



Monroe County Legislature
Office of the President

SABRINA LAMAR
PRESIDENT

November 13, 2023

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, NY 14614

OFFICIAL FILE COPY	
No.	230356
Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature of Monroe County	
Committee Assignment	
URGENT	-L

Subject: Authorizing Allocation of Funding to Study the Feasibility of a Publicly-Owned Utility in Monroe County

Honorable Legislators:

Rochester Gas & Electric (RG&E) has been besieged with customer service and billing issues over the past 18 months, while the New York State Public Service Commission (PSC) has yet to take any action to address or correct these shortcomings. Locally, many constituents have come forward and asked the Legislature to commission entertain a feasibility study of how best to provide power to our citizens. This type of feasibility study must include the possible creation of a municipally owned utility, but should also look at other options including exploring the potential for improving the existing utility, with the goal of more stable service provision while ensuring fair and affordable energy rates.

The Rochester City Council has already committed \$500,000 to a possible feasibility study, under the provision that Monroe County and/or the State of New York take full control of a process for a feasibility study, including the development of any corresponding Request for Proposal (RFP) that might be issued to do so. The State has been slow to act, while this issue has lingered and remains unsolved. I believe it is time for this Legislature to act.

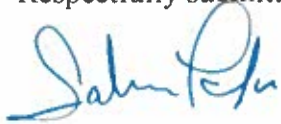
The specific actions are:

1. To commit general fund unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the purpose of studying the feasibility of a public utility in Monroe County.
2. The County Executive or his designee shall enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Rochester for the purpose of implementing the study, with such agreement submitted to the Legislature for approval.
3. The County Purchasing Department shall develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to perform the study.
4. The County shall create an RFP Advisory Committee, comprised of relevant stakeholders and community leaders to assist in the development of criteria for the study.

This action is a Type II Action Pursuant to 6 NYCRR §617.5(c)(26) (“routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment”) and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

The commitment of fund balance will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget.

Respectfully submitted,



Sabrina LaMar
President, Monroe County Legislature
Legislator, District 27-Rochester

By Legislator LaMar

Intro No. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____ OF 2023

ALLOCATION OF FUNDING TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF A PUBLICLY OWNED UTILITY IN MONROE COUNTY

BE IT RESOLVED THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1: The Legislature approves to commit general fund unassigned fund balance in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the specific purpose of studying the feasibility of a public utility in Monroe County.

Section 2: The County Executive or his designee shall enter into an intermunicipal agreement with the City of Rochester for the purpose of implementing the study, with such agreement submitted to the Legislature for approval.

Section 3: The County Purchasing Department shall develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a consultant to perform the study.

Section 4: The County shall create an RFP Advisory Committee, comprised of relevant stakeholders and community leaders to assist in the development of criteria for the study.

Section 5: This resolution shall take effect in accordance with Section C2-7 of the Monroe County Charter.

File No. 23-0____

ADOPTION: Date: _____ Vote: _____

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: _____ VETOED: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

EFFECTIVE DATE OF RESOLUTION: _____