



# Onondaga County Legislature

JAMIE McNAMARA  
Clerk

JAMES J. ROWLEY  
Chairman

TAMMY BARBER  
Deputy Clerk

401 Montgomery Street • Court House • Room 407 • Syracuse, New York 13202  
Phone: 315.435.2070 • Fax: 315.435.8434 • [www.ongov.net/legislature](http://www.ongov.net/legislature)

## **RESOLUTION NOS. 116 – 119**

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

August 2, 2022

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

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

**12:56 p.m. – Videoconferencing by Onondaga County Public Bodies**

*Written statements are encouraged for the permanent record*

Listed below are the resolutions presented to the County Legislature at the August Session. The meeting was held at **1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.**

- A. CALL TO ORDER
- B. CALLING OF ROLL MEMBERS
- C. INVOCATION – **Mr. Ryan**
- D. SALUTE TO THE FLAG – **Dr. Chase**
- E. READING OF MINUTES
- F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- G. PRESENTATION OF COMMUNICATIONS
  - 1. **Gold Seal:**
    - a. Recognize and Honor Princess Toryana Jackson for being the Syracuse City School District's first African American female Valedictorian. (Sponsored by Mr. Garland)
  - 2. **Communication:**
    - a. Petition for redress of grievances (*on file with the Clerk*)
  - 3. **Public Comment:**
    - a. There will be a 30 minute public comment period in person (*per the Rules of the Legislature*)
    - b. Written statements are encouraged for the permanent record. They will be accepted in person prior to Session or emailed to [onondagacountylegislature@ongov.net](mailto:onondagacountylegislature@ongov.net) by 12:00 p.m., August 2, 2022
- H. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES
- I. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES
- J. CALL OF RESPECTIVE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS (District 8)

### **1<sup>st</sup> DISTRICT – MR. MAY, WAYS & MEANS**

- 1. **No. 116** Standard Work Day and Reporting Resolution (17-0)
- 2. **No. 117** Calling for a Public Hearing on the 2023 County Budget (October 6, 2022, 6:00 p.m.) (17-0)

### **2<sup>nd</sup> DISTRICT – MR. ROWLEY**

- 3. **No. 118** Amending the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature (11-6 Ryan, Chase, Kinne, Garland, Ervin, Kuhn)

### **5<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT – MS. CODY**

- 4. **No. 119** Amending the 2022 County Budget to Make Funds Available for Construction of an Aquarium within Onondaga County (\$85,434,751) (9 Olson, McBride, Knapp, Kelly, Garland, Gunnip, Cody, Abbott, Rowley – 8 May, Ryan, Chase, Bush, Kinne, Ervin, Burtis, Kuhn)

**LOCAL LAW**

- a. ***PASSED*** A Local Law Regarding Videoconferencing by Onondaga County Public Bodies Pursuant to New York State Open Meetings Law (Sponsored by Mr. Rowley) (17-0)
- K. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
- L. ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE CHAIR
- M. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully submitted,



JAMIE McNAMARA, Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

AUGUST 2, 2022 SESSION			ROLL CALL
LEGISLATOR	PRESENT:	ABSENT:	
1. MAY	✓		<i>Chairman Rowley called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m.</i>
3. BURTIS	✓		
4. GUNNIP	✓		
5. CODY	✓		
6. ABBOTT	✓		
7. KUHN	✓		
8. RYAN	✓		
9. CHASE	✓		
10. OLSON	✓		
11. McBRIDE	✓		
12. KNAPP	✓		
13. BUSH	✓		
14. KELLY	✓		
15. KINNE	✓		
16. GARLAND	✓		
17. ERVIN	✓		
2. ROWLEY	✓		
TOTAL:	17	0	

# LEGISLATURE CHAMBERS

## ONONDAGA COUNTY, N.Y.

Presented By: Legislator Charles Garland

The above-named member of the County Legislature of Onondaga County, New York, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022, wishes to:

### **RECOGNIZE AND HONOR PRINCESS TORYANA JACKSON FOR BEING THE SYRACUSE CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT'S FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN FEMALE VALEDICTORIAN**

WHEREAS, in June 2021, Princess Toryana Jackson graduated with a 4.0 grade point average and at the top of her class at Syracuse's Henninger High School; and

WHEREAS, Princess Toryana Jackson made history as both the school's first African American Valedictorian and the first African American female valedictorian in the 173 year history of the Syracuse City School District; and

WHEREAS, Princess Toryana Jackson worked hard to excel at school, taking high school classes starting in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and college classes during high school; and

WHEREAS, Princess Toryana Jackson successfully navigated high school during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic and is now a role model for younger African American girls who realize they too can be at the top of the class; and

WHEREAS, Princess Toryana Jackson is being honored by the Onondaga Historical Association in their Local Women of Distinction display; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Legislator Charles Garland, and all members of the Onondaga County Legislature, do hereby recognize and honor Princess Toryana Jackson for making history in the Syracuse City School District and in Central New York.

I hereby certify that the foregoing was duly noted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County, New York. Witness my hand and seal of said Legislature.



Clerk, County Legislature  
Onondaga County, N.Y.



AUGUST 2, 2022 SESSION					Motion to overturn the Chair
LEGISLATORS	AYES:	NOES:	ABSENT:	EXCUSED:	Motion
1. MAY		✓			<i>Mr. Ryan made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Ervin, to overturn the Chair's ruling. A vote was taken on the motion.</i>
8. RYAN	✓				
9. CHASE	✓				
10. OLSON		✓			
11. MCBRIDE		✓			
12. KNAPP		✓			
13. BUSH		✓			
14. KELLY		✓			
15. KINNE	✓				
16. GARLAND	✓				
17. ERVIN	✓				
3. BURTIS		✓			
4. GUNNIP		✓			
5. CODY		✓			
6. ABBOTT		✓			
7. KUHN	✓				
2. ROWLEY		✓			
TOTAL:	6	11	0	0	

# August 2, 2022 Session

## Public Comment Period - Limited to 30 minutes

\*PLEASE PRINT\*

Name	Street Address	City/Zip	Organization	Topic
Barbara Kamehance	3800 E Genesee	Syracuse 13214	May Memorial Lull Society - Fundi	
Cathleen Morton	501 Academy Pl.	Syracuse 13207	FOR PEOPLE Campaign CNY SOLIDARITY	Aquarium
TOM LAW	140 MILDRED AVE	SYR 13206	ONONDAGA ECOL COMMONHOOD 200	AQUARIUM GO AHEAD
Jacqui Foss	8036 Evesborough Dr	Clay 13041	Animal Alliance/CNY COAL.	AQ.
DAN VADALA	120 E Granger Rd	Syracuse NY 13219	CSEA	
Nenay VanderWater	116 Commerce Rd	Bville 13027	St. Joes	Aquas.
Cindy Davis	227 Arlington Ave	Syr 13207	none	4
Albert Tubbert	121 GRADY Dr	Liverpool 13088	None	Aquarium
E. Bell	202 E. Belden Ave	Syr	"	"
Oceanna Fajir	416 Cannon St	Syr	Families 4 Lead	Freedom Now! Aquarium
Darlene Medley	513 Pond St Apt 4	Syr	Families 4 Lead	Freedom Now! Aquari
Julian Zavaglia	6536 Lakeshore Rd.	Cicero 13039	Syracuse Peace Council	Aquarium
Sharon Capen	320 main	Sy	On Vace Stoo	ACUA
Sargunvir Sondhi	500 Harrison Street	Syracuse, NY 13202	SUNY Upstate Medical	Aquarium
Marianna Pernia	134 Somerset Rd	Syracuse 13224	CNY Solidarity, SPC	Aquarium
JACKIE LaSorde	2221 S. Salina	Syr 13205	Save the 100	Aquarium
Sandy Jare	6215 Keystone way	Jamesville 13078	families 4 lead	freedom
Robert Sarason	6110 By Hill Circle	Jonesville NY 13078		Aquarium
Yvonne Griffin	517 Richmond Ave	Syr	Citizen Action	Everything



***Public Comment Period - Limited to 30 minutes***

**\*PLEASE PRINT\***

[illegible]

TALKING POINTS FOR ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE SESSION-PUBLIC  
COMMENT PERIOD-AUGUST 2, 2022, FROM BARBARA KAMERANCE

1. I was a Special Education teacher and supervisor for a total of 43 years. I saw first-hand the effects of lead poisoning in children causing learning disabilities. These students were often labeled as “lead disabled”.
2. Last week, Mayor Walsh stated that the cost of replacing lead pipes in Syracuse would be \$100 million. The \$85 million surplus available would pay for 85% of the cost.
3. The remainder of the cost would be available through federal monies through the infrastructure funding. Senator Gillibrand spoke last week about money being available.



I can think of 3 reasons right off the top of my head as to why the proposed aquarium should not be built: 1) crime <sup>esp. gun violence</sup> 2) poverty 3) ~~infrastructure~~

There is widespread knowledge and agreement in the construction industry that a structure needs a firm foundation before anything built on top of it be considered stable. Our city is crumbling. Every day we wake up to news of more lives lost or changed due to violence. <sup>↑ 4 Shootings this morning</sup> I walk in neighborhoods and on city streets ~~to~~ and see litter strewn everywhere. <sup>↑ crumbling sidewalks, bridges & houses</sup> Poverty is rampant, with Syracuse holding the distinction of the highest rate of child poverty, 48.4%, of cities in similar size, in the nation! One of every three

citizens in Syracuse live below the poverty level!

There are many concrete ways that 85 million dollars could be spent that would help build a firm foundation in our city. Let's find some real solutions to the problems I mentioned. We know that there are jobs coming to the Syracuse area, some in outlying areas. What good do these jobs do to the residents of Syracuse who lack transportation to these areas? What about funding a reliable public transportation system to help our neighbors take advantage of an opportunity to lift themselves out of the cycle of poverty? This is just one suggestion. I am sure there are many more. Let's listen to each other.

Finally, I don't think the lack of tourism dollars being spent here needs to be our first concern, when crime, poverty and ~~a crumbling~~ <sup>frustrating</sup> infrastructure are the visible scars on our landscape.

An aquarium is window dressing on a city that needs foundation work. Please vote no on Cathleen Morton the aquarium.



7/28/22

Signatures updated 8/2/22

Dear County Executive Ryan McMahon,

Our community is in need of funds for housing, for mental and physical healthcare, childcare and social services, and to adequately address the lead crisis affecting young children and their families.

According to the best estimate, each year - more than six-hundred children in our county are poisoned by exposure to toxic lead, primarily from paint in their homes. The poisoning is irreversible. The majority of those affected are living in segregated poverty in Syracuse. We have been told there is not enough funding to fully address this decades-old crisis. Those who speak out about the problem face eviction, and the lead ordinance has yet to be properly enforced due in part to the lack of appropriate allocation of County funds.

Imagine what \$85,000,000 (equivalent to 2 ½ times the local dollars to the health department and 3 times the local dollars for children and family services) could do, if properly allocated, to meet community needs for childcare, mental health services and for improving our housing and infrastructure. There is also an urgent need to provide adequate staffing and funding for the Onondaga County Health Department, and for solving the lead poisoning crisis once and for all. We join with community organizations, experts in public health, CNY faith leaders, over 1000 petitioners, and many more community members that are voicing their concern about the use of funds and yet the avenues available to provide input are far from ideal. We insist upon increased community input, and transparency.

The community must be heard on this issue.

Our families need relief.

Sincerely,

Invest in Our Community Coalition

Oceanna Fair Families for Lead Freedom Now! (South Branch Leader)

Darlene Medley Families for Lead Freedom Now! (West Branch Leader)

Mariana Pernia, MD Syracuse Peace Council (Steering Committee Member)

Sandra D. Lane, PhD, MPH Public Health, Syracuse University

Mary Cunningham Families for Lead Freedom Now!

Charles Pierce-El Greater Syracuse Southside Neighborhood Association (President), Save the 16th

Jacqueline Lasonde Greater Syracuse Southside Neighborhood Association (President), Save the 16th

Palmer Harvey Syracuse Tenants Union (Founder)

Jaime Howley Syracuse Tenants Union (Founder)

Bishop H. Bernard Alex National Action Network Syracuse Chapter (President)

Rev. Linda Briggs Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse (Lead Organizer)

Rich Puchalski    Syracuse United Neighbors (Executive Director)

Deka Dancil                      Urban Jobs Task Force (President)

Robert A. Rubinstein PhD, MsPH    The Maxwell School, Syracuse University

Rev. Beth DuBois    CNY Poor People's Campaign (Tri Chair)    Pastoral Associate, University United Methodist Church

Galyn Murphy-Stanley              Neighborhood Outreach and Food Center Coordinator, UUMC

Tammy Honeywell              Syracuse Democratic Socialists of America (Chapter Co-chair)

Clayton Terry              Syracuse Democratic Socialists of America (Ecosocialist Committee Co-chair)

Dave Kashmer    Syracuse Democratic Socialists of America

Richard Kornbluth    CNY Solidarity Coalition (Coordinating Committee Member)

Elaine Denton              CNY Solidarity Coalition

Robert Sarason    CNY Solidarity Coalition

Andra Leimanis              CNY Solidarity Coalition

David Babcock    Environmental Engineer

Carol Baum              Syracuse Peace Council

Ronald VanNorstrand    Veterans For Peace Chapter 51

Andy Mager              Syracuse Cultural Workers

Deborah Pellow PhD    professor emerita Syracuse University

Joseph Bennett

Barry and Barbara Gordon

Sunny Aslam, MD

Teresa Mary Gavagan

Anika Flagg

Peter King

Martha M. Ours

Keller Shelton

Constance Nyman

Sargunvir Sondhi

Marsha Weissman

Elaine Wolf

Sandra L. Smith, Ph.D

Wendy Yost

Mark Briggs, LCSW

Maureen F. Curtin, Ph.D.

Deborah Rose

David Pasinski

Kristina Hingre, MD

Gwen Kay, Ph.D.

Linda Birnbaum MPA, MS



8/2/2022

These are an additional 197 petition signatures to add to the 1050 petition signatures handed in on 8/1/2022 by CNY Solidarity Coalition.

Marianna Pernia  
(919)641-3143

# We Oppose Building An Expensive Aquarium with Taxpayer Money!

We have significant issues to address before considering an aquarium. Including but not limited to **addressing poverty**, increasing **mental health** services, building **affordable housing**, building better infrastructure like **sewer, water, broadband, sidewalks, roads**, etc., investing in **public transportation**, investing in **education** and more.

There should be no rush to build an expensive aquarium that the taxpayers will then have to pay to maintain for years to come.

Providing human services is the responsibility of Onondaga County.

**Spend \$85 million on People, not fish.**

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Mariana Pernia	Syracuse	NY	13224
Julian Zavaglia	Cicero	NY	13039
Emily Wilson	Syracuse	NY	13210
Stephanie Chipman-Henderson	Syracuse	NY	13202
Paul Butler	Syracuse	NY	13203
Judy Lieblein	Syracuse	NY	13215
Apollo Chariot	Syracuse	NY	13090
Daria McCloskey	Cortham	NY	13045
Susan Ryan	Camillus	NY	13031
Claire Madigan	Central Square	NY	13036
Jennifer C Roberts	Bridgeport	NY	13030
Kaye Gagn	Syracuse	NY	13207
Patricia Marzola	Manlius	NY	13104
Jennifer Clarke	Syracuse	NY	13215
Sandy Miller	Syracuse	NY	13215
Ali Kirkpatrick	Syracuse	NY	13203
Ciara Feltham	Town of Onondaga	NY	13215
Mario Delmore	Town of DeWitt	NY	13224
Michael Brown	Town of DeWitt	NY	13224
Stephanie Hitzler	Syracuse	NY	13210
Jennifer Polak	Syracuse	NY	13209



NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
John MORRISON	SYRACUSE	NY	13208
Chris Giovannetti	Syracuse	NY	13204
Allie Marcia	Syracuse	NY	13202
Michael D. Ceylan	Camillus	NY	13031
Charles J. Curran	Camillus	NY	13031
Aaron Brennan	Syracuse	NY	13206
Maggie Edmondo	Jamesville	NY	13078
Walter Pravato	Syracuse	NY	13203
Grace Murry	N Syracuse	NY	13212
Lisa Castleman	Liverpool	NY	13090
Jessica Novak	New Woodstock	NY	13122
M. Hurl	New York	NY	13172
Susan Savion	Syracuse (Dewitt)	NY	13224
ED KINANE	340 Madison Ave. Syr	NY	13202
Ann Tiffany	Syracuse	NY	13202
Jess Sickenman	Syracuse	NY	13224
Margaret Matthews	Camillus	NY	13215
Elizabeth Fuentes-Binder	Lafayette	NY	13084
Joey Bender	Lafayette	NY	13084
Emma Sedlak	Syracuse	NY	13207
Lisa A. Hart	Syracuse	NY	13224
Amanda McIntosh	Syracuse	NY	13205
Renee Levy	Syracuse	NY	13207
Richard Long	Syracuse	NY	13202
Sunny Aslam	Jamesville	NY	13078
Jessica South	Syracuse	NY	13202
Taylor Mathison	Syracuse	NY	13207
Christopher Smyth	Syracuse	NY	13219



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NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Amy Nookette	Tully	NY	13159
Jim Daniel	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Chris Delmater	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Alise Gammell	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Kate Brennan	Syracuse	NY	13219
LINDA Zimmerman	Fulton	NY	13066
Ann Peterson	Syracuse	NY	13203
Mary Callahan	Syracuse	NY	13205
Jennifer Catney	De Witt	NY	13214
John Barrett	Syracuse	NY	13215
Karen Brogan	Syracuse	NY	13215
Mich Masnick	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Robyn O'Mara	East Syracuse	NY	13057
Max O'Phaniles	Syracuse	NY	13206
Stuart Gervase II	Syracuse	NY	13206
Harrison Rowe	Syracuse	NY	13215
Susan Hamilton	Syracuse	NY	13204
Eric Gamboa	Syracuse	NY	13207
Stan Grzymala	Le Roy	NY	13084
Elana Bodow	Manlius	NY	13104
Chris van Patten	Manlius	NY	13104



opposite

AQUARIUM

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Richard Patrick	Syracuse	NY	13219
Cassandra Wisniewski	Syracuse	NY	13210
Daria Pyshnchenko	Syracuse	NY	13202
Kathy Landers	Brewerton	NY	13029
Erica Landers	Brewerton	NY	13029
Curry Lynn	Cicero	NY	13082
PAT MATHONY	PRAYETTEVILLE	NY	13066
Jose Fick	Manlius	NY	13104
Mon Curran	Syracuse	NY	13219
Jenna Soumme	Camillus	NY	13631
Alex Marion	Syracuse	NY	13207
Emma Preston	Washington, DC.	DC	20009
Joanne Niedzwicki	Camillus	NY	13031
Sadie Fox	"	"	"
DANIEL MARTIN	SYRACUSE	NY	13206
Stephen Blomberg	La Fayette	NY	13084
Kathleen E. Paterick	La Fayette	NY	13084
Jackie Shallcross	Syracuse	NY	13210
Kandice Green	Syracuse	NY	13206
Alice Bernat	Syracuse	NY	13210
John Carr	Syracuse	NY	13206
Jan Jean Smith	Marcellus	NY	13108
Shelby Martin	Independence	NY	41051
Alexandra Walls	Syracuse	NY	13210
DENNIS LERNEIL	SYRACUSE	NY	13202
Noelle Snyder	Brewerton	NY	13029
Richard Gartner	E. Syracuse	NY	13059
Braxton Bowers			



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Judith Bowers	Syracuse	N.Y.	13224
Joanna Higgins	Syracuse	NY	13203
Annelle Sutherland	E. Syracuse	NY	13057
Joanna Bogdan Zylor	Manlius	NY	13108
Deborah Emmert	Cicero	NY	13039
Danyell Monk	Syracuse	NY	13317
Mark Nalipowitz	Clay	NY	13041
Blair Vucanich	Syracuse	NY	13206
RICH NEWLINE	CANILLUS	NY	13209
John Arnold	Manlius	NY	13104
Jean Perkins	Liverpool	NY	13090
Frank Adams	SYRACUSE	N.Y.	13219
Christin Newby	Syracuse	NY	13202
Madeleya Melgieri	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Barbara	Onondaga	NY	13127
LAURIE ROLNICK	Fayetteville	NY	13066
ALAN ROLNICK	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Gabriela Fontaine	Manlius	NY	13104
DESSI KIRILOVA	Liverpool	NY	13088
Mary Fontaine	Manlius	NY	13104
Harriet Mark	Baldwinsville	NY	13027



NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Phoenix Cannon	B'ville	NY	13027
Joni Sherry	Syracuse	NY	13203
Lesley Norensky	Clay	NY	13041
Jeff Norensky	CLAY	NY	13041
Dr. J. Norensky	Dewitt	N.Y.	13214
J. Norensky	Dewitt	NY	13214
James	Warner's	NY	13164
Tom	Warner's	NY	13144
William G. Gibson	T'ville	NY	13078
Angela Kurbatov	Minoa	NY	13116
Meghan Doss	Syracuse	NY	13219
Jada Doss	Syracuse	NY	13219
Cassandra Whitcomb	Syracuse	NY	13202
Cara-Juni Cara Terreni	Fayetteville	NY	13066
R. Xochitl Rick	Liverpool	NY	13090
Josephine M. Rick	Syracuse	NY	
Other Zone	Syracuse	NY	13224
Visa Wilson	Syracuse	NY	13057
Loetta Clark	Minoa	NY	13116
Courtney Vaughn	Syracuse	NY	13214
Alyssa Brown	Syracuse	NY	13214
Holly Kocurek	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Cindy Hastings	Syr.	NY	13206
Melody PAsini	Fayetteville	NY	13066
Jaquie Ontario	Syracuse	NY	13204
Sarah Ontario	Liverpool	NY	13090
Roger Felen	B'ville	NY	13027
Jim Felen	N. Syr.	NY	13212



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NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
Theresa Russo	Syracuse	NY	13219
Laurae Patterson	Cicero	NY	13039
Mike Cavanagh	Baldwinsville	NY	13027
Stacy Finney	Liverpool	NY	13088
Kristin Ann	Syracuse	NY	13219
Adam VanRykel	Syracuse	NY	13206
Eileen Spawmire	Syracuse	NY	13104
Nancy Collins	Dewitt	NY	13214
Kristine Share	Dewitt	NY	13214
Marilyn Collins	Dewitt	NY	13214
Angara Mahapatra	Syracuse	NY	13202
Dallas Bryson	Syracuse	NY	13208
Angel Smorol	Syracuse	NY	13207
Kierstin Scholl	Syracuse	NY	13209
Dante Carroli	Cicero	NY	13039
Nicole Chemi	Syracuse	NY	13210
Allysa Henry	Syracuse	NY	13206
Kevin McMahon	Liverpool	NY	13088
Sam LaMagna	Syracuse	NY	13210
Amanda Haley	Syracuse	NY	13031
Todd Salomon	Syracuse	NY	13214



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NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE
<del>Matthew</del>	Syr	NY	13212
RICHARD ROBINSON	Cley	NY	13041
Brielle Seidel	Syracuse	NY	13210
Stephanie Langer	Cortland	NY	13045
Keith Liblick	Cortland	NY	13045
Bridget Dunn	Syracuse	NY	13210
Jim Tiedeman	Syracuse	NY	13210
Patricia Shaw	Auburn	NY	13021
Jamie Cramer	Cicero	NY	13039
Jameson Cramer	Cicero	NY	13039
Vicki Cartner	Syracuse	NY	13215
Amy Cartner	Syracuse	NY	13215
Allyson Merron	Syracuse	NY	13205
Syanna Briere	Syracuse	NY	13205
Marlelyn Merron	Syracuse	NY	13205
Diane Greenape	E. Syracuse	NY	13057
Philip Arnold	↓	↓	↓
Susan Fahay Glisson	Syracuse	NY	13207
Karen Snyder	Buffalo	NY	14226
Amy Dunlavey	Syracuse	NY	13203
S.J. Kellogg	Syracuse	NY	13209



[illegible]

Hi all,

My name is Sargunvir Sondhi and I am a current medical student at SUNY Upstate Medical University. I want to thank you for allowing me to speak in front of you today in opposition to the \$85,000,000 aquarium project, which, to me, represents a radical inappropriate allocation of funds. The primary reason cited for this project is to boost our local economy by bringing in outside revenue via top-down or "trickle-down economics." As illustrated throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century and various studies in current literature, this type of policy initiative tends to benefit the top economic classes, while disenfranchising our most vulnerable populations. Instead, what I want to advocate for is bottom-up economics, in which we empower our local community members to build up our community.

For example, recently, Legislator Charles Garland promised to vote yes to the aquarium if \$4.5 million for new housing was offered. And indeed, county executive Ryan McMahon freed up \$3.7 million to fight lead poisoning and promised to support a \$1 million façade improvement program. But, I believe this "trade" does not go far enough.

Syracuse has one of the highest child poverty rates in the nation, and, last year, for the first time in 6 years, had an increase in children diagnosed with lead poisoning. If our community's children, which hold the key to our community's future, cannot thrive and have basic necessities, they will not be able to reach their full potential. This holds true in light of several sociological and psychological models, such as Maslow's hierarchy of needs and the socioecological model.

So here, I stand to make my plea for a better allocation of funds. I don't believe our community needs an aquarium, as much as the empowerment of our constituents. Instead, I believe we need aggressive models to provide affordable housing, expand the Onondaga County Health and Social Services Department, and improve our local infrastructure.

I thank you for your time and hope you will make the decision that will best serve our community.

Best regards,

Sargun

What is the future we want and how can we create it?

Simply put, we want a healthier, safer, more humane life for everyone.

How can we create it?

Let's begin by helping residents struggling with health and economic hardships. And let's also help tens of thousands of low-income neighbors who share their lives with their pets.

Sadly, Onondaga County is a huge pet resource desert if you don't have extra money.

We urge the legislature to set aside 1% of the county's surplus funds - a very modest portion - to provide low-cost, sustainable wellness services, including spay and neuter, for the pets of low-income residents.

Some folks' eyes glaze over at the word "pets." But for many struggling families, their pets are a necessity. Not true, commented a fellow citizen recently to Fixing to Help: Pets could never be considered a necessity!

Fixing to Help replied that for residents who are without a large network of family or friends, or who are struggling to make ends meet, or are coping with illness or a housing crisis, or are alone or afraid - for them, pets may be their lifeline.

I repeat, pets can be a lifeline.

They can give us a reason to get up each day and to feel connected to life.

We've seen it ... Researchers affirmed it ... We feel it ourselves.

Pets teach children kindness and selflessness. They help them learn the value of life itself. We've all seen how animals can touch a spot in a child's heart that we cannot reach.

No child, or adult, should ever have to watch their beloved pet suffer or die because basic health care was not available.

We do NOT accept that an aquarium filled with captive animals can begin to touch the human needs in our community.

Instead, we respectfully urge allocating funding to human services, some of which help our good neighbors help their pets.

--

\*\*\*\*\*

Jacqueline Foss  
Executive Board of Directors,  
Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse (AAGS)

[aags.jfoss@gmail.com](mailto:aags.jfoss@gmail.com)

[www.animalallianceofgreatersyracuse.org](http://www.animalallianceofgreatersyracuse.org)

[www.facebook.com/animalalliance](https://www.facebook.com/animalalliance)

315-415-9837 (cell - if no answer, please leave a message.)

Good afternoon. My name is Oceanna Fair. I am a Southside homeowner, formerly a renter, and South Branch Leader of Families for Lead Freedom Now!

As I have noted elsewhere, childhood lead poisoning in my family has become generational. My brother was lead poisoned as a toddler. He is now in his 40s and relies on his siblings for his most basic care. A few years ago, my granddaughter was lead poisoned in the home that my husband and I were renting.

Our landlord failed to inform us, as the law requires, of lead hazards, and failed to remediate his house. This should not have been the case. One of the ways to prevent such tragic suffering from visiting more families is by prioritizing the use of our surplus resources. Today, let me bring your attention to two ways to prioritize greater investment:

The resourcing of new contractors to conduct home remediation work that is funded by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and,

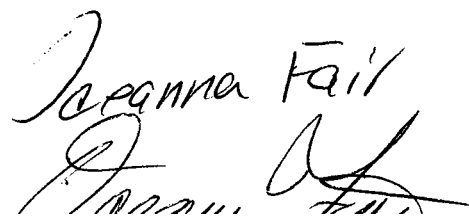
Oversight of the HUD-funded contractors' work so that all contractors perform a complete and safe remediation project.

We have heard from reliable sources that it takes far too much up-front capital to resource a HUD-remediation project to allow small contractors, including minority contractors, to contract for the work. This prevents the county from quickly disbursing all available HUD funds to make our housing safer. We propose creating a capital fund that small contractors can access so we have more contractors engaged in urgent remediation work.

Additionally, we have heard that the work currently being done has left some families with new lead hazards, instead of the safe space that remediation work should provide. At this time, we believe these outcomes are a result of poor oversight of compliance with HUD safety standards. We believe these concerns need to be addressed, perhaps through the development of a new oversight protocol.

In fact, my home is an example. When my home was remediated in 2021 with a HUD grant, the porch floor was allowed to be painted in the dead of winter, which is not acceptable for remediation. Yet, the County inspector signed off on this work, and paid the contractor. To this day, the County has yet to make whole on its promise to me to address this lead hazard that their own contractor left behind.

We believe the County can and should produce a balanced allocation of surplus resources. We need to get it right. Success will come by allocating available monies and attention to solving the problems, such as lead poisoning, that have become crises for far too many Onondaga County residents. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oceanna Fair". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "O" and "F".

Janara Lane, Professor, Anthropology, 315-382-0774

### Lead poisoning in Syracuse children:

- Syracuse has a major lead poisoning problem. In Flint, MI the 3.2% of children tested had lead poisoning.<sup>i</sup> In Syracuse 10.5% (n=396) of children who were tested had lead poisoning in 2021.<sup>ii</sup>
- In Onondaga County outside of Syracuse, 0.8% of children have lead poisoning.
- Lead poisoning is higher among Children of Color in Syracuse: 11.5% of African America children, vs 6.4% of White children had lead poisoning in 2020,<sup>iii</sup> among those tested.

### Impact of lead poisoning in Syracuse children

- In 2018-2019, **78% of Syracuse public school 3<sup>rd</sup> graders failed to read at grade level on year-end standardized tests.**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade standardized English Language Arts (reading) exam scores<sup>iii</sup>

Year	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4	At or above grade level (Level 3 &4)
2018-2019* (n=1418)	45%	33%	21%	2%	22%

### Lead poisoning can lead to risk-taking behavior—including violence and arrest in adolescence

- A Cincinnati study found that for every 5mcg/dl of lead, there is between a 27%-40% increase in arrests in adolescence.<sup>iv</sup>
- In 2021, Syracuse had 32 murders, many of those committed by adolescents and young adults.<sup>v</sup>
- The Syracuse Police have documented about 325 gunshot episodes per year.
- In 2021-- 135 people were injured by gunshots but not killed.
- In 2021—32 people were murdered by guns

### Let's follow the money

- In 2008, our research demonstrated that the consequences of lead poisoning cost the county at least \$500,000 annually in elevated Medicaid, teen pregnancy, criminal justice, and special education costs. Lack of meaningful action on lead poisoning in Onondaga County **during the 14 years since we published this estimate means that the county has spent at least \$14M responding to the consequences of lead poisoning.**
- Our research also demonstrated that the cost to cover the emergency care of gunshot injuries in Syracuse totals nearly \$4 million dollars per year.
- In 2021 there were 135 individuals injured by gunshots who were not killed.<sup>vi</sup> --totaling \$3,848,850 (assuming a cost of \$28,585<sup>vii</sup> per injury for the ED costs alone).

The Onondaga County Conservative Party request that the following message is read into the record:

"In this time of economic upheaval that has most people scrambling to pay critical living expenses, we find it disingenuous that Onondaga County continues to push the construction of a non-essential aquarium in hopes of bringing in a few tourism dollars.

We believe the aquarium project shows a clear disconnect and indifference within our elected officials.

One does not 'fix the porch' when the house is burning.

The Conservative Party strongly recommends shelving the project."

I feel that an aquarium would create a needless financial burden on taxpayers when ongoing staffing and maintenance costs are factored in.

If the aquarium is a solid economic venture, the private sector should consider the project.

Further, it is important that you recognize that both the Conservative Party and most of the Democratic legislators stand together against the aquarium.

Thank you

August 2, 2022, Robert G. Graham, 3142 Beaver Brook Lane, Baldwinsville, NY, 13027



## Remarks for August 2, 2022

Jaime Howley, retired LMSW, worked occupational health, a Community Activist living on the Southside for 17 years and was the co-founder of the Get the Lead Out Block Party and the Syracuse Tenants Union

I am going to ignore the aquarium because they have turned their backs on the lead poisoned children and families in Onondaga county. But things that are ignored, do not go away. Often they come back to haunt you.

Every child is priceless. Including those with Childhood Lead Poisoning. When a child is born our hopes for them are enormous. But Lead in their homes, unseen in dust, enters our young children and robs them of their futures. It also robs their parents of all their hopes and dreams for their child. Because lead is a powerful neurotoxin, the brain damage it creates will follow them ALL THE DAYS of their lives. In school they have trouble learning, trouble holding a pencil, trouble learning to write, trouble sitting still and following instructions. Lead poisoned children will misbehave in class and disrupt the class because they have difficulty following the classroom rules, they speak out of turn, have poor impulse control and poor decision making skills. These problems will follow them from one class to the next. Our schools test scores are lower because of the lead in our children. Many will drop out of school. Not graduate from high school. They will likely require special services all through school. Special services are expensive.

**WE KNOW WHAT MUST BE DONE TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN FROM LEAD! GET THE LEAD OUT OF HOUSING! MAKE ALL HOUSING LEAD SAFE FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN. AND THEY ARE ALL OUR CHILDREN, EVEN THOSE LIVING IN THE POISONED HOMES!**

Boys are more likely to become involved in crime, gangs and the criminal justice system. It is more costly to incarcerate someone than to send them to college. Criminal Justice includes the police, courts and the prison system. That is very very expensive. And no one wants their child to go to Jail.

***WE KNOW WHAT TO DO!! JUST DO IT! DO IN NOW!***

The term "lead exposure" is misleading. Exposure to lead is plural. No one has a singular exposure. Lead is all around us. In our homes and on our homes. Lead is in the air and the water and the soil. Going under Route 81, look up you are seeing lead degraded paint falling down on traffic. Lead is in the solder on copper pipes, in glazes on dishes, jewelry, toys and so on. Lead is all around.

Do you know that young children absorb 50% of the lead they are exposed to? Lead poisoning is cumulative. And every exposure hurts.

Lead is the end product of radioactive decay. It starts out as a radioactive element. So it should be no surprise that the end product remains toxic. Lead paint that is poorly maintained breaks down into lead dust that lands everywhere and poisons the homes and the children.



Has anyone moved into an apartment that has windows painted shut? My husband took a screw driver and hammer. I think he did it at every place we ever lived. And then he put a fan in the window and blew the dust all over. Home renovations and additions disturb painted surfaces and do-it-yourselfers never consider the lead. When contractors put on additions they disturb painted surfaces containing lead and contaminate the environment. So children in the county can have lead poisoning too. Unlike our country cousins, inner city children's parents often do not own where they live and so do not control their home environment. Landlords and maintenance companies move slowly if at all. Lead in dust is invisible. "What the eye can not see the mind cannot know." Repairs are slow coming often they do not address lead at all.

How is the new lead ordinance working? Are houses being tested? Are repairs being made? Are children's risk of being lead poisoned decreasing?

Addressing the high number of houses in Syracuse is an expensive task. This extra unexpected money could be used to make a difference. It is an opportunity that may never come again. Every child's life is priceless far beyond cost. Lead is a powerful Neurotoxin. There has been a shift to describe the problem as 'lead exposure'. Lead exposure is very rarely a singular event. Exposure includes lead paint dust inside the home, lead dust from decaying paint on the exterior, and in the soil from the paint, but also left over from the years cars ran on leaded gas to stop engine knocking, in water from lead pipes, and on glazes on pottery, painted toys, jewelry, and so on. There are in fact multiple exposures. Daily exposures.

Children are born unfinished. Their brains and entire bodies continue growing until they are adults. Young children absorb 50% of the lead they are exposed to. Childhood lead poisoning is the result of cumulative exposures to every source a child encounters. There is no safe level of lead exposure for young children. The dust is everywhere in and outside the house, in the soil and sometimes in the water. Wasn't there a Robert Frost poem about "eating a peck of dust"? That line should be changed to a 'speck' of dust. A peck of lead dust could kill you.

Removing the lead from our housing, making all housing safe will eventually save money. The cost of Childhood Lead Poisoning is too high to keep paying.

Thank you for putting our children before an Aquarium. All children's lives matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Jaime Howley

My name is Dartene Medley, I came down  
four years ago and spoke to this same  
Committee about the Lead Crisis here in Sgr, NY  
and it went on death ears! I was just recently  
employed through the Sheraton on the University and  
working with the Section 8's Self Path to Homeownership  
Program, but had to disenroll due to my home  
testing positive for Lead three times higher than  
the first time. (May 5 or 6) no fridge since the 20th  
31 July. I've had to quit my job due to my  
childcare being done in my home by a friend. Due to the  
house being filled with Lead the county will not pay for  
childcare there, even though there's a ~~child~~ daycare  
shortage as well! We ~~DON'T~~ NEED AN AQUIART  
WE NEED GOOD, CLEAN, SAFE, LEAD FREE  
HOUSING NOW!

Human Rights,

5-8-2022

I am writing this missive on behalf of myself and my fellow inmates. For the ones who are afraid to use their voice or the ones who lack the mental capacity to stand up and speak for themselves. So right now I'm standing up and speaking for all of the inmates.

The first thing a person looking from the outside says when you complain about the living conditions is "don't come to jail". This can't even be considered a jail because it's operating below standards. Some inmates become accustomed to the foul treatment and inhumane conditions that we are forced to endure.

We all make mistakes and let's be honest, if we stop coming to jail a lot of people would be without jobs. So they should use their words wisely. It's out of control. Even though we are incarcerated we are still human beings and don't deserve for our rights to be violated. Most of us aren't even found guilty of a crime yet we are living worse than people who are convicted.

There are a few issues I want to bring to the light. It is impossible to properly run a jail or prison under these conditions that the Onondaga County Justice Center is in. Our food is disgusting, served late and cold more than often. The staff they serve us a wild animal wouldnt even eat this slop, the same crap everyday of the week. It is so bad some days

before I ingest this mess that they call food. I'm sure I am not the only one.

We don't even get the medical treatment that we need when we are injured or sick, we are told to drop a sick call slip. It takes them 2 weeks to 2 months to be called to the doctor. Oh excuse me ~~my~~ mistake, they don't have a doctor. They are short on medical staff period. I witnessed inmates call for mental health and the deputy refused to call them for the inmates. An inmate is likely to die in their cell before they get the help or treatment that they need. I've seen it happen before, they were late or didn't even come. There have been deaths from illnesses, injuries and suicides due to this issue and the Onondaga County Justice Center needs to be held responsible to prevent any more mishaps in the future. If this jail can't be ran the proper way it should be shut down just like the other unfit jails and prisons have. It's so sad, sometimes I have to laugh to keep from crying. A lot of the times I can't even laugh though I just sit in my cell in the dark, crying uncontrollably.

The mental health department does not have enough staff ~~available~~ available to accommodate all of these inmates. So a lot of the mental issues go unresolved. That puts everybody in the jail in a bad situation. It turns most of us into walking ticking time bombs, waiting to explode. When the deputy staff is short they lock us in our cells for the day and that causes even more mental problems. This happens on most weekends and holidays out of the year.

## Violations

- Structure of the jail deteriorating in disrepair
- Food is cold, served late and small portions. We only get milk once a week, dinner is served at 5pm and we don't eat again until 7:30 am the next morning
- Deputies abuse their authority and have some mental issues themselves
- Uniforms are old and tattered and we are forced to wear shoes that somebody else had on without them being disinfected which could cause fungus or disease.
- We are locked in our cells most weekends and holidays due to being short staffed in the jail, so they claim.
- No proper medical or mental health ~~assistance~~ <sup>assistance</sup> due to being short staff
- Lack of respect as humans and our rights being violated.
- Problems with toilets, sinks, flies, showers dirty, leaking and moldy, curtains ragged and the water pressure is not good. Sometimes we don't even have toilet paper or tooth brushes.
- Access to only a hot pot no stove or microwave and we can't get to it after 10pm if we are hungry.
- Forced to heat our food in plastic to eat everyday which isn't healthy.
- Do not have enough cleaning supplies.
- Court dates are scheduled and then rescheduled far apart to keep us stuck here or force us to plead guilty just to get to a better facility. It's not our fault that the court calendars are backed up.
- Denied law library time a lot, so we can't get the knowledge to fight our case and lawyers don't like to come here and consult with us.
- Those of us who can't or don't eat what is on the meal menu are forced to pay high commissary prices or starve.

- Improper ventilation in cells passing airborne germs and the air is dry, also some cells are too hot or too cold.
- Took away our visits and we are treated like a maximum security facility and we aren't even found guilty yet.
- Carpets are old and full of germs and dust mites.
- Possibly asbestos in the ceilings.
- So, the mentally challenged pod should be on the first floor because when they flood their cells it runs down to ours.

TERESA DEMKO  
Commissioner of Deeds  
City of Syracuse  
Commission Expires 12/31/2022



4/10/22

Kepten 10/1/2020  
Kamari 10/1/2020

This building is in total disarray, so bad that it is literally falling apart while they keep cramming more of us in here. Someone really needs to investigate and observe all of the issues that I just placed before you. If it's not addressed soon things will just get worse. How many more people have to suffer or even worse, die? I know that I am only one voice but I can assure you that I am not the only person who feels this way. On your own behalf I suggest that you do a walk through and interview in every pod unit. Me as man, I hate to be treated less than human or watch other people go through it. Especially based on the fact that we are all supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. It doesn't seem that way here. This cannot continue. It is time to take a stand as a people and fight for what is right and stop all of the wrong. We want to do this as peaceful as possible, changes must be made. Personally I would request that the jail should be closed and everyone released until this building and staff is brought up to standards. If not the problems will just get bigger and ~~more~~<sup>more</sup> deadly, possibly making international headlines. I would like for these problems to be resolved before things get that far. Please help!! I as the people appreciate your time and your patience. Thank you.

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## proposed aquarium

- ⓘ Flag for follow up.
- ⓘ You forwarded this message on Mon 8/1/2022 8:41 AM

MT   mary tone <mwtone@yahoo.com>  
Sat 7/30/2022 7:52 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏮   ⏪   ⏩   ...

**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

PLEASE know that there are MANY members of the community who do NOT support the proposed aquarium! Our community is in the worst shape I've ever seen- it's an embarrassment to drive through the city and see what it has been allowed to become. We need help with infrastructure, support for education, low income families, crime control, the list is endless. PLEASE put OUR money to better use than fulfilling a wish list item for a community which is failing. The city is filthy, crime-ridden, with streets full of potholes that make your teeth rattle. Water mains that burst due to old age. Fix the community first. It's OUR money, not the executives!!

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## NO to aquarium!

📌 Flag for follow up.

📌 You forwarded this message on Mon 8/1/2022 8:56 AM

RP Rob Phillips <rphilli2@twcny.rr.com>  
Sun 7/31/2022 9:44 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍 ⏪ ⏩ ⏴ ⏵ ...

**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Hello,

Has our county executive lost his mind? Is he blind? Is he just ignoring Destiny? Next time you see him, ask him when was the last time he visited Destiny (other than to see a movie)? Bet it was not crowded!

Destiny was promised to bring thousands of visitors to Syracuse from all over the northeast and Canada. It was going to end up being surrounded by new businesses – entertainment, restaurants etc. Destiny is now a big mall which is mostly vacant and it's surrounded by a lot of huge empty parking lots. Where are all the businesses that were to pop up? Locals don't want to go to Destiny due to crime and lack of stores and entertainment. I wager Destiny will eventually end up just like Great Northern Mall. It will be eyesore next to 81.

Aquariums are fantastic but after about 12 to 18 months I bet daily attendance to a Syracuse Aquarium will dwindle and it will lose money daily. Without a number of other entertainment venues nearby (other than Destiny) non-local customers are not going to drive more than 30 mins to an hour to see just the Aquarium. When it first opens, there will be busloads of local school field trips. It will appear busy and a success, then the school trips will fade and the Aquarium will be mostly without customers. Locals MAY go once, but you are not going to get a lot of repeat business.

I just don't get why the county executive is pushing so hard for this Aquarium? Something smells fishy! COR or someone is making promises they no doubt will NOT keep (or guarantee) or maybe there is some payola going on here? It appears the country executive is the only person that thinks this is a good idea. Today an "expert" was quoted on CNY Central that the attendance study is flawed. It does not take an expert to see there is no way there will be thousands visiting every day after the initial opening.

The money should be spent on more useful projects, infrastructure etc.

Mark my words, if the Aquarium is built it will be losing money in less than 18 months. Build it and few will come.

Rob

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## Aquarium!

ⓘ Flag for follow up.

ⓘ You forwarded this message on Mon 8/1/2022 8:56 AM

EW Ellen Wolitarsky <rew1948@gmail.com>  
Sun 7/31/2022 4:12 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: Bob & Ellen <rew1948@gmail.com>

👍 ⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭ ...

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. Use caution with links and attachments.

We don't need an aquarium with all the problems Onondaga County has. How about providing affordable housing in the city, especially for lower income people, lead paint removal in city housing, internet for lower income residents, replace the water pipes that are always breaking, fix the potholes throughout the county, increase & improve public transportation in the city & throughout the county, upgrade electric grid system in the county, provide childcare facilities, so mothers can work. When all that is done, then provide a tax rebate if there's money left over.

Forget the fluff!!

Robert & Ellen Wolitarsky

Baldwinsville

Sent from my iPad

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## Peat and repeat. GOP goes deaf to taxpayers. Aquarium Vote NO

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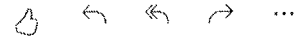
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AB

Anne Buerkle <ambuerkle@gmail.com>

Sun 7/31/2022 5:14 PM

To: ckell1251@gmail.com; debjcody@gmail.com; Marie Morelli; Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

8 letters to the editor today. 7 against and 1 in favor.

The news would tell us you've had your arms sufficiently twisted. Ever wonder why people don't trust you? You! Let's keep it local. This is political BS.

Have you sought any other ideas? Have you had a public hearing? McMahon doesn't want anything other than what he wants. Naturally that's human nature but at an extreme cost. McMahon basically twists arms of these he can use to influence. Really don't care what SU thinks or Joannie Mahoney, etc. They aren't elected and SU is not a taxpayer.

The "comic" on today's editorial page sums it up?

Anne Buerkle

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Anne Buerkle** <ambuerkle@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Jul 26, 2022 at 8:41 PM

Subject: Aquarium Vote NO

To: <onondagacountylegislature@ongov.net>

CC: <ckell1251@gmail.com>, <debjcody@gmail.com>

I live in North Syracuse. I am against this waste of taxpayer money. It is a dream of Ryan McMahon. There is nothing to back this up other than his strong arming of YOU.

The public seems to be against this pipe dream.

So much could be done with the money. Because we have the money is there is a immediate need to spend it. Wonder how government gets such a bad reputation?

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## Aquarium - fantasy???

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MF Marcia G. Ferber <mgferber@me.com>  
Sun 7/31/2022 8:33 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: debjcody@gmail.com

👍 ↶ ⏮ ↷ ...

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Dear Ms. Cody (and fellow legislators) - You've heard the many, many alternatives to wasting millions on an aquarium so I won't re-list them for you. I am urging you to vote "NO" on this issue on Tues.

Pls. consider some of the useful suggested possibilities for this expenditure.

Thank you for the work you do . . . Marcia G. Ferber  
mgferber@me.com

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**Aquarium is way too expensive and should not be a priority.**

ⓘ Flag for follow up.

ⓘ You forwarded this message on Mon 8/1/2022 8:57 AM

RB   Rosemary Beach <beachro57@gmail.com>  
Sun 7/31/2022 9:49 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏪   ⏩   ⏴   ⏵   ⋮

**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

How can this county even consider spending 85 million on an aquarium in this city when we are in an affordable housing crisis and the cost of living is so high a large number of families in our community won't be able to afford to go to it. There should be more thought and discussion regarding this project. I believe that this county could put that money to much better use.

I also question the spending of \$4.5 million to build 10 houses on the south side. How does 10 houses cost that much??? It is going to take a lot more than 10 houses to fix the housing crisis in this county, especially the city of Syracuse. People are living in extremely poor conditions and paying more in rent than I pay for my house in East Syracuse.

⏪ Reply

⏴ Forward



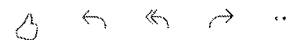
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## re: \$85M Aquarium

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📌 You forwarded this message on Mon 8/1/2022 8:58 AM

JL Joan Littlehale <littlehalejm@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 8:11 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear Onondaga County Legislators,

In consideration of all the desperate needs within Onondaga County, the very LAST new build needed would be an aquarium!!! Building an aquarium is an insane/stupid/moronic idea. How about:

- tapping the minds of city planners, college professors, the Syracuse City School Board of Education, and YOU to address the horrible distinction of being **nationally recognized** as the MOST POVERTY RIDDEN city in the country! How on earth did that happen?

- repairing the city infrastructure as well as county. Fix the underground water pipes, provide broadband to all residents of the county. I DO NOT HAVE BROADBAND WHERE I LIVE....MOST FRUSTRATING!

- reducing the rampant violence and train more police? Perhaps less violence might lure businesses back into the city. Fill all those vacant buildings!

- lead paint abatement? How much money goes into Special Education services for those children who have consumed lead paint?

- building **LOTS of new homes**, **both** low income and rental properties, repurpose vacant buildings into housing, AND provide façade improvement programs for all areas of the city! Local contractors would have work!

For these reasons and more, this is **not** the right time to build an aquarium. Perhaps in the future, once we have a bustling, thriving, safe city where it is safe to walk down to an aquarium would it be a smart move.

Thank you for considering these facts and don't' forget....once it is time for us to vote for Legislatores, we will remember how you chose to cast your vote!

Joan Littlehale  
Onondaga County Tax Payer

8/2/22, 9:12 AM

Aquarium - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Aquarium

ⓘ Flag for follow up.

ⓘ You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:19 AM

MG Mary Gosson <mcdg5087@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 7:02 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍 ⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭

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# PLEASE VOTE NO!

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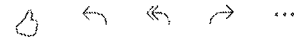
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## Listen to your Constituents

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BW Barb Walton <bbyrnewalton@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 1:43 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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Dear County Legislator,

Please do what the public would like and do not proceed with the Aquarium project. It is too expensive to operate.

Our pressing needs are basic: public safety on the South and North sides, and the condition of the roads to name a few.

Respectfully,

Barb Byrne Walton  
Daughter to Bill Byrne senior who founded Byrne Dairy  
315-475-2720

⏪ Reply

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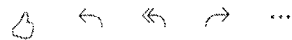
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## Aquarium Bad Idea

① Flag for follow up.

① You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:20 AM

BB   Brian Brown <ic5197@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 7:27 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am a resident of Syracuse, NY and I firmly believe that spending tax money on an aquarium is not a good use of county funds. One article estimates that the aquarium would have 1400 visitors a day, 365 days a year. I can't believe this. Look at the numbers. Based on the number of people visiting local and projected from outside the area this level of attendance is not likely and definitely not sustainable for the period required to find the facility.

Please do not fund this project it will cost taxpayers millions over the life of the aquarium. That money could be better used for many other sustainable projects.

Sincerely,  
Brian Brown

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## the aquarium

ⓘ Flag for follow up.

ⓘ You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:20 AM

LL Leslie Lawrence <lclaw@twcny.rr.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 7:28 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: Ryanmcmahon@ongo.net

👍 ↶ ⏮ ↷ ⋮

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Dear Legislators,

Is it realistic to expect so many visitors to this aquarium each year? Have you looked at how many visit aquariums in other cities? If so would you share those statistics with the public?

We have so many critical problems that need to be addressed—education, health, housing, the environment, infrastructure (water pipes), and children living in buildings with lead paint that will negatively affect them for the rest of their lives.

We can do a lot better with that money.

Please, vote for the future of our children.

Leslie Lawrence

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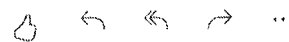
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## Aquarium

ⓘ Flag for follow up.

ⓘ You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:20 AM

DR Deborah Rose <dcurryrose@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 7:31 PM  
To: Linda Ervin  
Cc: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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As a resident of Onondaga County, I'm writing to encourage a "no" vote on funding an aquarium. There are more basic needs on which the available budget funds should be spent, e.g., education, healthcare, lead abatement, infrastructure improvements and repair. In addition to the initial \$85 million investment, I'm seriously concerned that development and construction overruns and operational costs not met through what appears to be a very overestimated attendance prediction will fall on county taxpayers.

Please don't approve this spending at this time.

Sincerely

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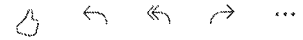
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## Proposed Aquarium Vote - August 2nd

① Flag for follow up.

① You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:21 AM

DG   Diane Glasso <dglasso@twcny.rr.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 7:40 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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Hello Legislature Members,

We live on the eastern side of Onondaga County and oppose the idea of an aquarium. The reasons for our opposition -

1. If monies remain from the federal pandemic monies, just return it - we don't want to see future generations burdened with even more debt. Our country did not manage Covid times appropriately and brought great economic harm to this country.
2. Syracuse is no longer safe - I don't go to Destiny Mall at all anymore. My last visit there was January 2021 late in the afternoon / early evening and it did not go well. That mall is next to continue the trend of not meeting financial obligations.
3. We have some wonderful places to visit in Syracuse already - let us support and strengthen them. First in my mind is Rosamond Gifford Zoo.
4. Families will need to watch every cent spent for years now. Families might visit an aquarium once a year tops, but the travel of people outside our area - Syracuse is no longer a destination spot.

Please vote "No" on this proposal.

Glasso, Diane and Gary  
Kirkville, New York

⏮ Reply


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8/2/22, 9:14 AM

Aquarium Vote - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Aquarium Vote

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


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DR

Donna Ruth <druth66@gmail.com>

Mon 8/1/2022 10:35 PM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

    ...

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Vote no.

Suggestions:

Expand the aquarium at Rosamond Gifford Zoo

Spend half of that amount of money on our poor neighborhoods, on education, on opioid crisis, on the youth having activities, on jobs

Spend the other half on upgrading the water pipes in the city, Park upgrades, potholes, School building upgrades.

I vote NO on the aquarium.

Donna M. Ruth

Lifelong resident of Onondaga county

 Reply

 Forward

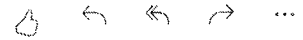
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## Aquarium

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NB Nancy Brisson <brissioni@gmail.com>  
Mon 8/1/2022 11:21 PM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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To the County Legislators,

I have spoken about this before. This project will end up costing way more than \$85 million. The site is poorly chosen. Aesthetically it looks architecturally unique but plumbing is very important for an aquarium and plumbing will be a nightmare on that site. If pipes freeze in winter the fish will die and the aquarium will sit empty until spring. We have lots of black ice lately in winter which could make trips to the aquarium dangerous. The parking lot is too far away and a waste of valuable space. Rethink this project. Do a feasibility study. New venues can bring profits or they can be money pits.


Nancy Brisson  
Liverpool, NY  
(315) 436-2960


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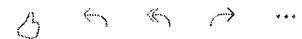
## For the Public Record Regarding DY 4. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Make Funds Available for Construction of an Aquarium

 Some content in this message has been blocked because the sender isn't in your Safe senders list.  
 I trust content from fixingtohelpcny@gmail.com. | Show blocked content

 Flag for follow up.

 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:23 AM

FT Fixing ToHelp <fixingtohelpcny@gmail.com>  
 Mon 8/1/2022 11:32 PM  
 To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

What is the future we want and how can we create it?

Simply put, we at Fixing to Help want a healthier, safer, more humane life for everyone.

How can we create it? Let's begin by helping residents struggling with health and economic hardships. And let's also help tens of thousands of low-income neighbors who share their lives with their pets.

Sadly, Onondaga County is a huge pet resource desert if you don't have extra money.

We respectfully urge the Legislature to set aside 1% of the county's \$200M in surplus funds - a very modest portion - to research and establish low-cost, sustainable wellness services, including spay and neuter, for the pets of low-income residents.

Some folks' eyes glaze over at the word "pets." But for many struggling families, their pets are a necessity. Not true, commented a fellow citizen recently to Fixing to Help: Pets could never be considered a necessity!

Fixing to Help replied that for residents who are without a large network of family or friends, or who are struggling to make ends meet, or are coping with illness or a housing crisis, or are alone or afraid – for them, pets may be their lifeline.

I repeat, pets can be a lifeline. They can give us a reason to get up each day and to feel connected to life.

We've seen it . . . Researchers affirmed it . . . We feel it ourselves.

Pets teach children kindness and selflessness. They help them learn the value of life itself. We've all seen how animals can touch a spot in a child's heart that we cannot reach. No child, or adult, should ever have to watch their beloved pet suffer or die because basic health care was not available.

We do NOT accept that an aquarium filled with captive animals can begin to touch the human needs in our community.

We also find the efforts of local animal organizations - nonprofits - to be heroic, but just a drop in the bucket. Legislators must not expect volunteers to do their work for them.

Instead, we respectfully urge allocating funding to human services, some of which will help our good neighbors help their pets.

Respectfully,

Marcia Tunner



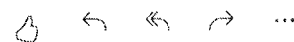
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## Real needs as opposed to aquarium

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ⓘ You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:23 AM

KB Katherine Burns <otiscohills@yahoo.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 12:38 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: Ryan McMahon



**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To the Onondaga County Legislature and Mr. McMahon;

Onondaga County is certainly lucky to have such an abundance of funds. It seems only ethical to spend them in a way that takes care of real needs. As I see it, the biggest need in our county is addressing the devastating poverty in our county. That poverty is expressed in so many ways; a need for decent housing, and for bringing good paying jobs to the area, and for adequate mental health services, including in our schools, more and better medical services, food security and a real end to food deserts (including those in rural areas), programs for low income entrepreneurs, more addiction services, especially for children, addressing homelessness in a practical way, positive community policing - the list goes on.

The proposed aquarium does not address these needs in any kind of constructive fashion. Yes, there would be jobs in the construction of such a facility, but they would be temporary. Jobs once the facility was up and running would be primarily low paying jobs. The numbers given for attendance at the aquarium seem unrealistic. I remember when the Carousel Mall was being discussed. It was supposed to bring such benefits to the area. Now we are faced with an even larger mall than that first proposed, which has empty store after empty store after empty store. The mall is worth much less than is owed on it. How has this benefitted us? I see the aquarium as following in the footsteps of the mall. The money to pay for the aquarium, which would undoubtedly be more than currently estimated, could go so far to make our county a truly fine place to live. I believe the money was for improvements to the lives of the people here, not for wishful pipedreams.

Legislators, please vote for people, not for the wishes of Mr. McMahon.

Sincerely,

Katherine M. Burns  
5115 Otisco Road  
Tully, NY 13159  
315-677-7701

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## Aquarium

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ⓘ You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 8:24 AM

JM Jose Mera <jose.mera1016@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 6:39 AM  
To: ckell1251@gmail.com; Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍 ↶ ⏮ ↷ ⋮

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As a grandfather of 3, soon to be four, young children, I was surprised to find the nearest aquarium is in Toronto, Canada. I implore the legislature to support the aquarium initiative for the educational value and joy it'll bring to the areas youth. I also foresee the potential economic benefits, as this facility will certainly draw visitors from a wide area.

Thank you,

Jose Mera  
8210 Justin Drive  
Clay, NY

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8/2/22, 9:17 AM

Urge a YES vote on Aquarium Today - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Urge a YES vote on Aquarium Today

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

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MU

Mike Unwin <freedom1\_22@yahoo.com>

Tue 8/2/2022 8:11 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

    ...

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---

As a resident of Baldwinsville I urge Ken Bush and all legislators to Vote YES on the Aquarium.  
Thank You, Michael Unwin

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## Aquarium

SC

SHARON CHISTOLINI &lt;jchistol@verizon.net&gt;

Tue 8/2/2022 8:43 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

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My concern is the cost at this time, we have only 8 beds at Upstate medical for adolescents & we are in crisis mode in regards to mental health. Yes the aquarium is a good idea for the area but perhaps now is not the time & to focus more with aid to the mental health crisis. 8 beds at Upstate Medical Hospital for a city of this size is really not acceptable.

Thank You

John/Sharon Chistolini

315 487-1220

Jchistol@verizon.net

Sent from my iPhone

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## Aquarium

📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 9:20 AM

VD   vicki detor <shemailvmail@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 8:57 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

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**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Syracuse needs the aquarium. It's important to continue the momentum we have to lift Syracuse up. With Amazon, Destiny, the baseball stadium, etc. and other large companies looking to settle here, it would be another step to advance the city and our quality of living. The aquarium would draw visitors from all over and boost the hotel, restaurant and tourism industry locally. It would mean more jobs that would provide income to be spent locally. Syracuse has a lot of potential that sometimes gets overlooked. We are at the crossroads of New York State, easily accessible from anywhere. We are blessed with so many natural resources and beautiful environments. Our airport has improved and added new airline carriers. We have exceptional healthcare facilities. An aquarium would not only improve our options locally, but really add to putting Syracuse on the map. With the "trickle down" effect, it could only improve our standard of living. Please vote for the aquarium.

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## Aquarium Vote

PC

**Pat Carranti** <pcarrant@yahoo.com>

Tue 8/2/2022 9:19 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏪   ⏩   ⏴   ⏵   ...

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A last plea to legislators to vote 'No' on the proposed aquarium vote. We all want good things to happen at the inner Harbor, but we want sustainable investment! Ask your constituents who have had interesting ideas to help bring a new vision to this site. Green space, a 'living' museum dedicated to CNYs bounty and history, along with a walkable waterfront, marina, parks, and shops would provide a variety of things to attract people to come to our small city. We are not Baltimore, Boston or Atlanta. Think outside of the 'Aquarium Box!'

Patricia Carranti

7715 Farley Lane

Manlius, NY

13104

Sent from my iPad

⏪ Reply

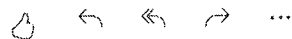
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## Aquarium vote

📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 10:52 AM

P Paul and Marilou Murphy <PASMURPHY@msn.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 9:32 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

We are against using public money to finance building an aquarium at this time.  
Basic community needs are extraordinarily high as we all struggle to recover from the Pandemic, and from too many years of **not** investing in local physical and human infrastructure.  
We are not proud of the legislature's priorities.  
Please use this money where it is most needed.

Paul and Marilou Murphy  
5846 Winacre Drive  
LaFayette, NY 13084

Sent from Mail for Windows

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## Onondaga County needs safe, affordable, housing, mental healthcare, social services, and road surface repairs before entertaining thoughts of aquarium

📧 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 10:54 AM

AL Andra Leimanis <aleimanis@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 9:33 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: Ryan McMahon

👍 ⏮ ⏪ ⏩ ⏭

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(The following is the letter my mother Inese Leimanis of 2805 LaFayette Road LaFayette, NY 13084 wanted me to write to you. She does not have internet access.)

To all the Onondaga County Legislators and the Onondaga County Executive:

Please do not spend \$85 million to build an aquarium in Syracuse.

Syracuse is one of the poorest cities in the United States, with one of the highest rates of childhood poverty. \$85 million could help fund nutrition and social services programs to help struggling families.

Onondaga County has a high rate of childhood lead poisoning and lacks sufficient lead testing, lead remediation, and the social services to address the lifetime needs of lead poisoned people, a crisis that has been going on for multiple decades. \$85 million could be put toward freeing homes from lead dangers and helping lead poisoned people get the care they need.

Onondaga County needs improved mental healthcare access for all age groups in our community. \$85 million could be put toward hiring mental health professionals and providing the needed care.

Onondaga County needs more affordable, safe, modern housing for families of all sizes. Please don't spend \$85 million to house fish before making sure all members of our community have housing.

Onondaga County has many roads in need of repair. Some of our roads are in such a state of disrepair that they cause car damage, costing us our limited funds for repair. Please fix our roads instead of building an aquarium.

Onondaga County needs more public transportation services for people who cannot drive or cannot afford cars, especially elders in rural areas. Please focus on providing public transportation for county residents before building an aquarium that many of us would not be able to reach.

Onondaga County needs so much, and this unexpected surplus could help begin to address some of our serious problems. The problems left unaddressed affect our safety, our health, our quality of life, and our



8/2/22, 10:59 AM

Re: Fw: please vote "no" to the planned aquarium - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Re: Fw: please vote "no" to the planned aquarium

📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 10:59 AM

RB   RobnDessi Brown <est.2015@homemail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 9:53 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature  
Cc: Ckell1251@gmail.com

👍   ⏮   ⏪   ⏩   ⏭

**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear Onondaga County Legislators,

The community is watching you today. It is unfortunate, but telling, that I have not received any acknowledgement of my emails, let alone a substantive response from my district's legislator. I do still appeal to your common sense and the obligation YOU ALL should have to represent the public interest -- it has become abundantly clear (via petitions, public statements, individual communications such as mine, and today's protest reminding you of all this as you go in to vote) to anyone willing to listen that the public does not find it in its interest to spend this particular pot of money on an aquarium at this time.

Let's instead use it to take care of truly pressing problems our county has.

Respectfully,

Dessi Kirilova  
7165 Opal Drive  
Liverpool, NY 13088

=====

**Sent:** Friday, July 29, 2022 at 10:02 AM  
**From:** "RobnDessi Brown" <est.2015@homemail.com>  
**To:** Ckell1251@gmail.com  
**Cc:** onondagacountylegislature@ongov.net  
**Subject:** Fw: please vote "no" to the planned aquarium

Dear Dr. Kelly,

Since I sent my email earlier this week, I now see that Syracuse.com has listed you as a "confirmed yes vote": <https://www.syracuse.com/news/2022/07/amid-hunt-for-aquarium-votes-onondaga-county-exec-gives-lawmaker-a-housing-project-in-his-district.html>. While I still would urge you to reconsider, at the very least I would expect a response explaining your reasons for supporting this irresponsible spending of the ARPA money. How will ensure that the County is in compliance with the terms of the funding? And what direct benefit do you personally see for the residents of district #14?

As I tried to explain my own thoughts below, the opposition is not to an aquarium as such in principle. It is to the specific proposed way of funding it. Approving the current proposal is wrong; please work with your colleagues in the Legislature and the County Executive to develop an alternative funding approach if you see benefits in the project as a general matter. And make a public statement to let us, the public, know your

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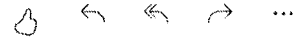
## Opposing the Aquarium

AL

Anne C Leone &lt;aleone@syr.edu&gt;

Tue 8/2/2022 10:05 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



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Hello, I am writing to oppose the aquarium. There are much more important priorities in our city where 85 million dollars could be used - lead paint abatement, affordable housing, reducing gun violence, supporting our schools and teachers, the list could go on and on. If the aquarium is meant to bring business in to the city, why can't a private company fund its own aquarium instead of using our tax dollars? Why are we subsidizing a business endeavor? Best, Anne

Reply


Forward


8/2/22, 11:02 AM





Public Comments at Today's Session - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

 Reply all   Delete  Junk Block ...

## Public Comments at Today's Session

 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:02 AM

 Wendy Van Der Water <WendyW0516@hotmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 10:07 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

    ...

**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Good Morning

I would like to speak at today's meeting relative to the Aquarium vote.

Wendy Van Der Water  
116 Commene Road  
Baldwinsville, NY 13027

Thank you

Sent from Mail for Windows

 Reply

 Forward

8/2/22, 11:03 AM

Aquarium Boondoggle - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Aquarium Boondoggle

📌 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:03 AM

BK

Brandon Kruse <[brandykruse@gmail.com](mailto:brandykruse@gmail.com)>

Tue 8/2/2022 10:16 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏮   ⏪   ⏩   ⏭

**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear Legislators,

I heartily encourage you to vote against today's resolution approving funds for the Inner Harbor Aquarium. How you vote will be remembered come the next election.

best wishes,

Brandon Kruse  
Manlius, New York

--

Brandon Kruse  
[brandykruse@gmail.com](mailto:brandykruse@gmail.com)  
213 399 0718


⏮ Reply

⏩ Forward





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## Aquarium

 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:04 AM

RL   Roseann Lorefice <loreficer@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 10:21 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

            ...

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. Use caution with links and attachments.

One simple message: vote NO!

We have more pressing issues...poverty, lead, infrastructure....and the list goes on.

No, no, no.....

Roseann and George Lorefice  
Manlius,NY

Sent from my iPad

 Reply

 Forward

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## Small Business Opposition to Aquarium

📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:05 AM

AM Andy Mager-SCW <andy@syracuseculturalworkers.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 10:22 AM  
To: Ryan McMahon; Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍 ⏮ ⏮ ⏮ ⋮

📎 SCW Letter Opposing Aquarium...  
324 KB   ▾

**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Good morning,

While I wish I could speak before you this afternoon, the load of work at our small business prevents me from doing so today. Please accept the attached letter as our contribution to the call for investing the excess funds into desperate human needs rather than an Aquarium. I ask that you add my letter to the official minutes of the meeting.

Thanks for your attention to this important matter. Please vote no on the Aquarium this afternoon.

Sincerely,

--

Andy Mager  
*Coordinator and Social Movements Liaison*

phone: 315.474.1132 x22

Pronouns: He, Him, His

[www.SyracuseCulturalWorkers.com](http://www.SyracuseCulturalWorkers.com)

**Tools for Justice and Liberation since 1982**

Operating on land stolen from the sovereign Onondaga Nation, Haudenosaunee Confederacy. And working for justice and Land Back.

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⏮ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

## Vote No on Aquarium

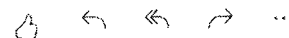
📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:07 AM

ED

Elaine Denton <elainemdenton@gmail.com>

Tue 8/2/2022 10:39 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Onondaga County Legislators,

We have significant issues to address before considering an aquarium. Ryan McMahon doesn't think these issues are important enough to address, instead he wants to risk taxpayer money to build an aquarium. It is our county legislature's job to be the checks and balances, we are counting on you to vote no as this proposal does not have enough details, does not factor in the pandemic or our current economy.

We have been through this time and time again, we built the amphitheater but that is not enough, tax breaks to a mall that is failing, tax breaks to billionaires but no infrastructure to get to these places you are building. How does this make sense?

The "feasibility study" states that a small scale aquarium would not draw enough tourists and a large aquarium would cost too much to succeed. So if you build the wrong size aquarium we will be underwater. I would ask for more studies to be done before giving a 85 million blank check for construction. Where is the process? Where is environmental review, public meetings and comment period?

How will the aquarium attract half million visitors annually when our zoo only attracts a little over 300,000? What happens when that fantasy number is not reached? Where is the contingency plan? Who are we really building this aquarium for?

25% of our families earn less than \$30,000 a year. It would cost a family of 4 over \$75 dollars to visit the aquarium. At least for the first year, as in the "study" it states tickets prices will increase 5% every other year! So Onondaga County residents get to pay 100% for the construction of this aquarium but many of us won't be able to afford tickets.

The County should be focusing attention on providing better human services for residents and taking care of your current employees before adding another wasteful vanity project to our tax bills.

Thank you.

↩ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

## No to the aquarium

① You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:08 AM

EB Elizabeth Fuertes Binder <elizabethfuertesbinder@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 10:45 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ↩   ⏪   ➡   ...

NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. Use caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

As a taxpayer I am opposed to the aquarium.

This money can be used for other things. The zoo also loses money. This is a zoo with water.

There are other programs that this extra money could be helpful too.

Homeless  
Hunger  
Medical outreach to the community  
Helping the community  
Infrastructure

Use this money to refund law enforcement.

This aquarium would be a burden down the road from the finances . Staffing, feeding the animals etc.

Thank you.

Liz Binder

↩ Reply

➡ Forward

⏮ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

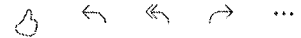
## No to the aquarium

EB

**Elizabeth Fuertes Binder** <elizabethfuertesbinder@gmail.com>

Tue 8/2/2022 10:58 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



NOTICE: This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. Use caution with links and attachments.

Hello,

All aquariums are by big bodies of water (ie. Ocean). Specifically salt water to show visitors what the waters outside the aquarium contain. Sharks, stingrays, octopus, squid, etc. None of the finger lakes or Onondaga Lake have those animals because it is a fresh water lake. Also it costs way more than the amphitheater and maintenance of the aquarium would be constant. Checking water quality, marine health, veterinarian fees, they may even need to hire specific aquatic veterinarians out of the area because the region probably doesn't have any.

Thank you .

Liz Binder

 Reply Forward



8/2/22, 11:10 AM

Subject line can be For the Public Record Regarding DY4. Amending the 2022 County Budget - Office of the Onondaga County L...

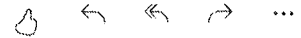
⏮ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

## Subject line can be For the Public Record Regarding DY4. Amending the 2022 County Budget

Jacqueline Foss - Jacqui Foss <aags.jfoss@gmail.com>

Tue 8/2/2022 11:01 AM

To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from **outside** of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

To my Onondaga County Legislators,

Please vote NO on the proposed Inner Harbor Aquarium project.

Our funds need to be used to help the residents of our community. Our county infrastructure is in a state of disrepair, our residents are facing health/mental health concerns, our animal community is bulging at the seams, etc.

Now is NOT the time for this project with the way people and organizations are fighting all financial problems facing us today, "post" pandemic.

Again, I ask please vote NO for this project.

Thank you

Jacqueline Foss

Clay NY

--

\*\*\*\*\*

Jacqueline Foss

Executive Board of Directors,

Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse (AAGS)

[aags.jfoss@gmail.com](mailto:aags.jfoss@gmail.com)

[www.animalallianceofgreatersyracuse.org](http://www.animalallianceofgreatersyracuse.org)

[www.facebook.com/animalalliance](https://www.facebook.com/animalalliance)

315-415-9837 (cell - if no answer, please leave a message.)

⏮ Reply

➡ Forward

8/2/22, 11:13 AM

We do NOT need an aquarium, but there is much that our county residents DO need - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature ...

⏮ Reply all   ▾   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ⋮

## We do NOT need an aquarium, but there is much that our county residents DO need

📘 You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:12 AM

AL   Andra Leimanis <aleimanis@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 11:11 AM  
To: Ryan McMahon  
Cc: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏮   ⏪   ⏩   ⏭

**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear County Executive McMahon and Onondaga County Legislators:

I hope that you will NOT pass the aquarium proposal.

First, the Onondaga Nation does not support an aquarium being built on their ancestral lands.

Second, Onondaga County and Syracuse have many needs that \$85 million could start to address. An aquarium is not one of those needs. Some of our most pressing needs include addressing the lead poisoning of our county's children. We need to take serious, sustained action on this preventable poisoning. Effects of lead poisoning are not reversible; families will be struggling to manage the effects and to support their poisoned family members throughout the poisoned relative's lifetime. And each year over 600 additional children in our county are poisoned by lead. We must address our lead poisoning problem before we can consider spending funds on an aquarium.

Third, we need more investment in health, education, and social services in Onondaga County. These investments will help many residents and have a great potential to improve their life outcomes. An aquarium would not achieve that.

Fourth, the study and business model predicting 1342 visitors to the aquarium every day in one of the most impoverished cities in the United States seems overly optimistic. In fact, several descriptions in the study seem to overstate what is possible and likely to happen (example).

Please help our community thrive by helping residents of our county be healthier and get the services they need. Please invest money to stop the lead poisoning that has been going on for decades and could be prevented.

Sincerely,

Andra Leimanis  
921 Maryland Ave  
Syracuse, NY 13210

↩ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

## For the Public Record Regarding DY 4. Amending the 2022 County Budget to Make Funds Available for Construction of an Aquarium

ⓘ Some content in this message has been blocked because the sender isn't in your Safe senders list.  
I trust content from marciatup@gmail.com. | Show blocked content

MT   **marcia tupper** <marciatup@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 11:19 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ↩   ⏪   ⏩   ...

**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Thank you for this opportunity to express an opinion on the aquarium proposal.

The process by which the aquarium has come to this point is alarming. A taxpayer-funded expenditure of this magnitude has been bulldozed through to a vote without the opportunity for serious public input...*open* forums with proponents...a referendum.

This is political strong-arming, not governing.

Our legislators are entrusted to make wise decisions about enterprising options that will build our economy. I expect them to embrace small- to medium-risk ventures after proper consideration and reasonable input from the public.

The aquarium project, by many expert accounts, is more than a medium-risk project. It fails to have widespread public support. Yet it will use taxpayer dollars to come to fruition.

I add my support to those who ask for those \$85M to be used for underfunded human and infrastructure purposes. I also request that 1% of the \$200M budget surplus be set aside specifically for the development of a system of low-cost, sustainable wellness services for pets of low-income county residents.

Pets? People easily brush off funding requests when the word "pets" is used. The reality is that many tens of thousands of low-income residents are negatively impacted because they live in a pet resource desert. Many would much rather live with cracked windows, peeling floors, and leaking faucets if it meant they could take care of their pets' most basic health needs.

Right now, low-income pet owners have no way to provide vet care. So instead, they agonize as their watch their pets suffer through easily treatable illnesses or die without so much as a way to provide pain relief or humane euthanasia.

Helping people's pets ends up being a human service that reaches deep into thousands of county homes.

8/2/22, 11:29 AM

Oppose the aquarium - Office of the Onondaga County Legislature - Outlook

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## Oppose the aquarium

① You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:28 AM

MH   Mary Beth Hinton <mbhinton2@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 11:28 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature

👍   ⏮   ⏪   ⏩   ⏭

**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Please oppose the aquarium and opt instead to address the many health- and poverty-related problems in our community.

Mary Beth Hinton

⏮ Reply

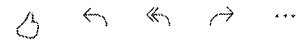
⏩ Forward

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## For Public Record Re: DY4 Amending the 2022 County Budget

① You forwarded this message on Tue 8/2/2022 11:47 AM

SA Sarah Anson <ansonse.19@gmail.com>  
Tue 8/2/2022 11:45 AM  
To: Office of the Onondaga County Legislature



**NOTICE:** This email originated from outside of Onondaga County's email system. **Use caution** with links and attachments.

Dear Legislature,

In response to the proposed plan to build an \$85M aquarium, please vote No.

The fact that County Executive McMahon wants to use COVID relief money for such a project is irresponsible and not doing what is best for the city of Syracuse. As you know, Syracuse has one of the highest poverty rates in the country - at 30% it is double the national average. Couple that with the fact that Syracuse was just voted #1 in child poverty and using \$85M to build a non-essential aquarium is just idiotic, to put it mildly.

Aquariums are not tourist attractions. People do not travel to aquariums as their primary vacation destination. People don't travel TO Boston because of the aquarium - they visit the aquarium *BECAUSE* they are in a huge tourist-attracting city and they got discount coupons with a Whale Tour. Syracuse's Inner Harbor, and the surrounding area, is not a tourist attraction. Destiny USA was supposed to be such a huge tourist attraction that the adjacent hotel would be packed with out of area visitors. With the decline of in-person shopping in favor of Amazon, the hotel sits mostly empty. The surrounding neighborhoods are very unsafe, with abandoned vacant eye-sore buildings and homeless people begging on the corners.

What McMahon and Walsh should do is be responsible and put the money back into the community through:

- Funding Syracuse's underresourced communities, specifically to tackle the 30% poverty rate and the child poverty rate
- Support Syracuse's animal population by working with Animal Alliance of Greater Syracuse to create low-cost spay/neuter clinics to reduce animal overpopulation and get the number of homeless animals under control
- Work with nonprofits to fund programs that work with homeless, addiction, and disabilities communities such as We Rise Above the Streets, Helio Health, ARISE Child and Family Service, OG's Against Gun Violence, etc.
- Support school arts programs - the arts are essential to creating well-rounded students and many schools have minimal arts funding



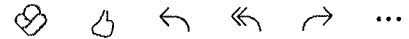
⏪ Reply all   ✓   🗑 Delete   🚫 Junk   Block   ...

## Fw: Aquarium vote



**Jamie McNamara**

Tue 8/2/2022 10:24 AM



To: bfmay6; Tim Burtis; Debra Cody (debjcody@gmail.com); Julie Abbott; Mary Kuhn <mtkuhn@gm

**From:** Jerry and Martha Passamonte <jpassamo@twcny.rr.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 2, 2022 10:22 AM

**To:** Jamie McNamara <JamieMcNamara@ongov.net>

**Subject:** Aquarium vote

Jamie,

I understand public input tonight will have time limits, so please forward this to county legislators. Thank you.

Not too long ago, I saw Ryan McMahon on TV stating that he had not been informed by legislators about any areas that the county was not funding the needs of county residents. Apparently Mr. Garland has told him of needs within his district, but those funds of \$4.5 million come with the cost of a yes vote to spend \$85 million on the aquarium.

Just think of similar needs throughout the county that could be met with the \$85 million going towards projects that would directly meet the needs of county residents. Dealing with lead pipes, lead paint contamination, child care support, and affordable housing would be some ways to utilize these dollars.

I do understand wanting to invest in projects that will bring money into the county, BUT the price tag to build is too high, the maintenance and marketing costs to taxpayers will be high, and from what Bill Hanbury says ... the numbers don't add up in terms of incoming tourism dollars.

Lastly, there are concerns regarding who will run this aquarium. I have read that it is being compared to how the Amphitheater is run. Comparing the amp to the running and marketing of an aquarium is certainly not comparing apples to apples.

This money can help directly with serious needs within our community. Please vote NO.

Sincerely,  
Martha Passamonte

Sent from Mail for Windows

⏪ Reply

⏪ Reply all

➡ Forward

12:35

 5G 

Done

AQUARIUM.docx



What we have witnessed for quite some time here in Onondaga County is a County Executive who believes they have absolute power and control. During the course of his regime, Ryan McMahon has not been very transparent about spending county money. Due to the unbalance in power, and Ryan knowing how to make Legislators happy to get what he wants, this control and power has gone unchecked for too long. Creating essentially a dictatorship instead of a democracy.

These things have had drastic effects on the community, and the employees who serve Onondaga County. We saw recently that the US Department of Labor had to step in and get involved to handle wage theft. This occurred during a pandemic due to the tremendous amount of work that needed to be done, while being extremely short staffed. Instead of paying employees for all the wages earned, they settled in an attempt to avoid personal accountability. By doing this Ryan McMahon shows that he has no business controlling money or being County Executive.

There are entities that could be holding him accountable, but they aren't. Many are playing partisan politics with people's lives, while others maintain the status quo to preserve political relationships. We cannot even rely on those put in place to protect the people who serve Onondaga County. All while being #1 in child poverty.

Children are the future and yet they are continuously disregarded. They need housing, food, education, sense of security, an identity, to be free from lead poisoning, etc. Not an aquarium. 50% of homeless adults were once part of the foster care system. A system that causes trauma and Ryan McMahon has the power to change. Yet instead he just wants to put his name on a building.

There is no transparency currently surrounding the Aquarium. There have been no public hearings or comment periods, and posts on Facebook the County puts out regarding the Aquarium have had comments turned off. Silencing the community on

something he knows we do not want here. Yet wants to spend \$85 million on it, which the taxpayers will most likely have to pay for in the future. \$85 million could go a long way to address the needs of our children in this community.

If we really want to focus on tourism, we have to focus on ourselves first. Poverty needs to come first in what we address here. Along with that comes lead poisoning, housing instability, transportation needs, food insecurity, etc plus we need infrastructure to be able to obtain those things. We may be swimming in money, but our community is drowning. We need to be doing the inner work to make ourselves better. Then maybe people would be more willing to come here and spend their money.

---

August 2, 2022

Motion Made By Mr. May

RESOLUTION NO. 116

### STANDARD WORK DAY AND REPORTING RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the County of Onondaga hereby establishes the following as standard work days for elected and appointed officials and will report the following days worked to the New York State and Local Employees' Retirement System based on the record of activities maintained and submitted by these officials to the Clerk of this Legislature:

L Name	F Name	MI	Title	*Term Begins/Ends	Standard Work Day (hrs/day)	Days/Month (based on Record of Activities)	Tier 1	No record of activities completed
APPOINTED								
McGuire	Lisa	P	Admin Officer	Jan. 1, 2020 - Dec. 31, 2023	7	23.75		

RESOLVED, that, pursuant to the requirements of 2 NYCRR 315.4, the Clerk of this Legislature is hereby directed to cause a copy of this resolution to be publicly posted for at least 30 days after adoption and, thereafter, to transmit this resolution and a supporting affidavit of posting to be filed with the New York State Office of the Comptroller within 15 days after the 30 day public posting period ends.

\*Reflects the term of the Elected or Appointed Official making the appointment

ADOPTED 8/2/22



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the legislation duly adopted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022.

Clerk, County Legislature

**AUGUST 2, 2022  
SESSION**

**No. 116**

<b>LEGISLATORS</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>NOES:</b>	<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>EXCUSED:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1. MAY</b>					
<b>8. RYAN</b>					
<b>9. CHASE</b>					
<b>10. OLSON</b>					
<b>11. MCBRIDE</b>					
<b>12. KNAPP</b>					
<b>13. BUSH</b>					
<b>14. KELLY</b>					
<b>15. KINNE</b>					
<b>16. GARLAND</b>					
<b>17. ERVIN</b>					
<b>3. BURTIS</b>					
<b>4. GUNNIP</b>					
<b>5. CODY</b>					
<b>6. ABBOTT</b>					
<b>7. KUHN</b>					
<b>2. ROWLEY</b>					
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

August 2, 2022

Motion Made By Mr. May

RESOLUTION NO. 117

CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2023 COUNTY BUDGET

RESOLVED, that for the fiscal year 2023, the Onondaga County Legislature hereby calls a Public Hearing to be held by the Ways and Means Committee on the Proposed County Budget, the Capital Program, the Budget Message, and the Schedule of Rates to be Charged for Water and Water Service provided by the Onondaga County Water District, where such items have been submitted for review by the Ways and Means Committee, consistent with Article VI of the Onondaga County Charter and Administrative Code and Resolution No. 162-2014, together with any reports as may be issued by the Ways and Means Committee in connection with its review of such items; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the annual salaries to be fixed and paid to the Onondaga County Legislators within fiscal year 2023 shall be established by the Legislature following submission of the Onondaga County Executive's proposed budget, legislative review of the proposed budget, report thereon by the Ways and Means Committee pursuant to section 603 of the County Charter, and completion of the Public Hearing on the proposed budget noticed hereby pursuant to section 604 of the County Charter, and shall be consistent with the budget and levy adopted pursuant to sections 605 and 606 of the County Charter, provided, however, that any salaries so fixed may be subsequently modified in such manner and by such mechanisms as may be consistent with applicable law, and provided further that in no event shall the salaries so established exceed \$65,000 for any Legislator for the 2023 fiscal year; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that such Public Hearing shall be held at the Legislative Chambers in the County Courthouse, 401 Montgomery Street, Syracuse, New York, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

ADOPTED 8/2/2022



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the legislation duly adopted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022.

A blue ink signature, appearing to be "Jm", is written over a horizontal line.

Clerk, County Legislature



**AUGUST 2, 2022  
SESSION**

**No. 117**

**LEGISLATORS**

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**EXCUSED:**

**2**

**1. MAY**

**8. RYAN**

**9. CHASE**

**10. OLSON**

**11. MCBRIDE**

**12. KNAPP**

**13. BUSH**

**14. KELLY**

**15. KINNE**

**16. GARLAND**

**17. ERVIN**

**3. BURTIS**

**4. GUNNIP**

**5. CODY**

**6. ABBOTT**

**7. KUHN**

**2. ROWLEY**

**TOTAL:**

**17**

**0**

**0**

**0**

August 2, 2022

Motion Made By Mr. Rowley

RESOLUTION NO. 118

### AMENDING THE RULES OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

WHEREAS, it is the desire of this Legislature to amend the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature to use gender-neutral and inclusive language, clarify intent, and better align the Rules with the Onondaga County Charter; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Rule 2 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 2. Special Sessions of the County Legislature shall, upon filing with the Clerk of a request therefore, be initiated by: A. the Chairperson, Majority Leader and Minority Leader, or B. a majority of all the members of the Legislature; to be called by the Clerk of the County Legislature by emailing each member at least three (3) days before the date of such session a written notice thereof stating the date, time, and purpose of such session. Special Sessions of the County Legislature shall, upon filing with the Clerk of a request therefore, also be initiated by: C. two-thirds of all of the members of the Legislature to be called by the Clerk of the County Legislature by emailing each member before the time of such session conveying the date, time, and purpose of such special session pursuant to the Open Meetings Law. A member may waive the service of notice for a special session by a writing signed by the member.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 3 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 3. The Order of business at each day's Session, except at such times as may be set apart for the consideration of special orders of the day, shall be as follows:

1. Calling the roll of members by the Clerk.
2. Reading and approval of the minutes of the proceedings of the previous session.
3. Presentation of Communications.
  - a. Chairperson's Remarks.
  - b. Public Comment.
4. Reports of Standing Committees.
5. Reports of Special Committees.
6. Calling the respective legislative districts for the presentation of petitions and resolutions. Provided, however, that the Clerk shall rotate on a monthly basis the order of calling the respective legislative districts for the presentation of resolutions and petitions by calling a different district each month to be the first and last to present resolutions and petitions, commencing in the first month of the term by calling district one first and district seventeen last, and proceeding consecutively each month to call successive districts first and last.

No petition or resolution shall be received unless it shall have first been considered by a standing, special, or sub-committee of this Legislature. No petition or resolution shall be received except under this call unless consented to by a majority vote.

8. Introduction of Local Laws or Ordinances. (*Note: Need not go through committee*)
9. Unfinished Business.

10. Announcements from the Chair.
11. Adjournment.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 8 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 8. All petitions, resolutions, local laws, ordinances and reports of Committees and communications shall be in writing and read by the Clerk of the County Legislature or by a person designated by the Clerk, and shall be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature not later than 11:00 a.m. of the Monday of the week preceding any regular meeting, and 11:00 a.m. three (3) days preceding any special meeting, or adjourned meeting. Amendments of the foregoing shall be presented to the County Legislature not later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of any regular, special, or adjourned meeting. The provisions of the foregoing in reference to filing of petitions, resolutions, local laws, ordinances, amendments thereto, reports of Committees and communications, may be waived by a majority vote of the County Legislature members present and voting. All petitions, resolutions, local law, ordinances and amendments thereto will be provided to the County Attorney, or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter, for review and approval as to form and legality. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the Chairperson of the County Legislature, upon a finding by the Chairperson that a conflict of interest may be present or that it is in the best interest of the County Legislature, from using outside counsel or a specifically designated Legislative Counsel to provide legal assistance, including, but not limited to, the preparation of resolutions, ordinances, legalizing acts and local laws to be presented for action by the County Legislature. Such outside counsel or specifically designated Legislative Counsel may, but are not required to, seek the advice of the County Attorney as to form and legality in the preparation of resolutions, ordinances, legalizing acts and local laws.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 10 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 10. All resolutions, ordinances and local laws, whether or not previously referred to an appropriate committee, may, when tabled pursuant to Rule 9, be referred to such appropriate Committee without debate, unless waived by a majority of the County Legislature members present and voting. The Committee Chair may request an opinion from the County Attorney, or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter, on the legality of the proposed legislation prior to consideration by the Committee.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 11 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 11. When a question shall be under consideration, no motion shall be received except as herein specified, which motion shall have precedence in the order named, to wit:

1. For an adjournment or recess of the County Legislature.
2. A call of the County Legislature.
3. For the previous question.
4. To lay on the table.
5. To postpone indefinitely.

6. To postpone to a certain day.
7. To go into a committee of the whole on pending subject immediately.
8. To refer to a committee of the whole.
9. To refer to a standing committee.
10. To refer to a special committee.
11. To amend.

All motions for an adjournment or recess, for the previous question, or to lay on the table, shall neither be amended nor debatable.

No motion shall be made, except a motion to adjourn or recess, and no votes shall be taken except a vote to adjourn or recess, between the hours of midnight and 8:00 a.m.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 15 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 15. No motion for reconsideration shall be in order unless made on the same day, or the meeting day next succeeding that on which the decision proposed to be reconsidered took place. A motion to reconsider must be made by a member who voted with the majority on the decision of the motion or resolution proposed to be reconsidered. When a motion to reconsider has been decided, it shall not again be submitted within the same term of the current Legislature. A twice defeated resolution cannot be reoffered for a period of six months, unless the majority of the members of the proper committee shall recommend the reoffering of said resolution. The committee Chair may request an opinion from the County Attorney, or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter, on the similarity and legality of the proposed legislation prior to the consideration thereof by the proper committee.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 16 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 16. In case the Chairperson is to be absent for not more than one (1) day at a time, the Chairperson may appoint a member of the County Legislature to be acting Chairperson. If the Chairperson shall be absent for a longer time, the County Legislature shall elect a temporary Chairperson, and if at any time no presiding officer shall be present, the County Legislature may elect a temporary Chairperson. The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the County Legislature, entitled to the same rights and privileges as other members of said committees except the right to vote. The Majority and Minority leaders shall be ex-officio members of all Committees of the County Legislature, entitled to the same rights and privileges as other members of said committees except the right to vote when not appointed on the committee. The Majority and Minority Leaders respectively shall be designated by a majority of the members of the Majority and Minority respectively, directed to the Chairperson of the County Legislature in writing.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 17 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 17. The Chairperson shall take the chair promptly at the hour specified for the convening of the County Legislature, and shall preserve order and decorum. In debate, the Chairperson shall prevent personal reflections and confine members to the question under discussion. When two or more members arise at the same time, the Chairperson shall recognize the one entitled to the floor. The Chairperson shall decide all questions of order, which decisions shall be final unless an appeal is taken to the County Legislature and sustained.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 18 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 18. On every appeal, the Chairperson shall have the right to assign reasons for the Chairperson's decision. In case of such appeal, no member shall speak more than once. The Chairperson shall then put the question: "Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?", which question shall be decided by a majority of the members present on the aye and no vote.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 19 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 19. In all cases, except appeals from the rulings of the Chair, the Chairperson shall have the right to vote. When the County Legislature shall be equally divided on any questions, including the Chairperson's vote, the question shall be deemed defeated.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 20 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 20. While the Chairperson is putting a question, or while the roll is being called, no member shall speak or leave the member's place.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 22 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 22. All questions relative to priority of business shall be decided by the Chairperson without debate, and the Chairperson's decision shall be final unless reversed by a majority of the members then in attendance.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 24 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 24. No member shall speak more than five minutes with a three minute rebuttal period at any one time on the same question, speaking and rebuttal periods each being limited to one on the same question. After a member has exceeded any of the debating limitations of this rule, any member, including the Chairperson, can invoke this rule which must be supported by a majority vote of the members present and voting. The question shall be as follows and shall be decided without debate: "Shall Rule 24 be enforced?"

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 26 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 26. Persons, not members of the County Legislature, may, by the consent of the Chairperson, be given the privileges of the floor to speak in regard to matters pending before the County Legislature. In addition to the foregoing, at the commencement of each Session there shall be a period of up to thirty (30) minutes during which members of the public may address the Legislature on any items on the Session Agenda and on any issues germane to the business of the Legislature as determined by the Chairperson. Persons so addressing the Legislature may speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes. These time limits may be waived by the Chairperson. Those persons desiring to address the Legislature must make application to the Clerk of the Legislature prior to the commencement of Session.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 30 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 30. Oral motions shall be put to vote with a second in regard to resolutions, local laws, ordinances, and amendments (all other oral motions shall not require a second, and a vote would be taken following the Rules of this County Legislature or Robert's Rules of Order), and written motions on resolutions shall be put to vote without being seconded, and if there be no objection to the motions and resolutions when read, they shall be adopted with a roll call to be taken in one of the following manners decided by the Chairperson: (a) the Clerk shall call the name of each County Legislator present; (b) the Clerk shall call the name of the County Legislator whose surname shall be first alphabetically, then the Majority Leader, the Minority Leader, and the County Legislator whose surname shall be last alphabetically.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 31 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 31. The ayes and noes shall be taken on any question whenever so required by any member and whenever so taken shall be entered in the proceedings of the County Legislature, and the Clerk shall record the names of the members and the way they shall have respectively voted. The Clerk shall take and record the ayes and noes, commencing with the Floor Leaders, the legislative districts, and then the Chairperson of the Legislature. Provided, however, that the Clerk shall rotate on a monthly basis the order of taking and recording the ayes and noes for the legislative districts by calling a different district to vote first and last each month, with the Clerk commencing in the first month of the term by calling district one



first and district seventeen last, and proceeding consecutively each month to call successive districts first and last. In every instance, the Floor Leaders shall be called to cast the first and second vote, rotating monthly which Floor Leader shall cast the first and which Floor Leader shall cast the second vote, and the Chairperson shall be called to cast the last vote.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 33 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 33. Every member who shall be in the room when a question is stated by the chair, shall vote thereon, unless excused with the consent of at least two-thirds of the members present, or unless if a member be personally interested in the question in which case the member may, upon request, be excused by the Chairperson from voting.

As the name of each legislator is called, the legislator shall, unless excused from the vote, respond by voting “aye”, “yes”, or “no” and no other response shall be permitted.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 37 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 37. The following Standing Committees, including the committee Chair, Vice Chair and members, shall be appointed by the permanent Chairperson within twenty (20) days after the Chairperson’s election, and a list of such Committees shall forthwith be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature. There shall be five (5) members on the Standing Committees and seven (7) members on the Ways and Means Committee.

STANDING COMMITTEE:

County Facilities

Environmental Protection

Health and Human Services

ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT:

Facilities Management, Parks and Recreation, Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Department of Transportation, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, Onondaga County Community College, Onondaga County Public Library, OnCenter Complex, Financial Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein), Physical Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein).

Office of Environment, Water Environment Protection, Metropolitan Water Board, Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency, Onondaga County Water Authority, Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Health Department, Office of Environmental Health, Medical Examiner, Council on Environmental Health, Adult and Long Term Care Services, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Social Services - Economic Security, Veterans Service Agency, Mental Health Services, Hillbrook Detention Facility, Assigned Counsel Program, Hiscock Legal Aid Bureau,

Human Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein).

Planning and Economic Development

Agricultural Districts, Office of Economic Development and Associated Boards, Division of Community Development, Information Technology, Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, Onondaga County Civic Development Corporation, Trust for the Cultural Resources of Onondaga County, Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency, Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation, Centerstate CEO, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Visit Syracuse.

Public Safety

District Attorney, Emergency Management Department, Emergency Communications (E-911), Commissioner of Jurors, Sheriff's Office, Probation, Justice Center Oversight Committee.

Ways and Means

Board of Elections, Civil Service, CNY Works, Comptroller, County Clerk, County Executive, County Legislature, Employee Relations, Finance Department, Law Department, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Division of Purchase, Personnel, Human Rights Commission, Risk Management, Americanization League.

Each standing committee of this Legislature shall review only those resolutions, local laws, propositions, or issues which relate to the corresponding administrative units designated hereinabove. In the event that there is a question as to which committee shall properly review a resolution, local law, proposition or issue, the Chairperson of the Legislature shall decide which standing committee is to review the same.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 38 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 38. The committees so appointed by the Chairperson shall have general and supervisory charge of all matters pertaining to the operation of the respective departments of the County Government over which they have supervision. It shall be the duty of each member of the Committees to become familiar with the work of departments or agencies of County Government entrusted to each of such committee. Each such Committee by majority vote shall have the power to subpoena witnesses and to investigate in such manner as seems best, the particular department or agency of County Government under its supervision and to that end may, if occasion demand, take sworn statements from any county employees of the County on any matter affecting the proper, economical and lawful operation of the department under investigation.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 39 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 39. The Chairperson of the County Legislature and all members of each Committee, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the County Legislature shall receive notice of all meetings and any agenda pertaining hereto, but only the members of the respective committees shall be entitled to vote on any and all propositions before the same.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 39a of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 39a. The order of business at each meeting of a standing committee of the legislature shall be as follows:

1. Reading and approval of the minutes of the proceedings of the previous meeting.
2. Presentation of resolutions and local laws.
3. Adjournment.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 40 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 40. The Chairperson shall appoint all members of Standing and Special Committees. The Chairperson shall also fill all vacancies in said committees from the membership of the County Legislature. The Chairperson shall decide which standing, special or subcommittee is to review a local law, resolution or proposition where not provided for by these rules.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 41 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 41. All members of standing committees of the County Legislature shall continue in office until their successors have been appointed, but nothing herein contained shall be construed to allow any person to continue to serve upon any committee after said member shall have ceased to be a member of said County Legislature. The Chairperson of the County Legislature shall fill any vacancy occurring in any standing committee by appointment as soon as practicable. The Chairperson may at any time on the Chairperson's own motion refer any resolution, when offered, to such committee as the Chairperson deems proper.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 43 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 43. The County Legislature may, at any time when in Session, by a majority vote of those present, resolve itself into a committee of the whole on any subject before it, and in such case, the Chairperson shall designate some member to preside for such purpose.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 45 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 45. If at any time when the Committee of the Whole it be ascertained that there is no quorum, the Committee Chair shall immediately report the fact to the Chairperson of the County Legislature.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 50 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 50. All requests and applications for salary or wage increases of county employees, when presented to the County Legislature, shall be referred by the Chairperson to the Ways and Means Committee. The Ways and Means Committee shall not act upon such salary request until such request has been reviewed by the administrative head concerned, the Commissioner of Personnel, the Chief Fiscal Officer and the County Executive.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 51 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 51. The Organizational Meeting of the Onondaga County Legislature shall convene within the first day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, in the month of January of the calendar year next succeeding the General Election at which the Legislators have been elected to the County Legislature, and shall at that meeting elect a Chairperson and Clerks for the term of office for which the members of the County Legislature were elected. Provided, however, that Organizational Meeting may be convened within the first three days, other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, in the month of January when so designated in writing by the Chairperson of the County Legislature. A written notice of the date and time of the organization meeting shall be given to each Legislator by the Clerk of the County Legislature at least four days prior to said meeting. Thereafter, the County Legislature shall operate under the Rules of the previous Legislature until such times as new rules are adopted by the Legislative body.

and, be it further

RESOLVED, that Rule 52 of the Rules of the Onondaga County Legislature is hereby amended to read as follows:

RULE 52. Procedure for organization meeting: The Clerk of the County Legislature last elected shall act as Chair pro tem. The Chair pro tem shall call the County Legislature to order and call the roll, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Whereupon the Chair pro tem shall declare: "The first order of business is the election of the Chairperson". Nominations for the office of Chairperson shall then be taken from the floor and such nominations must be seconded. Before proceeding to an election, the Chair pro tem shall inquire if there are any further nominations. If there is no response, the Chair pro tem shall declare the nominations closed. Voting shall be by full roll call with each legislator, when the legislator's name is called, declaring the name of the candidate of the legislator's choice who has been duly nominated and seconded. Voting shall

continue until a candidate receives a majority vote of the whole number of members of the County Legislature; whereupon the Chair pro tem shall declare the duly elected Chairperson. Upon election, the Chairperson shall immediately assume all duties and responsibilities of the office and shall continue to act in such capacity until the termination of office.

The Chairperson shall then preside over the election of the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the County Legislature subject to the same procedure and vote. Upon election, the Clerks shall immediately assume all duties and responsibilities of the office of the County Legislature.

ADOPTED 8/2/2022



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the legislation duly adopted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Jm", written in a cursive style.

Clerk, County Legislature

# **THE RULES OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

## **SECTION 1 - GENERAL**

	<b><u>RULES</u></b>
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<b>Sub. B Legislation</b>	<b>6 - 10</b>
<b>Sub. C Motions</b>	<b>11 - 15</b>
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## **SECTION 2 - COMMITTEES**

<b><u>RULES</u></b>
<b>37 – 42a.</b>

## **SECTION 3 - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

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<b><u>RULES</u></b>
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## **SECTION 5 - ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

<b><u>RULES</u></b>
<b>1 - 52</b>

## SECTION 1.

### A. MEETINGS.

Res. 2 - 1.5.21

**RULE 1.** Regular Sessions of the County Legislature shall be held on the first Tuesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. except when such Tuesday shall fall on the Legal Holiday, in which case the Session shall be held on the next following business day, or when such Tuesday is Election Day, the Session shall be held on the Thursday following. The date or time of a regular Session may be changed in the same manner as the scheduling of a special session pursuant to Rule 2, or by a motion duly passed by a majority of the whole number of the County Legislature. Each regular session and all adjourned regular sessions shall be open for the consideration of any matter which may properly be brought to the attention of the County Legislature.

**RULE 2.** Special Sessions of the County Legislature shall, upon filing with the Clerk of a request therefore, be initiated by: **A.** the Chairperson, Majority Leader and Minority Leader, or **B.** a majority of all the members of the Legislature; to be called by the Clerk of the County Legislature by emailing each member at least three (3) days before the date of such session a written notice thereof stating the date, time, and purpose of such session. Special Sessions of the County Legislature shall, upon filing with the Clerk of a request therefore, also be initiated by: **C.** two-thirds of all of the members of the Legislature to be called by the Clerk of the County Legislature by emailing each member before the time of such session conveying the date, time, and purpose of such special session pursuant to Open Meetings Law. A member may waive the service of notice for a special session by a writing signed by the member.

Res. 43 - 3.12.98

**RULE 3.** The Order of business at each day's Session, except at such times as may be set apart for the consideration of special orders of the day, shall be as follows:

1. Calling the roll of members by the Clerk.
2. Reading and approval of the minutes of the proceedings of the previous session.
3. Presentation of Communications.
  - a. Chairperson's Remarks.
  - b. Public Comment.
4. Reports of Standing Committees.
5. Reports of Special Committees.
6. Calling the respective legislative districts for the presentation of petitions and resolutions. Provided, however, that the Clerk shall rotate on a monthly basis the order of calling the respective legislative districts for the presentation of resolutions and petitions by calling a different district each month to be the first and last to present resolutions and petitions, commencing in the first month of the term by calling district one first and district seventeen last, and proceeding consecutively each month to call successive districts first and last.



No petition or resolution shall be received unless it shall have first been considered by a standing, special, or sub-committee of this Legislature. No petition or resolution shall be received except under this call unless consented to by a majority vote.

8. Introduction of Local Laws or Ordinances. *(Note: Need not go through committee)*
9. Unfinished Business.
10. Announcements from the Chair.
11. Adjournment.

**RULE 4.** On roll call, the Clerk shall record by names all members present or absent.

**RULE 5.** The majority of the whole number of the County Legislature as defined in Section 105-i of the Charter shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, but a lesser number may adjourn.

## **B. LEGISLATION.**

**Res. 215 - 9.3.91**

**RULE 6.** The title to all resolutions, local laws and ordinances shall state concisely the subject matter of all such legislation. All resolutions, local laws, and ordinances shall be introduced only by a member of the County Legislature. The name of the Legislative sponsor of a local law shall be designated on the session agenda and on a cover sheet to such local law distributed in accordance with Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**RULE 7.** No resolution, local law or ordinance shall be introduced in the County Legislature except in one of the following modes:

1. Under the order of introduction of resolutions, local laws or ordinances.
2. By majority consent.
3. By report of committee.

**Res. 49 - 5.1.18**

**RULE 8.** All petitions, resolutions, local laws, ordinances and reports of Committees and communications shall be in writing and read by the Clerk of the County Legislature or by a person designated by the Clerk, and shall be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature not later than 11:00 a.m. of the Monday of the week preceding any regular meeting, and 11:00 a.m. three (3) days preceding any special meeting, or adjourned meeting. Amendments of the foregoing shall be presented to the County Legislature not later than 11:00 a.m. on the day of any regular, special, or adjourned meeting. The provisions of the foregoing in reference to filing of petitions, resolutions, local laws, ordinances, amendments thereto, reports of Committees and communications, may be waived by a majority vote of the County Legislature members present and voting. All petitions, resolutions, local law, ordinances and amendments thereto will be provided to the County Attorney, *or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter,* for review and

approval as to form and legality. Nothing contained herein shall prohibit the Chairperson of the County Legislature, upon a finding by the Chairperson that a conflict of interest may be present or that it is in the best interest of the County Legislature, from using outside counsel or a specifically designated Legislative Counsel to provide legal assistance, including, but not limited to, the preparation of resolutions, ordinances, legalizing acts and local laws to be presented for action by the County Legislature. Such outside counsel or specifically designated Legislative Counsel may, but are not required to, seek the advice of the County Attorney as to form and legality in the preparation of resolutions, ordinances, legalizing acts and local laws.

**RULE 9.** Resolutions and reports of standing or special committees may be tabled by a majority vote at any time before final action is taken.

**RULE 10.** All resolutions, ordinances and local laws, whether or not previously referred to an appropriate committee, may, when tabled pursuant to Rule 9, be referred to such appropriate Committee without debate, unless waived by a majority of the County Legislature members present and voting. The Committee Chair may request an opinion from the County Attorney, or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter, on the legality of the proposed legislation prior to consideration by the Committee.

## C. MOTIONS.

Res. 12 - 2.1.93

**RULE 11.** When a question shall be under consideration, no motion shall be received except as herein specified, which motion shall have precedence in the order named, to wit:

1. For an adjournment or recess of the County Legislature.
2. A call of the County Legislature.
3. For the previous question.
4. To lay on the table.
5. To postpone indefinitely.
6. To postpone to a certain day.
7. To go into a committee of the whole on pending subject immediately.
8. To refer to a committee of the whole.
9. To refer to a standing committee.
10. To refer to a special committee.
11. To amend.

All motions for an adjournment or recess, for the previous question, or to lay on the table, shall neither be amended nor debatable.

No motion shall be made, except a motion to adjourn or recess, and no votes shall be taken except a vote to adjourn or recess, between the hours of midnight and 8:00 a.m.

**RULE 12.** A motion to rise and report progress shall be in order at any stage, and shall be decided without debate.

Res. 215 - 9.3.91

**RULE 13.** Any motion, resolution or local law offered by any member may be withdrawn by the member presenting it at any time before it is put to a vote or an amendment to such motion, resolution or local law has been adopted.

A member of the Legislature may object to a motion or resolution being withdrawn or amended by a sponsor with respect to any motion or resolution approved by a standing committee. A member of the Legislature may object to a local law being withdrawn with respect to any local law which has been introduced in accordance with these rules and Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

**RULE 14.** The “previous question” shall be as follows: “Shall the main question now be put” and until it is decided shall preclude all amendments and debate. When the County Legislature shall order the previous questions, and amendments are pending, the question shall first be taken upon such amendments in reverse order, and then upon the main question without further debate or amendment.

**RULE 15.** No motion for reconsideration shall be in order unless made on the same day, or the meeting day next succeeding that on which the decision proposed to be reconsidered took place. A motion to reconsider must be made by a member who voted with the majority on the decision of the motion or resolution proposed to be reconsidered. When a motion to reconsider has been decided, it shall not again be submitted within the same term of the current Legislature. A twice defeated resolution cannot be reoffered for a period of six months, unless the majority of the members of the proper committee shall recommend the reoffering of said resolution. The committee Chair may request an opinion from the County Attorney, or outside counsel pursuant to the County Charter, on the similarity and legality of the proposed legislation prior to the consideration thereof by the proper committee.

#### D. **CHAIRPERSON**

**RULE 16.** In case the Chairperson is to be absent for not more than one (1) day at a time, the Chairperson may appoint a member of the County Legislature to be acting Chairperson. If the Chairperson shall be absent for a longer time, the County Legislature shall elect a temporary Chairperson, and if at any time no presiding officer shall be present, the County Legislature may elect a temporary Chairperson. The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the County Legislature, entitled to the same rights and privileges as other members of said committees except the right to vote. The Majority and Minority leaders shall be ex-officio members of all Committees of the County Legislature, entitled to the same rights and privileges as other members of said committees except the right to vote when not appointed on the committee. The Majority and Minority

Leaders respectively shall be designated by a majority of the members of the Majority and Minority respectively, directed to the **Chairperson** of the County Legislature in writing.

**RULE 17.** The **Chairperson** shall take the chair promptly at the hour specified for the convening of the County Legislature, and shall preserve order and decorum. In debate, the **Chairperson** shall prevent personal reflections and confine members to the question under discussion. When two or more members arise at the same time, the **Chairperson** shall recognize the one entitled to the floor. The **Chairperson** shall decide all questions of order, which decisions shall be final unless an appeal is taken to the County Legislature and sustained.

**RULE 18.** On every appeal, the **Chairperson** shall have the right to assign reasons for the **Chairperson's** decision. In case of such appeal, no member shall speak more than once. The **Chairperson** shall then put the question: "Shall the ruling of the Chair be sustained?", which question shall be decided by a majority of the members present on the aye and no vote.

**RULE 19.** In all cases, except appeals from the rulings of the Chair, the **Chairperson** shall have the right to vote. When the County Legislature shall be equally divided on any questions, including the **Chairperson's** vote, the question shall be deemed **defeated**.

**RULE 20.** While the **Chairperson** is putting a question, or while the roll is being called, no member shall speak or leave **the member's** place.

**RULE 21.** If the resolution, local law or ordinance in debate contains several distinct propositions, the same may be divided by the Chair at the request of any member, to the end that a vote may be taken on each proposition, but a motion to strike out and insert shall be deemed indivisible.

**RULE 22.** All questions relative to priority of business shall be decided by the **Chairperson** without debate, and the **Chairperson's** decision shall be final unless reversed by a majority of the members then in attendance.

## **E. PROCEDURE.**

**RULE 23.** All questions of order and procedure arising in the County Legislature and not governed by the Rules of the County Legislature, Charter or Administrative Code, shall be subject to and interpreted by Roberts Rules of Order, Newly Revised as far as applicable.

**Res. 9 - 1.4.10**

**RULE 24.** No member shall speak more than five minutes with a three minute rebuttal period at any one time on the same question, speaking and rebuttal periods each being limited to one on the same question. After a member has exceeded any of the

debating limitations of this rule, any member, including the **Chairperson**, can invoke this rule which must be supported by a majority vote of the members present and voting. The question shall be as follows and shall be decided without debate: “Shall Rule 24 be enforced?”

**RULE 25.** When any member of the County Legislature shall desire to speak, the member shall arise and obtain recognition from the chair before proceeding.

Res. 22 - 2.5.96

**RULE 26.** Persons, not members of the County Legislature, may, by the consent of the **Chairperson**, be given the privileges of the floor to speak in regard to matters pending before the County Legislature. In addition to the foregoing, **at the commencement of each Session, there shall be a period of up to thirty (30) minutes during which members of the public** may address the Legislature on any items on the Session Agenda and on any issues germane to the business of the Legislature **as determined by the Chairperson**. Persons so addressing the Legislature may speak for a maximum of five (5) minutes. These time limits may be waived by the **Chairperson**. Those persons desiring to address the Legislature must make application to the Clerk of the Legislature prior to the commencement of Session.

**RULE 27.** All resolutions, local laws and ordinances shall be engrossed by the Clerk in the order in which they have been directed by the County Legislature to be engrossed.

**RULE 28.** A register shall be made by the Clerk of all resolutions, local laws and ordinances introduced in the County Legislature, in which shall be recorded under appropriate heads, the progress of all such resolutions, local laws and ordinances. The Clerk shall also keep a General Index of all ordinances of a permanent nature.

**RULE 29.** Every local law or ordinance shall be adopted pursuant to the provisions of Article 3, Section 20 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

## F. VOTING.

**RULE 30.** **Oral motions shall be put to vote with a second in regard to resolutions, local laws, ordinances, and amendments, (all other oral motions shall not require a second, and a vote would be taken following the Rules of this County Legislature or Robert’s Rules of Order), and written motions on resolutions shall be put to vote without being seconded, and if there be no objection to the motions and resolutions when read, they shall be adopted with a roll call to be taken in one of the following manners decided by the Chairperson: (a) the Clerk shall call the name of each County Legislator present; (b) the Clerk shall call the name of the County Legislator whose surname shall be first alphabetically, then the Majority Leader, the Minority Leader, and the County Legislator whose surname shall be last alphabetically.**

Res. 131 - 3.5.79

**RULE 30a.** If there is no objection by a member, amendments to local laws, resolutions or ordinances may be accepted by the sponsor without a separate vote on such amendment; otherwise, any amendment shall be separately put to a vote.

Res. 43 - 3.2.98

**RULE 31.** The ayes and noes shall be taken on any question whenever so required by any member and whenever so taken shall be entered in the proceedings of the County Legislature, and the Clerk shall record the names of the members and the way they shall have respectively voted. The Clerk shall take and record the ayes and noes, commencing with the Floor Leaders, the legislative districts, and then the **Chairperson** of the Legislature. Provided, however, that the Clerk shall rotate on a monthly basis the order of taking and recording the ayes and noes for the legislative districts by calling a different district to vote first and last each month, with the Clerk commencing in the first month of the term by calling district one first and district **seventeen** last, and proceeding consecutively each month to call successive districts first and last. In every instance, the Floor Leaders shall be called to cast the first and second vote, rotating monthly which Floor Leader shall cast the first and which Floor Leader shall cast the second vote, and the **Chairperson** shall be called to cast the last vote.

Res. 177 - 6.5.89

**RULE 32.** All Resolutions, Ordinances and Local Laws or Amendments thereto shall be in writing, with votes taken by Ayes and Noes, and shall require a majority vote of the whole number of the County Legislature unless a higher number is required by Charter, Code, these rules, or applicable statute. Oral motions may be adopted by a majority of the members present and voting unless a higher number is required by Charter, Code, these rules, or applicable statute.

Res. 399 - 12.18.00

**RULE 32a.** Any resolution or amendment thereto for the purpose of naming a county building in Onondaga County shall require the affirmative vote of two-thirds the whole number of the County Legislature.

**RULE 33.** Every member who shall be in the room when a question is stated by the chair, shall vote thereon, unless excused with the consent of at least two-thirds of the members present, or unless if a member be personally interested in the question in which case the member may, upon request, be excused by the **Chairperson** from voting.

As the name of each legislator is called, the legislator shall, unless excused from the vote, respond by voting “aye”, “yes”, or “no” and no other response shall be permitted.

## **G. RULES OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

**RULE 34.** The foregoing rules when adopted by a majority vote of the members present and voting shall immediately become the Rules of this County Legislature.

**RULE 35.** These Rules shall not be altered or amended except by a majority vote of the Legislators present, accompanied by a written or printed copy of the proposed alterations or amendments.

Res. 692 - 12.28.79

**RULE 36.** These rules may at any time during the session be suspended by a majority vote of the members present and voting, provided however, that the member making application for such suspension must state the purpose for which the same is asked.

## SECTION 2. COMMITTEES.

Res. 207 - 12.17.19

**RULE 37.** The following Standing Committees, including the committee Chair, Vice Chair and members, shall be appointed by the permanent Chairperson within twenty (20) days after the Chairperson's election, and a list of such Committees shall forthwith be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature. There shall be five (5) members on the Standing Committees and seven (7) members on the Ways and Means Committee.

### STANDING COMMITTEE:

County Facilities

Environmental Protection

Health and Human Services

### ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT:

Facilities Management, Parks and Recreation, Rosamond Gifford Zoo at Burnet Park, Department of Transportation, Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, Onondaga County Community College, Onondaga County Public Library, OnCenter Complex, Financial Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein), Physical Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein).

Office of Environment, Water Environment Protection, Metropolitan Water Board, Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency, Onondaga County Water Authority, Onondaga County Soil & Water Conservation District.

Health Department, Office of Environmental Health, Medical Examiner, Council on Environmental Health, Adult and Long Term Care Services, Department of Children and Family Services, Department of Social Services - Economic Security, Veterans Service Agency, Mental Health Services, Hillbrook Detention Facility, Assigned



	Counsel Program, Hiscock Legal Aid Bureau, Human Services Authorized Agencies (unless otherwise provided herein).
Planning and Economic Development	Agricultural Districts, Office of Economic Development and Associated Boards, Division of Community Development, Information Technology, Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency, Onondaga County Civic Development Corporation, Trust for the Cultural Resources of Onondaga County, Syracuse-Onondaga County Planning Agency, Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board, Greater Syracuse Property Development Corporation, Centerstate CEO, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Visit Syracuse.
Public Safety	District Attorney, Emergency Management Department, Emergency Communications (E-911), Commissioner of Jurors, Sheriff's Office, Probation, Justice Center Oversight Committee.
Ways and Means	Board of Elections, Civil Service, CNY Works, Comptroller, County Clerk, County Executive, County Legislature, Employee Relations, Finance Department, Law Department, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, Division of Purchase, Personnel, Human Rights Commission, Risk Management, Americanization League.

Each standing committee of this Legislature shall review only those resolutions, local laws, propositions, or issues which relate to the corresponding administrative units designated hereinabove. In the event that there is a question as to which committee shall properly review a resolution, local law, proposition or issue, the **Chairperson** of the Legislature shall decide which standing committee is to review the same.

**RULE 38.** The committees so appointed by the **Chairperson** shall have general and supervisory charge of all matters pertaining to the operation of the respective departments of the County Government over which they have supervision. It shall be the duty of each member of the Committees to become familiar with the work of departments or agencies of County Government entrusted to each of such committee. Each such Committee by majority vote shall have the power to subpoena witnesses and to investigate

in such manner as seems best, the particular department or agency of County Government under its supervision and to that end may, if occasion demand, take sworn statements from any county employees of the County on any matter affecting the proper, economical and lawful operation of the department under investigation.

Res. 162 - 1.1.00

**RULE 39.** The Chairperson of the County Legislature and all members of each Committee, and the Majority and Minority Leaders of the County Legislature shall receive notice of all meetings and any agenda pertaining hereto, but only the members of the respective committees shall be entitled to vote on any and all propositions before the same.

**RULE 39a.** The order of business at each meeting of a standing committee of the legislature shall be as follows:

1. Reading and approval of the minutes of the proceedings of the previous meeting.
2. Presentation of resolutions and local laws.
3. Adjournment.

Res. 127 - 4.3.78

**RULE 40.** The Chairperson shall appoint all members of Standing and Special Committees. The Chairperson shall also fill all vacancies in said committees from the membership of the County Legislature. The Chairperson shall decide which standing, special or subcommittee is to review a local law, resolution or proposition where not provided for by these rules.

**RULE 41.** All members of standing committees of the County Legislature shall continue in office until their successors have been appointed, but nothing herein contained shall be construed to allow any person to continue to serve upon any committee after said member shall have ceased to be a member of said County Legislature. The Chairperson of the County Legislature shall fill any vacancy occurring in any standing committee by appointment as soon as practicable. The Chairperson may at any time on the Chairperson's own motion refer any resolution, when offered, to such committee as the Chairperson deems proper.

Res. 127 - 4.3.78

**RULE 42.** No report shall be made by any Committee on any subject referred to it in the absence of a majority of said committee unless a majority of the County Legislature so directs by discharge of said Committee or otherwise. Final action shall not be taken by a standing, special or subcommittee of this Legislature on a local law, resolution or proposal, except for referral to another committee, unless said local law, resolution or proposal is presented in written form; a majority of the committee present and voting may in their discretion waive this requirement.

Res. 127 - 4.3.78

**RULE 42a.** Except as provided for in these Rules, these Rules shall not apply to the Committees of this Legislature.

### **SECTION 3. COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE.**

**RULE 43.** The County Legislature may, at any time when in Session, by a majority vote of those present, resolve itself into a committee of the whole on any subject before it, and in such case, the **Chairperson** shall designate some member to preside for such purpose.

**RULE 44.** The same rules shall be observed in Committee of the Whole as in the County Legislature, so far as the same are applicable, except that the previous question shall not apply nor shall the number of time a member may be limited, except that ayes and nays shall not be taken.

**RULE 45.** If at any time when the Committee of the Whole it be ascertained that there is no quorum, the **Committee Chair** shall immediately report the fact to the **Chairperson** of the County Legislature.

### **SECTION 4. FISCAL.**

**RULE 46.** Funds shall be established annually by the County Legislature in accordance with the budget as adopted.

**RULE 47.** The County Legislature pursuant to Sections 607, 608 and 609 of Article VI of the Onondaga County Charter, from time to time may withdraw from or transfer to the several funds such amounts as may be determined by said County Legislature and fixed in the resolutions directing such transfers or withdrawals.

**RULE 48.** It shall be the duty of every county officer and employee to appear before the Ways and Means Committee upon its request for the purpose of informing the committee of any point relative to the tentative budget submitted by the County Executive for the consideration of the Committees.

**RULE 49.** Pursuant to Section 2114 of the Code, County officials, heads of administrative units and treasurers of authorized agencies shall make an annual report of the activities of their respective administrative units or authorized agencies during the preceding fiscal year and shall file same with the Clerk of the County Legislature not later than February 1 of each year.

Authorized agencies which have not received financial contribution from the County of Onondaga during the preceding fiscal year shall not be required to file reports pursuant to this Rule.

**RULE 50.** All requests and applications for salary or wage increases of county employees, when presented to the County Legislature, shall be referred by the **Chairperson**

to the Ways and Means Committee. The Ways and Means Committee shall not act upon such salary request until such request has been reviewed by the administrative head concerned, the Commissioner of Personnel, the Chief Fiscal Officer and the County Executive.

## **SECTION 5. ORGANIZATION OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE.**

Res. 289 - 12.18.95

**RULE 51.** The Organizational Meeting of the Onondaga County Legislature shall convene within the first day, other than a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, in the month of January of the calendar year next succeeding the General Election at which the Legislators have been elected to the County Legislature, and shall at that meeting elect a **Chairperson** and Clerks for the term of office for which the members of the County Legislature were elected. Provided, however, that Organizational Meeting may be convened within the first three days, other than a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, in the month of January when so designated in writing by the **Chairperson** of the County Legislature. A written notice of the date and time of the organization meeting shall be given to each Legislator by the Clerk of the County Legislature at least four days prior to said meeting. Thereafter, the County Legislature shall operate under the Rules of the previous Legislature until such times as new rules are adopted by the Legislative body.

**RULE 52.** Procedure for organization meeting: The Clerk of the County Legislature last elected shall act as **Chair pro tem**. The **Chair pro tem** shall call the County Legislature to order and call the roll, followed by a pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Whereupon the **Chair pro tem** shall declare: "The first order of business is the election of the **Chairperson**". Nominations for the office of **Chairperson** shall then be taken from the floor and such nominations must be seconded. Before proceeding to an election, the **Chair pro tem** shall inquire if there are any further nominations. If there is no response, the **Chair pro tem** shall declare the nominations closed. Voting shall be by full roll call with each legislator, when the legislator's name is called, declaring the name of the candidate of the legislator's choice who has been duly nominated and seconded. Voting shall continue until a candidate receives a majority vote of the whole number of members of the County Legislature; whereupon the **Chair pro tem** shall declare the duly elected **Chairperson**. Upon election, the **Chairperson** shall immediately assume all duties and responsibilities of the office and shall continue to act in such capacity until the termination of office.

The **Chairperson** shall then preside over the election of the Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Assistant Clerk of the County Legislature subject to the same procedure and vote. Upon election, the **Clerks shall immediately assume all duties and responsibilities of the office of the County Legislature.**

**RULES OF THE ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE ESTABLISHED BY RESOLUTION NO. 659  
(DECEMBER 15, 1977) RULES AMENDED BY THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS:**

<b>RULE #</b>	<b>RES. #</b>	<b>DATE ADOPTED</b>
37	RESOLUTION NO. 11	JANUARY 3, 1978
1, 24, 37, 40, 42, 42a.	RESOLUTION NO. 127	APRIL 3, 1978
37	RESOLUTION NO. 227	JUNE 5, 1978
37	RESOLUTION NO. 285	JUNE 5, 1978
37	RESOLUTION NO. 679	DECEMBER 18, 1978
30a.	RESOLUTION NO. 131	MARCH 5, 1979
36	RESOLUTION NO. 692	DECEMBER 28, 1979
37	RESOLUTION NO. 37	FEBRUARY 4, 1980
37	RESOLUTION NO. 396	AUGUST 4-5, 1980
37	RESOLUTION NO. 233	JULY 1, 1985
37	RESOLUTION NO. 83	MARCH 7, 1988
37	RESOLUTION NO. 300	SEPTEMBER 6, 1988
32	RESOLUTION NO. 177	JUNE 5, 1989
37	RESOLUTION NO. 33	FEBRUARY 5, 1990
13	RESOLUTION NO. 317	SEPTEMBER 4, 1990
13, 6	RESOLUTION NO. 215	SEPTEMBER 3, 1991
11	RESOLUTION NO. 12	FEBRUARY 1, 1993
1	RESOLUTION NO. 18	FEBRUARY 7, 1994
37	RESOLUTION NO. 24	FEBRUARY 7, 1994
3, 26	RESOLUTION NO. 113	JUNE 5, 1995
37	RESOLUTION NO. 133	JULY 5, 1995
NDC	RESOLUTION NO. 41	MARCH 6, 1995
37	RESOLUTION NO. 288	DECEMBER 18, 1995
51	RESOLUTION NO. 289	DECEMBER 18, 1995
1	RESOLUTION NO. 19	FEBRUARY 5, 1996
3, 26	RESOLUTION NO. 22	FEBRUARY 5, 1996
50	RESOLUTION NO. 29	FEBRUARY 5, 1996
NDC	RESOLUTION NO. 48	MARCH 4, 1996
3, 31	RESOLUTION NO. 138	JUNE 3, 1996
37	RESOLUTION NO. 328	DECEMBER 15, 1997
3, 31	RESOLUTION NO. 43	MARCH 2, 1998
NDC	RESOLUTION NO. 87	APRIL 1, 1998
NDC	RESOLUTION NO. 151	JUNE 1, 1998
39a.	RESOLUTION NO. 162	MAY 1, 2000
32a.	RESOLUTION NO. 399	DECEMBER 18, 2000
37	RESOLUTION NO. 7	JANUARY 1, 2002
37	RESOLUTION NO. 193	SEPTEMBER 2, 2003
1	RESOLUTION NO. 83	APRIL 5, 2004
24	RESOLUTION NO. 9	JANUARY 4, 2010
37	RESOLUTION NO. 7	JANUARY 4, 2010
1	RESOLUTION NO. 410	MAY 3, 2011
37	RESOLUTION NO. 545	DECEMBER 6, 2011
37	RESOLUTION NO. 13	FEBRUARY 6, 2018
8	RESOLUTION NO. 49	MAY 1, 2018
37	RESOLUTION NO. 207	DECEMBER 17, 2019
1	RESOLUTION NO. 2	JANUARY 5, 2021

**NDC - No document change**

**RULES OF THE LEGISLATURE - 1.13.22 JMM**

**AUGUST 2, 2022  
SESSION**

**No. 118**

<b>LEGISLATORS</b>	<b>AYES:</b>	<b>NOES:</b>	<b>ABSENT:</b>	<b>EXCUSED:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1. MAY</b>	✓				
<b>8. RYAN</b>		✓			
<b>9. CHASE</b>		✓			
<b>10. OLSON</b>	✓				
<b>11. MCBRIDE</b>	✓				
<b>12. KNAPP</b>	✓				
<b>13. BUSH</b>	✓				
<b>14. KELLY</b>	✓				
<b>15. KINNE</b>		✓			
<b>16. GARLAND</b>		✓			
<b>17. ERVIN</b>		✓			
<b>3. BURTIS</b>	✓				
<b>4. GUNNIP</b>	✓				
<b>5. CODY</b>	✓				
<b>6. ABBOTT</b>	✓				
<b>7. KUHN</b>		✓			
<b>2. ROWLEY</b>	✓				
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	

August 2, 2022

Motion Made By Ms. Cody

RESOLUTION NO. 119

AMENDING THE 2022 COUNTY BUDGET TO MAKE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF AN AQUARIUM WITHIN ONONDAGA COUNTY

WHEREAS, it is necessary to amend the 2022 County Budget to release funds from contingency and to appropriate funds from the general fund balance for the purpose of constructing an Aquarium; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the 2022 County Budget is amended as follows:

REVENUES:

In Admin Unit 2365150000

County General

In Speed Type #140061

In Account 590083 – Appropriated Fund Balance \$55,000,000

APPROPRIATIONS:

In Admin Unit 2365150000

County General

In Speed Type #140061

In Account 674600 – Provision for Capital Projects \$85,434,751

In Account 666500 – Contingent Account (\$30,434,751)

ADOPTED 8/2/2022



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the legislation duly adopted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022.

A blue ink signature, appearing to be "Jm", is written over a horizontal line.

Clerk, County Legislature



**AUGUST 2, 2022  
SESSION**

**No. 119**

**LEGISLATORS**

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**EXCUSED:**

**4**

**1. MAY**

✓

**8. RYAN**

✓

**9. CHASE**

✓

**10. OLSON**

✓

**11. MCBRIDE**

✓

**12. KNAPP**

✓

**13. BUSH**

✓

**14. KELLY**

✓

**15. KINNE**

✓

**16. GARLAND**

✓

**17. ERVIN**

✓

**3. BURTIS**

✓

**4. GUNNIP**

✓

**5. CODY**

✓

**6. ABBOTT**

✓

**7. KUHN**

✓

**2. ROWLEY**

✓

**TOTAL:**

**9**

**8**

**0**

**0**

*Chairman Rowley  
recessed the meeting at  
2:14 p.m. The meeting  
reconvened at 2:25 p.m.*

**AUGUST 2, 2022 SESSION**

**LOCAL LAWS**

- a. A LOCAL LAW REGARDING VIDEOCONFERENCING BY ONONDAGA COUNTY PUBLIC BODIES PURSUANT TO NEW YORK STATE OPEN MEETINGS LAW** (Sponsored by Mr. Rowley)

LOCAL LAW NO. 3 - 2022

A LOCAL LAW REGARDING VIDEOCONFERENCING BY ONONDAGA COUNTY PUBLIC BODIES PURSUANT TO NEW YORK STATE OPEN MEETINGS LAW

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF ONONDAGA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings and Authorization. The New York State Open Meetings Law has been amended to authorize the expanded use of videoconferencing by public bodies to conduct meetings, under extraordinary circumstances, using remote access technology consistent with state law. A public hearing having been held, this Onondaga Legislature hereby authorizes all public bodies of the County of Onondaga, including the Onondaga County Legislature, its standing committee, special committee, sub-committee, organizational, regular session, and special session meetings, and County offices, agencies, departments and other units of County government, ("Onondaga County public body(ies)") the use of videoconferencing to conduct their meetings pursuant to the requirements of New York State Public Officers Law Section 103-a, also referred to herein as New York State Open Meetings Law.

Section 2. Quorum Requirements. The use of videoconferencing to conduct meetings of Onondaga County public bodies is authorized only where a minimum number of members are present to fulfill any applicable quorum requirement in the same physical location or locations where the public can attend.

Section 3. Procedures. The procedures governing member and public attendance shall be as provided for within this local law and New York State Public Officers Law Section 103-a. This local law, including such procedures, shall be conspicuously posted on the official website of this Onondaga County Legislature.

Members shall be physically present at any such meeting unless such member is unable to be physically present at any such meeting location due to extraordinary circumstances, as set forth in this local law. "Extraordinary Circumstances" shall include disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member's physical attendance at such meeting. "Extraordinary Circumstances" shall not include travel, for business or otherwise, unless such travel is due to disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities or similar significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member's physical attendance at such meeting. The chairperson or leadership of any Onondaga County public body shall retain discretion over permitted extraordinary circumstances for such public body. Members shall provide notice of their inability to be physically present at a meeting to the chairperson or leadership of the Onondaga County public body at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting or as soon as reasonably able.

Except in the case of executive sessions conducted pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law Section 105, all Onondaga County public bodies shall ensure that their members can be heard, seen and identified, while a meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon. The minutes of meetings involving videoconferencing shall include which, if any, members participated remotely and shall be available to the public pursuant to New York State Public Officers Law Section 106.

Where videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, the public notice for the meeting shall inform the public that videoconferencing will be used, where the public can view and/or participate in such meeting, where required documents and records will be posted or available, and identify the physical location for the meeting where the public can attend. Each meeting conducted using videoconferencing

shall be recorded and such recordings posted or linked on the official public website of the Onondaga County public body within five (5) business days following the meeting, and shall remain so available for a minimum of five (5) years thereafter. Such recordings shall be transcribed upon request. Where videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting, members of the public shall have the opportunity to view such meeting via video, and to participate in proceedings via videoconference in real time where public comment or participation is authorized, and videoconferencing shall ensure the same public participation or testimony as in-person participation or testimony.

As provided for within Open Meetings Law Section 103-a, the in-person participation requirements for members set forth in this local law shall not apply during a state disaster emergency declared by the governor or a local state of emergency proclaimed by the Onondaga County Executive where circumstances necessitating the emergency declaration would affect or impair the ability of an Onondaga County public body to hold an in-person meeting.

Open meetings that are broadcast or that use videoconferencing shall utilize technology to permit access by members of the public with disabilities consistent with the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), as amended, and corresponding guidelines. For the purposes of this section, “disability” shall have the meaning defined in New York State Executive Law Section 292.

Section 4. Effective Date and Expiration Date. As provided for within state law, this local law shall expire July 1, 2024. Provided, however, if state law is amended to extend the expiration date beyond July 1, 2024, then this local law is likewise similarly extended without further action of this Onondaga County Legislature. This local law shall be filed and take effect in accordance with provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

PASSED 8/2/2022



I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and exact copy of the legislation duly adopted by the County Legislature of Onondaga County on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 2022.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Jm", is written over a horizontal line.

Clerk, County Legislature

**AUGUST 2, 2022  
SESSION**

**Local Law A**

**LEGISLATORS**

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSENT:**

**EXCUSED:**

**3**

**1. MAY**

✓

**8. RYAN**

✓

**9. CHASE**

✓

**10. OLSON**

✓

**11. MCBRIDE**

✓

**12. KNAPP**

✓

**13. BUSH**

✓

**14. KELLY**

✓

**15. KINNE**

✓

**16. GARLAND**

✓

**17. ERVIN**

✓

**3. BURTIS**

✓

**4. GUNNIP**

✓

**5. CODY**

✓

**6. ABBOTT**

✓

**7. KUHN**

✓

**2. ROWLEY**

✓

**TOTAL:**

**17**

**0**

**0**

**0**

*The meeting was  
adjourned at 2:53 p.m.*