

ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING ♦ 800 PARK AVENUE ♦ UTICA, N.Y. 13501-2977

Gerald J. Fiorini
Chairman
(315) 798-5900

Mikale Billard
Clerk
(315) 798-5404

David J. Wood
Majority Leader

Patricia A. Hudak
Minority Leader

COMMUNICATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION

June 29, 2011

(Correspondence relating to upcoming legislation, appointments, petitions, etc)

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ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE AT

www.ocgov.net

PETITION BY ONEIDA COUNTY, N. Y., BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

for

MEMORIALIZING PETITIONFN-2011- *711***SPONSOR(S):** *HONORABLE ROSE ANN CONVERTINO (D-23),***RE:** *PETITION TO SUPPORT SENATE RULES COMMITTEE BILL 5503 TO ESTABLISH A COUNTY WIDE WIRELESS SURCHARGE*

WHEREAS, The State Senate has introduced legislation that would authorize counties to pass a local law to create a \$.30 public safety surcharge on wireless devices, and

WHEREAS, Currently 47 counties have a surcharge however 10 remaining counties have been unable to obtain state legislative support for such purpose, and

WHEREAS, Local surcharge revenues help Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) comply with federal and state technology standards and make needed upgrades to radio dispatch systems, and

WHEREAS, State surcharge revenues (collected through a \$1.20 charge on each cell phone bill) are retained in large part by the state despite county responsibility for 911 services, and

WHEREAS, The purpose of the bill is to authorize counties that currently do not impose a wireless surcharge the ability to do so for the purpose of providing and expanding vital emergency services within such counties, and

WHEREAS, Oneida County is in the midst of a consolidation of emergency services with the City of Utica and recently completed a consolidation with the Town of New Hartford, and

WHEREAS, Oneida County is doing what is expected of us by streamlining government while attempting to maintain the quality of service our taxpayers deserve, and

WHEREAS, The \$.35 E911 surcharge currently assessed on landline services is not generating the revenue necessary to support Oneida County's consolidation efforts or to keep up with the frequent, expensive, extensive equipment upgrades, and

WHEREAS, Landline usage is becoming obsolete as users change over to wireless communications, i.e. cell phones, and

WHEREAS, Oneida County has turned to its state representatives seeking the passage of a home rule message enabling the County to impose the additional \$.30 surcharge on its cell phone users, and

WHEREAS, It is evident that the consensus among state representatives is that "no new taxes" will be imposed, and

WHEREAS, The \$.30 surcharge is not a new tax but one that has been in effect for some time now, and

WHEREAS, Oneida County is only seeking its rightful place among those counties attempting to utilize the funding mechanism already in place to fulfill its obligation to provide for the "health, safety and welfare of the people of this state," and

WHEREAS, We are being penalized for the hard economic conditions that exist at this time, and

WHEREAS, In the absence of the legislation granting Oneida County the ability to impose the additional \$.30 E911 surcharge, there is an approximate \$600,000 gap in our County's budget, and

WHEREAS, Without the additional fee and/or a larger portion of the existing E911 surcharge monies, our consolation efforts will be significantly hindered due to lack of revenue, thereby jeopardizing the cost-savings that would be realized by local municipalities, and

WHEREAS, This will have crippling effect on our budget and the burden of the consolidation will ultimately be unfairly passed on to the constituents of Oneida County, and

WHEREAS, Our goal is to fulfill our obligation to provide for the "health, safety and welfare" of the people of Oneida County through a state-of-the-art 911 service center, and

RESOLVED, That the Oneida County Board of Legislators calls upon our State Elected Officials to pass Rules Senate Bill 5503 and any accompanying legislation in the Assembly authorizing counties to pass a local law to create a \$.30 public safety surcharge on wireless devices, and now therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of this Board of Legislators of Oneida County shall transmit copies of this memorializing petition to Andrew Cuomo, Governor, Dean G. Skelos, New York State Majority Leader, Sheldon Silver, Speaker of New York State Assembly, Senator, Jack Martins, Chair of the New York State Senate Local Government Committee, New York State Senator Joseph A. Griffo (R-47), Thomas Libous (R-52), Assemblyman William Magnarelli, Chairman of the Local Government Committee, Herman D. Farrell, Jr, Chair of the Assembly Ways and Means Committee, Assembly Representatives Claudia Tenney (R-115), and William Magee (D-111).

LEGISLATORS SUPPORTING PETITION

LEGISLATORS OPPOSING PETITION

For Ann Cuverterio
Sharon Rapp
Patricia A. Hurd
Joseph Jurgal
Frank J. Tallarone
John J. Williams
Charles J. Wood
Norm Leach
Dave Wilson

LEGISLATORS SUPPORTING PETITION

LEGISLATORS OPPOSING PETITION

Joe Porter
Brian Mills
Guy R. Paparella
Patrick Brennan
Bin Mangano
Howard Nelson
James ...
Sheryl ...
Jim ...

The enclosed petition represents the opinion of those members of the Oneida County Board of Legislators signing the same regarding the contents or subject matter of the petition. Under the Rules of the Board, a Legislator may sign said petition or may, in the alternative, elect not to sign the petition. There are 29 members of the Oneida County Board of Legislators.

Dated: June 14, 2011

Oneida County Department of Public Works

ANTHONY J. PICENTE JR.
County Executive

DENNIS S. DAVIS
Commissioner

6000 Airport Road
Oriskany, New York 13424
Phone: (315) 793-6235
Fax: (315) 768-6299

DIVISIONS:
Buildings & Grounds
Engineering
Highways, Bridges & Structures
Reforestation

May 26, 2011

Anthony J. Picente Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Ave.
Utica, NY 13501

FN 20 11 - 212.

WAYS & MEANS
PUBLIC WORKS



Dear County Executive Picente,

Property at the former Oriskany Airfield leased by the New York State Office of Homeland Security includes portions of First Street (County Route 79C) and Airport Road (County Route 79). The aforementioned segments of First Street and Airport Road are designated as public highways. However, both highway segments serve only as circulation and access routes to the former Airfield.

The New York State Office of Homeland Security has prepared plans which propose to create a secure entrance to their facility via erecting fences, gates and landscaped berms, and said security measures will effectively sever the above mentioned County highways and make the same inaccessible to the travelling public.

Therefore, the Department of Public Works recommends discontinuance of portions of First Street (County Route 79C) and Airport Road (County Route 79) as described in the enclosed proposed resolution.

If you concur, please forward this recommendation to the Oneida County Board of Legislators for their consideration.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis S. Davis".

Dennis S. Davis
Commissioner

cc: Mark E. Laramie, P.E., Deputy Commissioner

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive
Date 6/23/11

Oneida County Department: Public Works

Competing Proposal _____
Only Respondent _____
Sole Source RFP _____

Oneida County Board of Legislators Contract Summary

Name of Proposing Organization: **Oneida County Department of Public Works**

Title of Activity or Service: **Public Highway Discontinuance**

Client Population/Number to be Served:

Summary Statements:

1) Narrative Description of Proposed Services:

Discontinuance of portions of First Street (County Route 79C) and Airport Road (County Route 79).

2) Program/Service Objectives and Outcomes:

3) Program Design and Staffing Level:

Total Funding Requested: **\$0.00**

Oneida County Department Funding Recommendation: **\$0.00** Account # _____

Proposed Funding Source: Federal _____ State _____ County _____

Cost Per Client Served:

Past Performance Data:

Oneida County Department Staff Comments

6.

BOARD OF COUNTY LEGISLATORS, ONEIDA COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. _____

INTRODUCED BY: _____

2ND BY: _____

RE: APPROVAL OF DISCONTINUANCE OF PORTIONS OF COUNTY HIGHWAYS NECESSARY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECURE ENTRANCE TO THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AT THE ONEIDA COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK (FORMER ONEIDA COUNTY AIRPORT), TOWN OF WHITESTOWN.

WHEREAS, The New York State Office of Homeland Security has prepared plans which propose to create a secure entrance to their facility via erecting fences, gates and landscaped berms, and said security measures will effectively sever the following county highways and make the same inaccessible to the travelling public, now therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED, That Airport Road, County Route 79 from Airline Street to Terminal Building (Airport Circle) a distance of 0.03 miles, and First Street, County Route 79C from Hangar Road to Airport Circle a distance of 0.19 miles, and Hangar Road, County Route 79D from Second Street to First Street a distance of 0.07 miles, are no longer necessary for highway purposes and shall be discontinued under Section 131-b of the Highway Law of the State of New York, and it is further

RESOLVED, That upon execution of this resolution, the Oneida County Highway Department shall erect suitable advance warning devices alerting the travelling public of the revised traffic patterns and

WHEREAS, Any additions or deletions to the County Highway System must be approved by the County Board of Legislators, now, therefore, be it hereby

RESOLVED, That the Official Map of the Oneida County Highway System be and hereby is amended and approved, in accordance with Section 115 of the New York State Highway Law, discontinuing the above noted sections of highways and it is further

RESOLVED, That upon approval by this Board, a copy of the updated Official Map of the Oneida County Highway System shall be filed with the Oneida County Clerk, the Commissioner of Public Works, and the Regional Traffic Engineer of the New York State Department of Transportation.

APPROVED: Public Works Committee (_____,2011)
Ways & Means Committee(_____,2011)

DATED: _____,2011

Adopted by the following vote:

AYES: _____ NAYS: _____

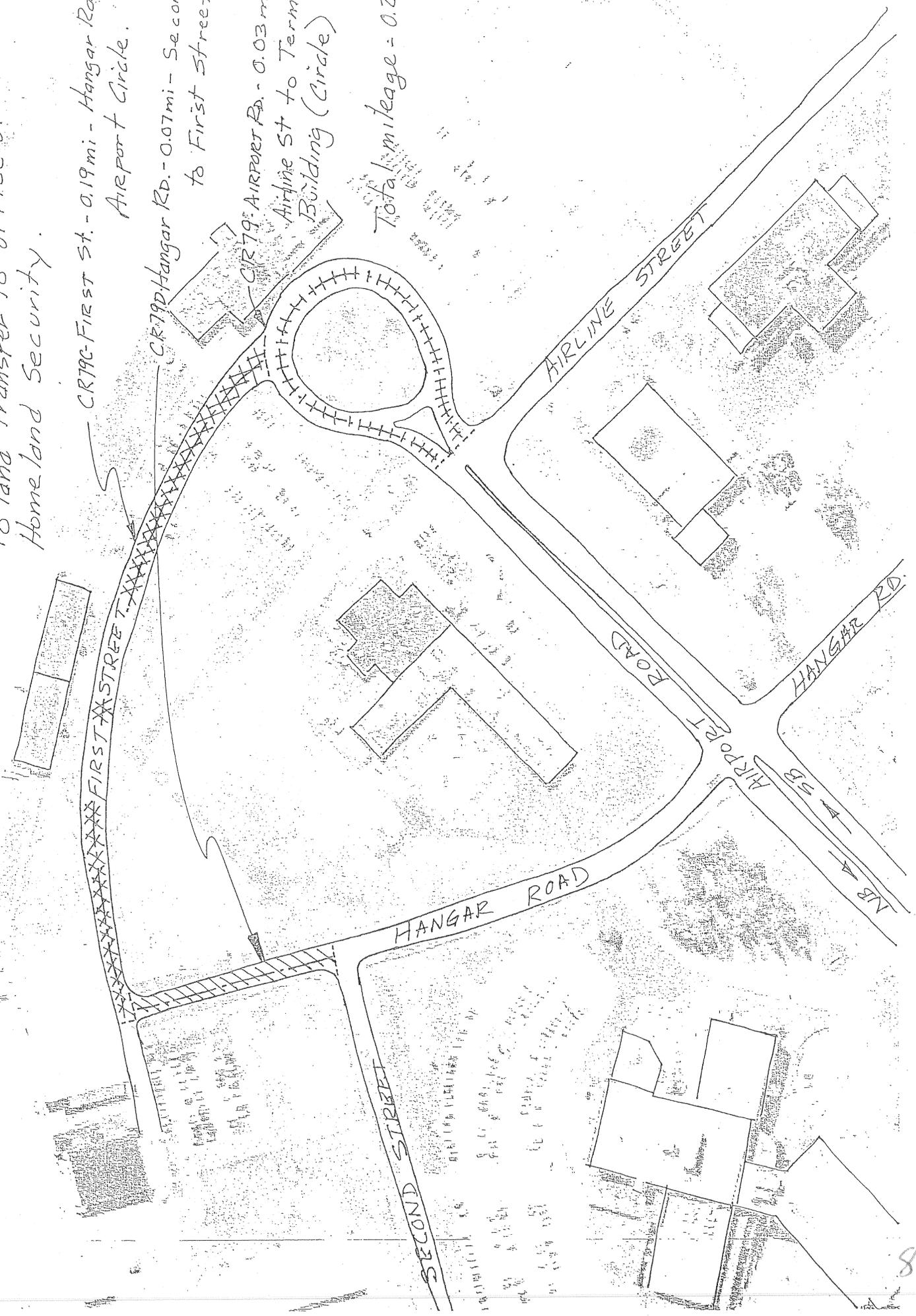
Oneida County Industrial Park.
Roads to be discontinued due
to land transfer to office of
Home Land Security.

CR 190 - First St. - 0.19 mi - Hangar Rd to
Airport Circle.

CR 790 - Hangar Rd. - 0.07 mi - Second St
to First Street.

CR 79 - Airport Rd. - 0.03 mi -
Airline St to Terminal
Building (Circle)

Total mileage = 0.29 mi.





Office of the Sheriff

County of Oneida

Robert M. Maciol, Sheriff

Robert S. Swenszkowski, Undersheriff
Elizabeth A. Gustafson, Chief Administrator

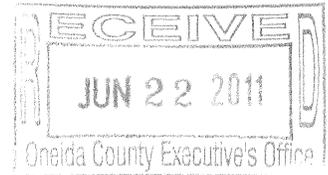
Jonathan G. Owens, Chief Deputy
Gabrielle O. Liddy, Chief Deputy

June 15, 2011

FN 20 11 - 213

The Honorable Anthony Picente Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

PUBLIC SAFETY



WAYS & MEANS

Dear Mr. Picente,

The Sheriff's Office has been provided funds under a contract from Global Tel Link to be used to purchase computer related hardware that supports our information management system. In addition to a commission, Global Tel Link provides a sign on commitment to this Office. This program is part of the inmate telephone system and calling program.

We have received \$16,667. See the attached audit trail. A separate revenue account has been established for this purpose and a supplemental appropriation will allow for a purchase supporting information management in the Sheriff's Office.

The Supplemental Appropriation Request is as follows:

A3150.212	Computer Hardware	\$8,667
A3150.492	Computer Software & Licenses	\$8,000
A2722	Reimburse from Global Tel Link	\$ 16,667



Thank you for your anticipated support of this request.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Maciol
Sheriff

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive

Date 6/23/11

cc: Tom Keeler, Budget Director

Administrative Office
6065 Judd Road Oriskany, NY 13424
Voice (315) 736-8364
Fax (315) 765-2205

Law Enforcement Division
6065 Judd Road Oriskany, NY 13424
Voice (315) 736-0141
Fax (315) 736-7946

Correction Division
6075 Judd Road Oriskany, NY 13424
Voice (315) 768-7804
Fax (315) 765-2327

Civil Division
200 Elizabeth Street Utica, NY 13501
Voice (315) 798-5862
Fax (315) 798-6495

9.

Account Audit Trail

June 16, 2011

Audit of selected accounts, for dates from 01/01/11 to 06/16/11 for fiscal year 2011

Fund: A - General Fund
 Account: A2722 - Reimb from Global Tel Link for Jail Computer Equip - Revenue
 Department: 3150 - Sheriff - Jail Inmates

Date	Type	Journal	Posted	Description	Details	Est. Revenues	Received	Revenue Remaining
03/24/11	Rec	1498000	03/25/11	3/11 GTL BONUS	111556 SHERIFFS DEPT	\$0.00	\$16,666.66	\$(16,666.66)
						\$0.00	\$16,666.66	(\$16,666.66)

10.

End of report

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GAYLE D. JONES, PHD, MPH, CHES
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 Fax: (315) 266-6138

FN 20 11 - 214



May 24, 2011

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

PUBLIC HEALTH

WAYS & MEANS

Dear Mr. Picente:

The *Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program* is a grant funded program that provides services to income eligible clients who are found to be at nutritional risk. WIC provides supplemental food checks and nutrition education to support healthy eating and lifestyle choices. The Oneida County Health Department is committed to creating ease of access to the WIC program and more comprehensive services to those we serve.

We will soon be opening a Rome office to serve that community along with those areas that constitute the western part of Oneida County. As a result, we will need to purchase office equipment to ensure that the office is fully functional. These purchases which have been approved by the State WIC Program will be fully reimbursed.

We are, therefore, requesting the following transfer for the **2011** fiscal year:

From: A4082.495 – Other Expenses..... \$3,750

To: A4082.211 – Office Equipment..... \$3,750

Please request the Board of Legislators to act upon the above-mentioned transfer.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gayle D. Jones, Ph.D., MPH, CHES
Director of Health

cc: T. Keeler, Director of Budget

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive

Date: 6/23/11

ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

A Adirondack Bank Building, 5th Floor, 185 Genesee St., Utica, NY 13501

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
ONEIDA COUNTY EXECUTIVE

GAYLE D. JONES, PHD, MPH, CHES
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

ADMINISTRATION

Phone: (315) 798-6400 Fax: (315) 266-6138

FN 20 11-215

PUBLIC HEALTH

WAYS & MEANS



June 1, 2011

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

Dear Mr. Picente:

Re: Integrated Cancer Services Program
C-023414

On March 23, 2011, four (4) copies of the Integrated Cancer Services Program were forwarded to you for board approval. However, on May 27, 2011, the budget portion of this contract was changed; therefore, I am forwarding four (4) copies as well as two (2) copies for the Board of Legislators.

Please note that the term of the contract, April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012 and the total contract in the amount of \$239,721 has not changed. What has changed is the way funds within the contract have been allocated.

Therefore, I am forwarding the budget and budget justification for review and continued processing. Also attached is a copy of the county tracking sheet and the contract summary sheet for your reference.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 798-5220.

Sincerely,

Gayle D. Jones, PhD, MPH, CHES
Director of Health

attachments
ry

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive

Date 6/23/11

CONTRACT SUMMARY SHEET - ONEIDA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

DIVISION: Community Wellness

C023414

NAME AND ADDRESS OF VENDOR: New York State Department of Health
Div. of Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention
Empire State Plaza
Corning Tower, Room 515
Albany, New York 12237-0675

VENDOR CONTACT PERSON: Suzanne Fusco, Finance Assistant

DESCRIPTION OF CONTRACT: Build and maintain collaborative relationships with health, human service, education and other community organizations to provide and promote utilization of cancer screening services among the priority populations throughout the entire proposed service area, enroll members of the priority populations into comprehensive, age-appropriate breast, cervical and colorectal cancer screening services, identify and recruit licensed medical providers throughout the entire service area to join the partnership, ensure that all men and women with abnormal screening results are assessed for their need for case management services, provide leadership, coordinate and administer the program to implement all required activities.

PREVIOUS CONTRACT YEAR: April 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011

TOTAL: \$262,081

THIS CONTRACT YEAR: April 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012

TOTAL: \$239,721

 NEW X **RENEWAL** **AMENDMENT**

FUNDING SOURCE: A3451 Grant Award

Less Revenues: _____

State Funds: \$239,721

County Dollars – Previous Contract -0-

County Dollars – This Contract -0-

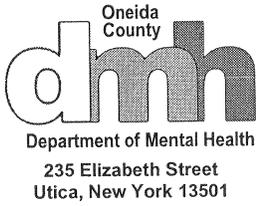
SIGNATURE: Gayle D. Jones, PhD., MPH, CHES Director of Health

DATE: March 23, 2011



Anthony J. Picente, Jr. County Executive

Linda M. Nelson, Commissioner



Phone: (315) 798-5903
Fax: (315) 798-6445
E-mail: mentalhealth@ocgov.net
Web site: www.ocgov.net

FN 20 11 - 216.



June 10, 2011

Honorable Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

**PUBLIC HEALTH
WAYS & MEANS**

Dear Mr. Picente:

Enclosed you will find six (6) copies of the United Cerebral Palsy 2009 Supplemental Amendment Purchase of Services Agreement between Oneida County Department of Mental Health and United Cerebral Palsy for your review and approval.

Under this proposed 2009 Supplemental Amendment, United Cerebral Palsy will receive additional unspent monies funded through the New York State Office of Mental Health. The funds will be used to cover non-funded portions of programs that United Cerebral Palsy incurred during the 2009 fiscal year. The services provided by the agency include: Clinic Treatment as described under Article 31, Supported Housing and Supported Case Management Services, Dual Recovery Programs, Advocacy, and Assisted Employment Services.

The gross amount of this Agreement is **\$104,734.00** for Mental Health Services. **No Oneida County tax dollars are associated with this Agreement.**

Please feel free to contact our office should you have questions regarding this Agreement. We look forward to working with you.

Respectfully,

Linda M. Nelson
Linda M. Nelson
Commissioner

LMN/ldr
Enc.

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by
Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive
Date 6/23/11

Contract Amendment Summary

Oneida County Department of Mental Health Account No: A4310.49517

Name of Proposing Organization: Upstate Cerebral Palsy

Type of Activity or Services: Clinic Treatment (MR\DD)
Information and Referral (MR\DD)
Psychosocial Club (MH)
Supported Housing (MH)
Advocacy Services (MH)
MICA Network
ACE (MH)
Ongoing Integ Emp(MH)

Proposed Dates of Operations: January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2009

Client Population to be Served: Individuals with a developmental disability or serious mental illness and their families.

Summary Statements:

1.) Narrative Description of Proposed Services:

Narrative Description of Proposed Services:

The purpose of this amendment is to revise the OMH Funds passed through to UCP for non-funded balances in programs.

All other terms and conditions of the previously approved contract shall remain in force

Service Units:

OMH Programs

MICA/Homeless	2,271
Psychosocial Clubhouse	3,200
Assisted Competitive Employment	800
Supported Housing	12,775
Supported Housing	480
Advocacy	3,300
Ongoing Integrated Employment	2,140
Article 31 Clinic	18,844
Children's Clinic Plus	659

OMRDD Programs

Specialty Clinic	11,628
Information and Referral	2,509

Funding:

Total State Funds	\$1,029,591.00
OMH	\$1,024,283.00
OMRDD	\$ 110,042.00
County Funds	0

AMENDMENT

THIS IS AN AMENDMENT to the year 2009 Contract Agreement # 009144 by and between the Oneida County Department of Mental Health located at 235 Elizabeth Street, Utica, New York 13501 and United Cerebral Palsy, having its principal office located at 1020 Mary Street, Utica, NY 13501.

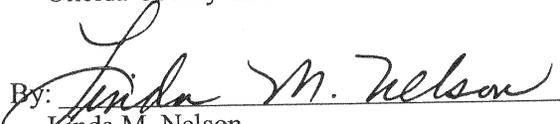
THE PURPOSE of this Amendment is to increase funding for OMH Non-Funded Services in the amount of One Hundred Four Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Four Dollars (\$104,734.00) over the current contract. The increase in funding for this contract is covered by 100 % OMH State Aid. The increase in the funding is a direct result of a reallocation of State Aid.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have here unto set their hand on the date respectively stated.

COUNTY OF ONEIDA

By: _____
Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive

Date

By: 
Linda M. Nelson
Commissioner of Mental Health

Date

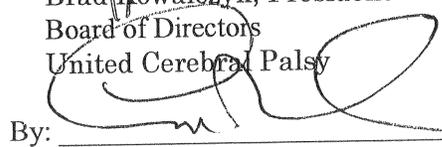
5/17/11

CONTRACTOR

By: 
Brad Kowalczyk, President
Board of Directors
United Cerebral Palsy

Date

6/7/11

By: 
Louis B. Tehan, Executive Director
United Cerebral Palsy

Date

6/7/11

Approved as to Form ONLY:
ONEIDA COUNTY ATTORNEY

By: _____

Date: _____



COUNTY OF ONEIDA
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ANTHONY J. PICENTE, JR.
County Executive
ce@ocgov.net

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVENUE
UTICA, NEW YORK 13501
(315) 798-5800
FAX (315) 798-2390
www.ocgov.net

FN 20 11-217



INTERNAL AFFAIRS

WAYS & MEANS

June 23, 2011

Oneida County
Board of Legislators
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

Honorable Members:

The Director of Central Services has notified me that she is anticipating a shortfall in her Maintenance, Repair and Services account. This shortfall is a direct result of budgeting the maintenance on the two new production printers in the Central Services Rent / Lease of Equipment Account at budget time. As a result the rent account is expected to have a surplus which should be transferred to cover the anticipated shortage in the maintenance account.

I therefore request your Board approval for the following 2011 fund transfer:

TO:		
AA# A1610.493 -	Central Services, Maintenance, Repair & Services	\$ 11,600.
FROM:		
AA# A1610.413 -	Central Services, Rent / Lease of Equipment	\$ 11,600.

I also respectfully request your full Board act on this legislation at your **July 13, 2011** meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive

AJP:tbk
Attach.
CC: County Attorney
Comptroller
Budget Director
Director of Central Services

Reviewed and Approved for submittal to the
Oneida County Board of Legislators by

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
County Executive
Date 6/23/11



ONEIDA COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING ♦ 800 PARK AVENUE ♦ UTICA, N.Y. 13501-2977

Gerald J. Fiorini
Chairman
(315) 798-5900

Mikale Billard
Clerk
(315) 798-5404

David J. Wood
Majority Leader

Patricia A. Hudak
Minority Leader

June 23, 2011

Mikale Billard, Clerk
Oneida County
Board of Legislators
800 Park Avenue
Utica, New York 13501

FN 20 11 - 218

READ & FILED

Mr. Billard:

The New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets has certified the parcels submitted during the 2011 Open Enrollment Period in Oneida County and which the Board of Legislators recommended for inclusion into agricultural districts by way of Resolution No. 131, dated May 11, 2011.

Please file the attached as a "Read & File" docket to read "RE: NYS certification of properties added to agricultural districts during Oneida County's designated Open Enrollment Period, January 2011."

Respectfully,

Gerald J. Fiorini
Chairman of the Board





COUNTY OF ONEIDA
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

ANTHONY J. PICENTE JR.
County Executive
ce@ocgov.net

June 29, 2011

ONEIDA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
800 PARK AVENUE
UTICA, NEW YORK 13501
(315) 798-5800
FAX: (315) 798-2390
www.ocgov.net

FN 20 11 . 219

Mr. Mikale Billard
Clerk, Oneida County Board of Legislators
800 Park Ave
Utica, NY 13501

READ & FILED

Dear Mr. Billard :

I am herewith exercising my veto power as provided by Section 21 of the Municipal Home Rule Law regarding Local Law Introductory "C" of 2011 amending the Oneida County Charter and Administrative Code to provide for a reduction in the number of County legislative Districts.

I am doing so for the following reasons:

I believe that the people of our community and all across the State want government to be smaller. We have demonstrated that in Oneida County by reducing the workforce in each of the past four years. We have consolidated and looked at various means to be more efficient with the materials and technology that are available. The County has the lowest complement of workers in nearly 30 years because we made the difficult decision of laying off our employees.

In addition, to state that any cost savings that would be achieved by a reduction in the number of Board members would be minimal is an insult to the taxpayers who pay for County services. This reduction should not be solely about costs but also about the efficiency of government and our ability to do more with less which is what we continually ask of our employees and of the public we serve.

Lastly and perhaps most importantly is the fact that a Citizens committee was convened to review the County Charter and Administrative Code and that committee recommended a greater reduction in the number of Board members than the resolution at hand. The fact that we sought citizen input and asked them to devote hours and hours of their time and energy in a process so important to our government, only to ignore their findings, erodes trust in their government at a time when that trust needs to be strengthened.

For these reasons, I cannot approve of the Local Law as presented.

Sincerely

Anthony J. Picente, Jr.
Oneida County Executive

