break room and restrooms. This proposed building will help the department comply with Raise the Age mandates. It is intended to be about 3,500 square feet.

In 2025 we intend to seek legislative authorization for \$5,500,000 in borrowing to finance the construction phase.

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 CONSTRUCTION OF THE HILLBROOK VOCATIONAL BUILDING IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, NEW YORK, AT A MAXIMUM ESTIMATED COST OF \$5,500,000, AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$5,500,000 BONDS OF SAID COUNTY TO PAY COSTS THEREOF.

Object or purpose:	Construction of the Hillbrook Vocational Building
Maximum estimated cost:	\$5,500,000
Period of probable usefulness:	Thirty years
Amount of obligations to be issued:	\$5,500,000 bonds

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Dr. Kelly

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CONCERNING CERTAIN PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HILLBROOK JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER; APPROVING THE CLASSIFICATION OF AN UNLISTED ACTION UNDER THE STATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY REVIEW ACT (SEQRA); ACCEPTING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM; AND ACCEPTING AND ADOPTING THE NEGATIVE DECLARATION

WHEREAS, the County of Onondaga has proposed certain improvements to its Hillbrook Juvenile Detention Center (Hillbrook) in order to meet requirements associated with New York State’s “Raise the Age” legislation, including: construction of a 3,500 ± sq. ft. vocational instruction building, staff break area, sensory room, covered outdoor exercise structure, and secondary perimeter detention fence line; expansion of the parking area; and security and technology upgrades; and

WHEREAS, an analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the proposed action has been conducted pursuant to SEQRA; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the proposed construction of improvements at Hillbrook is an unlisted action, determined after an analysis of the potential environmental impacts under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA); and, be it further

RESOLVED, that a Short Environmental Assessment Form for this project has been completed and reviewed, and is on file with the Clerk of the Legislature; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this Legislature accepts such form and further finds and declares a negative declaration under SEQRA, where the proposed action will not have a significant effect on the environment.

Short Environmental Assessment Form
Part 1 - Project Information

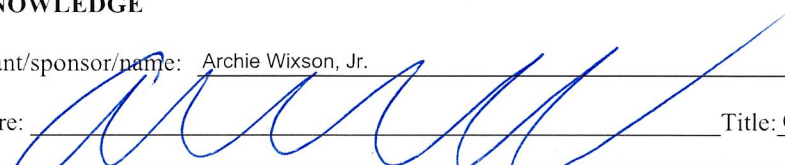
Instructions for Completing

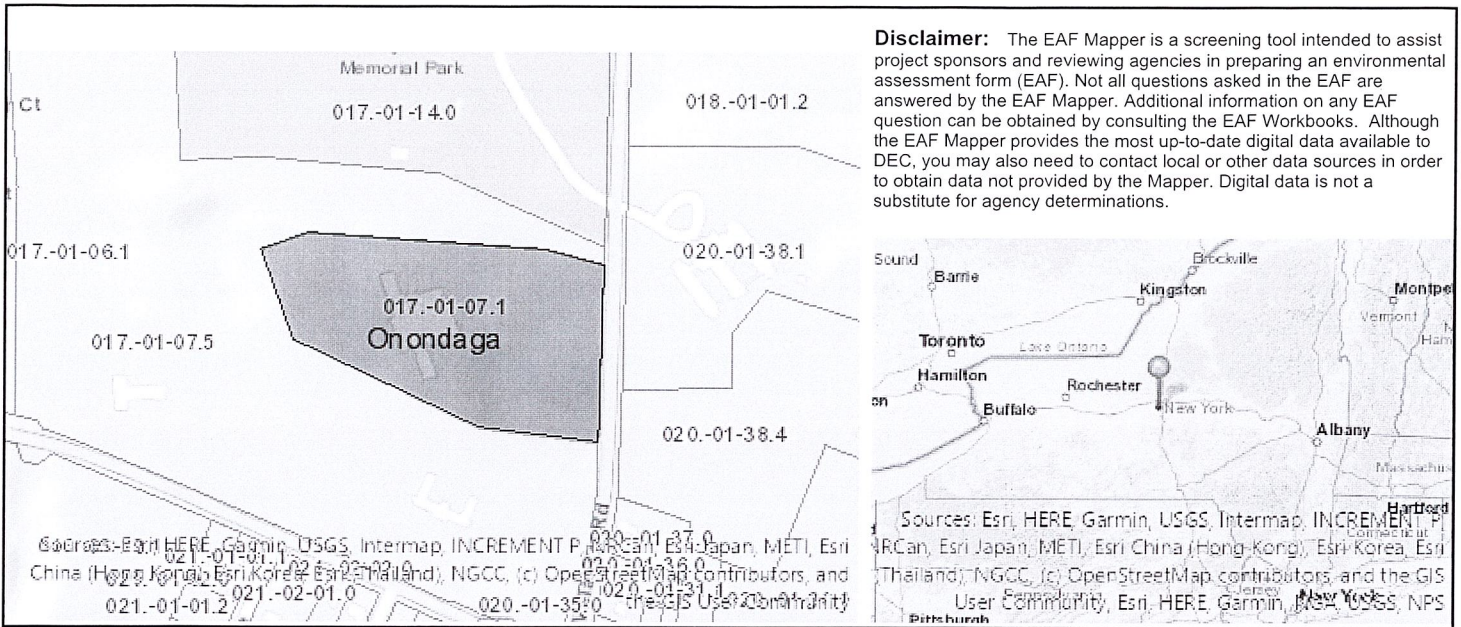
Part 1 – Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project: Hillbrook Improvements			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): 4949 Velasko Rd., Syracuse, NY 13215-1930			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Hillbrook Juvenile Detention Center is planning to construct a vocational instruction building (3,500 sq feet) on land behind the existing facility. Additional elements will include: a covered outdoor exercise structure, a secondary perimeter detention fence line, select upgrades to secure doors and hardware, an expansion of the parking area, additional exterior lighting and CCTV, a staff break area, a sensory room, an various technology upgrades. This new building will house 3-4 classrooms, an administrative/staff office, a break room and restrooms. This proposed building will help the department comply with state mandates.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Onondaga County Department of Facilities Management		Telephone: 315-435-3451	
		E-Mail: archiewixson@ongov.net	
Address: 421 Montgomery Street, Suite 40			
City/PO: Syracuse		State: NY	Zip Code: 13202
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.		NO	YES
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:		NO	YES
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action?		48.64	acres
b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed?		1	acres
c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor?		48.64	acres
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action:			
5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Parkland			

5. Is the proposed action, a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations? b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	NO	YES	N/A
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Yes, identify: _____	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels? b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action? c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment: _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places? b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	NO	YES	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency? b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody? If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres: _____ _____ _____	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input type="checkbox"/> Urban <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suburban		
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources?	NO	YES
If Yes,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, briefly describe: _____		
construction stormwater will be handled in accordance with any SPDES permit and management plans, and contained on site or to established conveyances		
18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that would result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g., retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?	NO	YES
If Yes, explain the purpose and size of the impoundment: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?	NO	YES
If Yes, describe: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste?	NO	YES
If Yes, describe: _____	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE Applicant/sponsor/name: Archie Wixson, Jr. _____ Date: 1/28/25 Signature:  _____ Title: Commissioner		



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	No
Part 1 / Question 12a [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites]	No
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	Yes - Digital mapping information on local and federal wetlands and waterbodies is known to be incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	No
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	No

Project:	Hillbrook
Date:	1/28/25

**Short Environmental Assessment Form
Part 2 - Impact Assessment**

Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept “Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?”

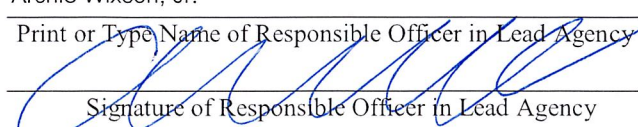
	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Project:	Hillbrook
Date:	1/28/25

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Determination of Significance

For every question in Part 2 that was answered “moderate to large impact may occur”, or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

In accordance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law, the County hereby issues a negative declaration upon a finding that the proposed action is an Unlisted Action which will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts because the proposed action involves a series of relatively minor site/facility improvements/repairs to comply with NYS Raise the Age legal requirements and improve security and technology. Each component would largely qualify as Type II standing alone, such as: maintenance & repair, replacement/rehabilitation/reconstruction below Type I thresholds, non-residential expansions under 4,000 sq. ft., appurtenant structures, equipment purchases, and routine or continuing agency management.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.
Onondaga County	1/28/25
Name of Lead Agency	Date
Archie Wixson, Jr.	Commissioner - Facilities Management
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT FORM

March 4, 2025

Motion Made By Dr. Kelly

RESOLUTION NO. _____

2025 TRANSFER RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, that the following transfer be made:

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>	<u>AMOUNT:</u>
Admin Unit 4300000000	Admin Unit 4300000000	
Health Department	Health Department	
Speed Type #333422	Speed Type #333422	
Acct. 666500	Acct. 694080	
Contingent Account	Fee for Services	\$100,000

Tick Surveillance and Tick-borne Disease Education



PURPOSE:

To transfer funds in the Contingent Account in the Health Department's 2025 Budget to support tick surveillance and tick education.

BACKGROUND:

Funds were set aside in the contingency account with the intent of providing services to Onondaga County residents to better understand the prevalence and manage Lyme and tick-borne diseases. The funds are proposed to be distributed as

Tick Surveillance (SUNY Upstate): \$75,000

Tickborne diseases have become increasingly prevalent across the nation and NYS and constitute a growing public health concern. Efforts to prevent and diagnose tickborne disease is significantly aided by access to current and accurate information on the prevalence and type of pathogens found at the local level.

Dr. Saravanan Thangamani at SUNY Upstate has been conducting tick surveillance using a Citizen Science approach (residents mail in ticks found on themselves or their pets), where the ticks are identified and tested for any diseases. Since 2019, they have received over 3,000 ticks from Onondaga County, of which 36% carried a pathogen that could cause human disease. We know from his data that Lyme disease and other tickborne diseases are increasing in our area, representing a significant public health threat to Onondaga County. The only other testing source, NYSDOH, performs collection and testing of only 50 ticks per year in Onondaga County, which is insufficient to have our finger on the pulse of these emerging pathogens. Beyond surveillance, the program provides direct benefit to our residents by generating individualized information about exposure to infected ticks, which can inform the measures they take to protect themselves and their families. OCHD seeks continued local support in 2025 to maintain this irreplaceable public service. In exchange for this support, Onondaga County residents will continue to receive a 50% discount on testing costs.

Further details on the program can be found here: [Upstate Tick Testing Laboratory \(nyticks.org\)](https://nyticks.org)

Tick Education (CNY Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Alliance): \$25,000

The CNY Lyme and Tick-Borne Disease Alliance is a collaborative of providers, scientists and community members who support research, drive education and promote awareness to combat tick-borne diseases. Continued funding is requested to support the Alliance's education and outreach activities related to this important local public health threat.

Further details on the Alliance can be found here: <https://cnylymealliance.org/>