



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
VIA ZOOM/In Person  
Knowledge Park; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510  
October 19, 2023

ZOOM Meeting Information:

Meeting ID: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81717112084>

Password: not required

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 2023
5. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS
6. COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN
7. PUBLIC COMMENT
8. PRESENTATION
  - a. Bridgeway Capital – Dawn Seckler, TJ King
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS
  - a. Treasurer’s Report
  - b. Strategic Planning Committee
  - c. Update from County Council
  - d. Update from County Executive’s Office
10. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT
12. OLD BUSINESS

13. NEW BUSINESS

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, November 16, 2023  
Time: 8:30 a.m. – BOARD Meeting  
Location: 5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510; Board Room  
ZOOM meeting – details to follow



## **Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**

### **Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting**

**September 21, 2023**

Meetings for the Board of Directors of ECGRA can begin meeting in a physical location per Governor Wolf's proclamation of June 11, 2021. However, each member and ex-officio has the option to attend in person or virtually. Members of the public can now speak at the physical location of 5240 Knowledge Parkway.

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on September 21, 2023 at 5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:34 am.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Mr. Barney, Mr. Cleaver, Ms. Loll, Mr. Oberlander, and Mr. Winschel are present in person. Ms. Hess is present via zoom. County Executive Davis and Mr. Smith are present via zoom (enter meeting late). Mr. Wachter and Dr. Wood are present in person.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the agenda. Motion carries 7-0.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – August 2023

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the minutes. Motion carries 7-0.

#### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Cleaver: Mr. Chairman, I would like to schedule today if we possibly can, an executive session.

Mr. Wachter: Would action be taken?

Mr. Cleaver: Yes.

Mr. Wachter: Would it be for personnel?

Mr. Cleaver: Yes, personnel.

Mr. Wachter: I would just suggest if you're going to do that, you're not doing that at the end of the meeting but before we adjourn so that we can come back to new business and anything that comes out of that.

Mr. Cleaver: Alright then, I would like to schedule an executive session at some point during our meeting.

Mr. Barney: We can work that into the agenda.

### COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Barney has no comments at this time.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There are no members of the public present, so there are no public comments at this time.

### PRESENTATIONS

#### a. Our West Bayfront – Anna Frantz

Dr. Wood: Let's start with Anna Frantz, the Executive Director of Our West Bayfront. You may be familiar with them; we've partnered with them on Renaissance Block for several years now. She's their fearless leader.

Ms. Frantz: Thanks so much for having me, everyone. I'm Anna Frantz; I'm the Executive Director of Our West Bayfront, and as Perry mentioned, we have been lucky to partner with ECGRA for six or seven years in the work that we do in the West Bayfront neighborhoods of the city of Erie. I want to take you through a little bit, who we are as an organization, what we do, why we do it, and how ECGRA funds have been put to work in the community. I do welcome questions along the way if there are any, but I also will say that I'm a little worried I'm going to run over my time. With that in mind, I'm going to try to pack in a lot because we do a lot in the community.

Our mission as a nonprofit neighborhood revitalization organization is to enhance the quality of life in Erie's west bayfront neighborhoods. The area that we serve, for those of you who are familiar with the city geography, is basically just to the west of the downtown business district, up to the bayfront, down to West 12th street, and out to the Bayfront Parkway. It's about 127 blocks; home to about 12,000 residents, and probably about 100 - 150 businesses that are located within that footprint.

We are guided by a community plan that was developed in 2016 with a lot of neighborhood input and constant interaction and feedback from the community members that we serve. That is one of the zillion examples I have of community conversations taking place within the neighborhoods.

We're a little bit unique in our model of community revitalization and how we're structured. Gannon University was very involved in getting us launched working alongside neighborhood organizations like Martin Luther King Center, HANDS, and neighborhood residents. Gannon provided a lot of institutional support and resources to do that original plan and to kind of stand us up as a small nonprofit and we retain a connection with them. Although we also are a traditional 501 (C) 3 nonprofit with a board of directors, and so on, that relationship with Gannon is very, very useful because number one, it gives us access to students, faculty and other resources from within the university and it also gives us some back office support – IT and things like that so that we don't have to worry about some of those aspects of running a nonprofit. And then we also have strong partnerships with our private sector partners including Marquette Savings Bank, PNC, Key Bank, and Erie Insurance, and then partners with numerous other government and nonprofit organizations.

Who are we as an organization? We are small but mighty, and have grown a lot in the last year, year and a half. So, in addition to myself, we have a full-time project manager, Marissa Litzenburg. This year, we're lucky to have an AmeriCorps VISTA Eric Kasa, who is working on environmental issues. And then I want to call this out because I think it is also unique – we have two staff people who we share with another nonprofit, the Bayfront Eastside Task Force on the east side – Dan and Starla, who work on construction management, sort of managing neighborhood assets and then also neighborhood outreach activities. So, they are amazing. They put up with a lot. They literally bounce back and forth, east to west, sometimes every day. But they are a huge asset to both organizations.

Just a little bit for those of you who might not spend a lot of time in the West Bayfront. I just wanted to show some images from the community to kind of give you some grounding – a sense of what does the West Bayfront look like? Who is in this community? What are the places that you see? Strong Vincent to Gannon University is that area that we serve. We have millionaire's row, Spencer House Bed and Breakfast on West Sixth Street, these beautiful old mansions, strong community organizations, residents who want to get together, want to get out in the neighborhood and do their part, a lot of small businesses like U Frame It. And then we have six different neighborhood watch groups or neighborhood associations that are all volunteer groups that kind of work within each of their little parts of the neighborhood and we work very closely with them. And then of course, the Erie sign up at Bayview Park, which you may have visited or taken a selfie at.

And then a little kind of historic context to give you sort of a sense of how we relate to other neighborhood groups that you might be familiar with, like Bayfront Eastside Task Force or Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network. This is a little bit of an outdated map, but it gives you the footprints of different neighborhood-based groups. Erie Downtown Partnership and then of course EDDC works right in this downtown core area; Sisters of St. Joseph Neighborhood Network works south of 12th Street, both on the east and west sides of the neighborhood, Bayfront Eastside Taskforce is over here. So back in 2015 - 2014, when Our West Bayfront was getting started, there was no neighborhood-based organization that was serving this area. And of course, that's really part of the downtown core, so it was a gap in kind of the footprint of revitalizing downtown Erie. So, Our West Bayfront was established to help fill that gap.

I had flashed a picture of our community plan which we updated last year just to kind of reflect current and changing conditions in the city and to help us focus a little bit more on the priorities that we see in the neighborhood.

I'm not going to read all this but just to give you a sense of all of the different types of things that we work on - everything from housing, stability and quality, all the way over to building a sense of community and building pride in the neighborhoods, and then infrastructure and services, safety improvements, economic development, supporting our small businesses, and then also ensuring sustainability of our organization to meet our mission. That's important to us as well.

So just to get into some of the types of things more specifically that we work on. Housing is at the top of the list. We have an aging housing stock. We have housing affordability and housing condition challenges in the West Bayfront neighborhoods. We have blight; this is a picture - I wish I had taken it a long time ago, but I took it on Saturday - of a house on West Fourth Street in the neighborhood. So, we have not solved that issue, but we think we're a little bit better off than some of the other neighborhoods in Erie in terms of having maybe fewer, really blighted, vacant, abandoned properties. We do have our share. Back in 2021, there were about 35 vacant properties and 25 properties rated as unsound. I think the larger issue is the properties that are one step up. They're still in very rough condition, and they're occupied. And so that looks like maybe about 17% or 20% of the properties in the West Bayfront are in that condition, which is not doing the city any favors and it's also not doing any good for the residents who are living in those homes.

Just some stats - I don't know if you're familiar with the report that the city did a few years ago on blight and the cost of blight to the city of Erie. Location near an unsound property decreases the value of an Erie home by over 40% and that creates a loss in homeowner equity for residents and also a loss of over \$4 million every year in city property taxes. So, these are real numbers. Then the actual cost for dealing with, on the service side, blighted properties is over \$5 million a year. That's what the city calculated. And you know, we see that play out in the neighborhood on a daily basis.

So, the work that we do around this started in 2017 when we were launched as an organization on helping to stabilize properties that are currently occupied, helping property owners with funding to make repairs, trying to channel resources directly into the community. Since 2017 we've assisted almost 150 properties directly with grants to help make repairs: that's about \$640,000 in construction costs. And that's leveraged quite a bit of additional funding because we typically ask property owners to put a little of their own money into those projects, or we pair our funding with funds from the Redevelopment Authority. And so, we've been able to leverage hundreds of thousands of dollars to do work. It's never going to be our ability or our intention to repair every single property that needs it in the West Bayfront; we have far too many. But the more that we can do in a targeted manner the more we'll see, hopefully spillover effects of people who can make those repairs are inspired, they're seeing that their investment will pay off.

Dr. Wood: Two minutes.

Ms. Frantz: Two minutes to go? Oh, really. Okay, I'm going to go much faster. And Renaissance Block grants have been a huge part of that.

Dr. Wood: Since I stopped you there, can I just say one thing? You know, we often talk at a level of funders about moving the needle. And there's quantifiable evidence that you've moved the needle. So, the federal government has something called HUBZone status, in which they look at neighborhoods and then they create these HUBZones based on median incomes. Your neighborhood north of Sixth Street is now out of the HUBZone. Now that may be a disadvantage for you concerning funds, but that's legitimate proof that your organization has moved the needle. And I think it's worth celebrating. And I didn't know that when we booked this; I just recently saw that data.

Ms. Frantz: We also have qualified census tracts that are used in the ARP funding. One of our census districts is no longer a qualified census tract, which again, a little frustrating, but it's a good thing.

Dr. Wood: You have moved the needle though. You can't say that about every nonprofit. Sorry for the interruption.

Ms. Frantz: That gives me one minute now! I think this is a good place to continue – we work in a very focused manner. We have been working around Bayview Park, MLK Center, Gridley Park, and West Eighth Street, which is where our office is, and an Anchor Building grant helped to rehab our building on Eighth Street. So just a little ECGRA money is working in those areas or has worked in those areas.

Renaissance Block – I can't say enough about this program. We're currently working on our third Renaissance Block grant. Right now, we're on Liberty Street north of Gridley Park up to the bay, working with about 20 property owners. Resident engagement is the first piece of that; being able to go out to the community and say, "we have funding that can help you make your home better." It leads to so many more things. In the case of Liberty Street, it's not just about homes. We're also improving the boulevard, we're working with the city on pedestrian safety improvements, which is a huge issue there. And people are coming out and joining the party.

We also work on acquisition and renovation of vacant properties. So, we own a portfolio of eight properties at this point - three are fully renovated and rented out, five more are vacant and in various stages of putting financing together and starting construction. If you need to just stop me, you can. I'm going to skip these two things, but those are projects that we're working on with Infinite Erie. A few of you heard me talk about these things last week.

Parks and public spaces is another area where ECGRA funding has been really important. The work at Bayview Park that we've been able to do in partnership with the city - after a very intensive community planning process, we got this splashpad installed up there; a lot of amenities that didn't exist. That Park has become a hub in the city; it is just hopping with so much activity. And part of it is that we're out there as well throughout the summer with Farmers Market, music, and so on.

Right now, we're working on Gridley Park, going through a similar process of resident engagement, what kind of improvements are needed to really help that park at the corner of 6<sup>th</sup> and Liberty shine. And then we work all throughout the community on public space, corridor, streetscape, and safety projects. We're going to be starting our assessment of all of the street trees across the entire west Bayfront that has not been done in the city, thanks to the presence of our VISTA. We work on lighting projects, anti-litter initiatives, install security cameras, pedestrian safety, all of the types of things that make a difference to neighbors.

And then a huge project for us is West Eighth Street. So, we're currently working on our second Mission Main Streets grant from you all; the first one has had a transformative effect on West Eighth Street. We've been able to improve about 20 projects. Ok, I'm wrapping it up and I'll leave it with this because this is a good segue to EUMA, who is our neighbor on Eighth Street. We have been able to attract and grow businesses, install security cameras, which has virtually eliminated a crime hotspot that existed right where we are at Chestnut and West 8<sup>th</sup>. That's our office that again was the recipient of an Anchor Building grant.

Dr. Wood: Did you end up putting an apartment upstairs?

Ms. Frantz: We have three apartments upstairs. They're gorgeous. One of them is vacant right now, so if anybody's looking. And there's improvements that are continuing to be made, not by us,

but by people who see the opportunity here. So that's the corner of Chestnut and 8th. Again, that was I think taken earlier this week. They're sandblasting the paint off that old building, and they're going to be putting something in that space which has been vacant for at least 10 years. Tom can tell me if I've got that that number right. But this all would not have been possible without the Main Streets grants.

So, I think I'm going to leave it there with these pretty pictures, and really thank you for your time and for all of your support. Oh, no, I have to say this one thing, just because I did a rough back-of-the-envelope calculation before this. So, since 2018, close to half a million dollars in ECGRA funding has been directly invested in these West Bayfront projects; that's an amazing number. What's even more amazing is how much that has leveraged in other funding and resources to the community - over \$2 million. When I did that, I was honestly staggered. So, your money is working, it's having a difference, and we really thank you for your partnership and support.

Dr. Wood: So, just under a half million leveraged four to one and a third of your zone is now out of HUBZone. I think it's incredible.

Ms. Frantz: But that's not to say there's not still work to be done.

Dr. Wood: You're doing your job I understand. Any questions for Anna?

Ms. Loll: You've worked on the outside of these homes. Has anybody worked inside?

Ms. Frantz: Yeah, so the city's Redevelopment Authority has a Healthy Homes program right now, they have lead abatement programs, they occasionally use funding from the city through CDBG funds to do work on the inside. There's no question that there's not enough money to do all of the work that needs to be done on the inside. For us, because we have limited resources, the intention has been first to sort of work on projects that will have the benefit for both the property owner and also the surrounding community. We do want to do more to acquire distressed properties to be able to do the type of interior improvements, systems replacement, and so on that that needs to be done - modernization of living spaces. We would like to be able to kind of move into that.

Ms. Loll: So, you would acquire them and then resell?

Ms. Frantz: Either resell or rent - a combination of those two to stabilize homeowners.

Ms. Loll: Homeowners that are living in the homes that have allowed the house to get dilapidated due to lack of funds or lack of wanting to do it, are you in fear of that happening again?

Ms. Frantz: It's always a concern. I mean, it is definitely a low-income population who just don't have the resources to make those improvements. But we need to stabilize the properties we have before they get so far distressed that demolition is the only choice.

Ms. Loll: I understand that. Thank you.

Dr. Wood: So, in some circumstances it is residents who can't afford it but in other circumstances, the market does not signal them to make that investment in their home. And I think that's why Renaissance Block is so important because it comes in with a grant that says it will make 50% of



the improvement on the curbside appeal and that really helps stabilize the look and feel of the neighborhood.

Mr. Barney: Any other questions?

Dr. Wood: Just real quick, give us a land bank story - one experience.

Ms. Frantz: We just acquired 11 West Seventh Street through the land bank, the city's land bank. That's a project, just last week, we were awarded \$40,000 from the Young Erie Philanthropists for. It needs a pretty significant renovation – again, a property owner who just couldn't maintain it. I think she eventually passed away. We're going to be completely renovating it and selling that home as an affordable house for ownership.

Dr. Wood: Thank you.

Ms. Frantz: Thank you. I really appreciate your time.

Mr. Wachter: Perry, if I could point out one thing to the Board. Often when you see the resolutions that are put forth, there's language that Perry very quickly reads in the resolutions regarding the purpose of the funding. And in our Economic Development Financing Law, there's specific findings that are made, a couple of which include that economic insecurity is created by various things, including blight, and that the elimination of blight is for the best interest of the general welfare of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. And that specific authorized use of funding is to do these things that Anna was talking about and that is the elimination of blight, the stabilization of neighborhoods, the creation of economic opportunities and such. So that's a direct tie into what the purpose of the Economic Development Financing Law is.

Dr. Wood: Thanks, Tim.

b. Erie United Methodist Alliance – Kurt Crays, Jessica Gray

Dr. Wood: Next, I am introducing the Erie United Methodist Alliance. This is Kurt Crays and Jessica Gray. They have not been a recipient of ECGRA funds, but they called and said they would like to come tell the board about their organization. I thought it'd be perfect time since they're in the Our West Bayfront neighborhood.

Mr. Crays: Thank you so much for your time and thank you so much for all that you're doing for our community. I want you to know that it is noticed, and it is appreciated. EUMA is celebrating our 135th anniversary of being in the northwestern PA area. We're committed to ending homelessness by making it rare, brief, and one time. For anybody who travels downtown you understand what seems to be, and I can verify based on data, that the number of individuals experiencing a housing crisis is going up. Our neighbors in business and living in the city of Erie have already communicated that it is the number three priority in our community. If we're going to grow a business, if we're going to attract individuals to live in the city and dine in the city and go to the city, we need to address homelessness.

We have existed to move people from homelessness to home as quickly as possible and we do that through making it rare, making it brief, and making it one time. That's keeping people out of the homeless system for those who are at risk, as quickly as possible by moving people who

are literally homeless into a permanent home of their own and keeping them permanently housed after we move them into permanent housing.

I just want to add that our commitment, the EUMA, has made over \$1 million in private funding to bring online permanent and affordable housing. We operate shelters, we operate a 32-bed emergency shelter for families with kids, we operate a 10-bed emergency shelter for homeless veteran men, we operate Erie County's seasonal overflow shelter, called Our Neighbor's Place, that moves from church to church downtown and is led by a faith community. Those are critically important in the homeless continuum of care and shelters will never ever, ever, ever and they are three to four times more expensive to run than just moving people as quickly as possible into permanent housing, wrapping them with the social supports necessary to keep them in a permanent house. Did you hear me? So, we can invest hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of thousands of dollars into shelters, we can expand shelter beds, but it will never end homelessness. What we need is permanent and affordable housing in our city.

EUMA, as I said, has invested over a million dollars in private capital. These are not public funds. This is private capital that we have raised through stakeholders to bring online these 34 units of permanent, affordable housing. We wrap the individuals who are experiencing a housing crisis, or are at great risk of experiencing a housing crisis, with the social supports necessary to keep them permanently housed. Friends, eviction is not a symptom of poverty and homelessness; it is the cause of homelessness and poverty. When you are evicted, what happens? You are now part of the penal justice system, you have a record, it is much more difficult and much more expensive for you to get permanent housing. Eviction is a cause of homelessness in our community.

EUMA is a not-for-profit organization. We have the luxury of not existing for the purpose of making a profit, but we have to make a profit. The model that we've created, in fact is creating profit margin for us that we invest back into making permanent housing affordable and acquiring more properties, bringing them online and surrounding people who need the housing with the public support that they need to stay permanently housed. Let me give you one example. Anna was talking about West Eighth Street properties; EUMA purchased a West Eighth Street property. When we acquired this property there were individuals living in that building who had not had an operating toilet in years. When they go to the landlord and the landlord communicates that they're not going to fix it, what recourse does this gentleman have? He has severe mental illness, he has no community to support I'm overstating to make a point. He didn't feel like he had those supports. We were able to purchase that building, keep those individuals permanently housed who wanted to stay permanently housed, and now are currently making hundreds of thousands of dollars in investments in this anchor building on West Eighth Street to achieve the Our West Bayfront goals and ECGRA's goals.

We currently are under construction, and we have a roof in process. We're capping the unused chimneys, we are replacing soffit, downspouts, and we have already through - actually I think it was ECGRA indirectly - to put up safety and security lighting on Eighth Street. I want you to know that when EUMA is looking to make investments in our area, we look to communities that are doing the work that Anna and Our West Bayfront are doing, and we're making those investments. We purchased the building at, the Quinn Funeral Home at West Seventh. I'm sorry, West Ninth and Liberty. That's a funeral home folks. What would you do with a funeral home? EUMA saw an opportunity to purchase that building and create our organizational headquarters in the West Bayfront.

I want you to know that the work that you're doing is making a difference. We are ending homelessness for families with children, we are moving them quickly into permanent housing, and wrapping them with the social support that they need. Tom was able to do a walkthrough of some of our buildings and saw some of the work that we're doing. I just wanted to let you know that we

appreciate you. We are committed to working with you to end homelessness in the city of Erie and throughout Erie County and let you know that we look forward to partnering with you in the future as opportunities become available. Any questions?

Mr. DiPaolo: I have one. Do you know how many homeless people we have in Erie? Did you ever do that?

Mr. Crays: We have to do that every year to do a single point in time count. So, we count every single person in Erie County who is identified as a person experiencing a housing crisis. That number does fluctuate, but that number is 1,300 to 1,500 individuals in January who are experiencing a housing crisis. We do it in January because we know that most people who are living outdoors during that time must come into the shelters during that time. So that number is typically more robust in the summer, but we can actually count them.

Mr. DiPaolo: Basically, what you're saying is that if in fact you find a building big enough to house so many homeless people, it's cheaper to find them an apartment?

Mr. Crays: Overwhelmingly. It's three to four times less expensive to permanently house a person than to keep them in shelters. My shelters cost a lot of money. They are 24 hour a day operations, salaries, benefits, lights, food. You start adding that up and I can get someone into a single bedroom with utilities for \$500-\$600 a month.

Friends, there is one gentleman that we follow who is chronically homeless in our community; many of you have probably have met him. He was living downtown, outside during the summer months and in the winter, he would come into Our Neighbor's Place. He had chronic health conditions, he had uncontrolled diabetes, he had substance abuse disorder, he had mental illness that was unmanaged. He was declining physically a great deal; he was using the emergency room as his primary care provider and just to get off the street. At UPMC Hamot, where he was using the emergency room, we got his actual cost over a four-year period of time. We know he was using St. Vincent's emergency room and we know that he was using LECOM as well. Take a wild guess, actual data over four years, what he cost the system. One man. Go.

Mr. DiPaolo: Two hundred fifty thousand.

Mr. Crays: Seven hundred forty thousand dollars – at one hospital over a four-year period of time. We were able to move him off the streets, move him into a personal care home; that cost us about \$34,000 as a community. Within a year, we were able to move him into a permanent home of his own. He has a one-bedroom apartment, fully subsidized, with utilities, \$565 a month where he still is three years later. His chronic health conditions are under control, he is no longer abusing substances to manage his mental illness because he has a blended case manager who provides that kind of support to him.

If you are not moved by creating dignity for people or believe that affordable housing is a right, let me convince you by telling you that we can save hundreds, nay, millions and millions if we just targeted the top 25-50 individuals who we already know are chronically homeless and sleeping on State Street and move them in to permanent housing and wrap them with the social supports necessary.

What we don't have now is the private capital to continue to scale the work that we're doing. So, we're now moving into a public sector, seeking partnerships from individuals who have time, talent, and treasure to scale this form of bringing online permanent and supportive housing. We are working with Infinite Erie, Boo Haggerty, and Karen Bilowith on creating a permanent,

supportive housing pipeline which means both the physical site, and scattered sites. We are actually moving into Crawford County with this model. We have 24 or 25 units of program supporting housing coming online in Meadville (inaudible) and are looking for an additional thirty-some units in the city of Erie as part of the Bayfront Strategic Plan. And we are looking at the West Bayfront as a key place to make those investments because of the location and because of the great work that you are doing.

Dr. Wood: Let's move into the questions. You have some great statistics.

Ms. Loll: When you put this gentleman into a home, does he have a job now or income or is he being supported by what means?

Mr. Crays: We were able to support him by helping him get Social Security disability. This gentleman is sixty-some years old; he has chronic health conditions that are managed, but his physical disabilities prevent him from working. We do have partnerships with PA Career Link, we do have partnerships with other workforce development, folks that we make referrals to to help individuals come back online to work.

Ms. Loll: So, if there was a job he could do, you would try to find it for him.

Mr. Crays: We would. That's important and that's a commitment that we have made. I would also say that it is still far, far cheaper to get that guy off the streets and in a permanent house.

Mr. Barney: I would like to say that I am familiar with you. Way back, I used to work as director of Liberty House when it was first founded. At the time, you built Hope House on 26<sup>th</sup> Street; it's been over 20 years. I know at Liberty House you encouraged the vets who can't find a job and to move them to permanent housing. What's your percentage of usage now, like at Refuge House, Liberty House, Hope House – is it at 100%?

Mr. Crays: Our community is at capacity. Lots of reasons why this is the case, I have some theories and some data to back it up. We are experiencing more homelessness right now largely because of the pandemic, and I won't go into that. We will actually be able to clear the system but that is going to take 18-24 months. We have robust permanent supporters and rapid rehousing funds. EUMA operates the largest rapid rehousing contract in Erie County; that means we find housing, we pay for housing temporarily for individuals who are experiencing a housing crisis and we make sure people remain permanently housed after they get into their permanent house. That system is starting to ramp back up.

Our challenge is finding individual landlords who will rent to individuals who are experiencing a housing crisis and work with the program and quite frankly, we are finding it more and more difficult to find permanent and affordable housing that actually inspects. It's a HUD-funded program or a VA-funded program; it has to inspect; it has to meet basic minimum federal standards. And again, we're finding it more and more difficult to find permanent and affordable housing in Erie that actually inspects. If it doesn't inspect, if the landlord will not make those changes, we can't lose somebody again. That is definitely something we will see.

Our treasures are full. We have concerns about this winter; we say that Our Neighbor's Place is a 35-bed shelter but we can take it up to 76 individuals because it is a shelter and there is nowhere else and we are faith-based and we are not going to say no to individuals in January who have no other place to go.

Mr. Wachter: Do these places inspect under the city of Erie's inspection program?

Mr. Crays: That's a great question. I can't answer that.

Dr. Wood: As opposed to BUI?

Mr. Wachter: No, no. The city of Erie has an inspection program in order to have a rental license to be able to rent. If they're not inspecting for HUD, if they're not inspecting for those programs, then I wonder how they're inspecting for the city of Erie program, which is supposed to be minimum health and safety requirements or they won't be able to rent to anybody.

Mr. Crays: I have thoughts and I think your question is valid. I have heard what people have told us about the capacity of the city to actually inspect the number of units that are out there and the inability for them to – they don't have the time is what is being communicated to inspect or find unregistered rental units. I don't have to verify that . . .

Mr. Wachter: It's not your problem – it's the landlords problem.

Mr. Crays: I just need to make sure they're meeting inspection standards.

Dr. Wood: Thank you.

Mr. Crays: Thank you all so much. I appreciate your time.

Ms. Gray: Can I just add one thing? Our headquarters is at 728 West 9<sup>th</sup>. If any of you are ever in the area, please stop in. We would love to walk you through. Tom, as Kurt mentioned, did come for a tour and if any of you are ever interested in bringing a group or coming individually for a tour to see our shelters and to see our work firsthand, we would love to have you. Thank you for your time today, greatly.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Cleaver: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I reviewed the income and expenses; all is in order as far as I am concerned. If the Board has any questions, I'm sure we can answer them. End of report.

Mr. DiPaolo makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There are no questions or discussion of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carries 7-0.

- b. Strategic Planning Committee: Mr. Barney: We didn't have a Strategic Planning session, but we did attend an event. Would you like to speak on that now, Perry?

Dr. Wood: Sure. Last week we attended a joint board session between the Erie Community Foundation Board and the ECGRA Board. We saw presentations curated by the Infinite Erie group in the area of neighborhoods and main streets, which is right up our alley, so we may be working with those folks. We saw some great presentations and there will be some follow-up

between the staff of both organizations to talk about taking next steps in seeing those, let's call them, transformational projects.

Mr. Barney: I know Carol and Gary were present for that. Do you have any comments on that?

Ms. Loll: I think all three of us made a comment about that one land bank project. I'm not comfortable with it, but I'm not sure exactly where you stand. There's no way that I would put my house on somebody else's land that I couldn't sell it. For everybody else that wasn't there, the land bank would be owning the land and the homeowner would build a house on it and they would be paying the taxes and the water and sewer and garbage and all that. So, the cost is all there for the landlord plus it sounded like there was going to be a small fee, which sounded like it wouldn't even be \$100, but there would be a small fee to rent the land that your house is sitting on. What they're trying to stop is someone from California buying up the house at a tax sale and then still not doing anything with that in bringing it up to code or anything and then just letting it go again to another tax sale. So, that's what they're trying to stop, so I see their problem. But I don't think that's the solution.

Mr. Barney: I concur. I know Gary and I did speak about it and that was one of the ones that we need further discussion or we have to find out some specifics that would change our mind on that. But the others, overall I thought it was very productive and informative and we're looking forward to farther feedback and more information. I'm sure that as they move through the process, I'm sure they will be presenting something to us, as well as Dr. Wood and his staff doing due diligence with the Community Foundation.

- c. Update from County Council: Mr. Shank is not present, so there is nothing to report at this time.
- d. Update from County Executive's Office: There are some technical difficulties, so Mr. Smith gives an update over Dr. Wood's phone.

Mr. Smith: Good morning, everybody. I just wanted to update the Board a little bit on where we are with the EMS project. I think as you already know we engaged Deborah Thompson's firm, Strategy Solutions, to help us with outreach in the community. They have been working with our team, Mr. Grappy and Ms. Horan, to conduct individual interviews and to conduct surveys to quantify gaps. As of the 12<sup>th</sup> of this month, all 39 Erie County municipalities had completed an interview and 100% of the EMS agencies, 85% of the active fire departments. This is fairly close to our original timeline; we are a little bit behind but it's not bad considering the breadth of the project.

One thing that is clear from the interviews, there is not a desire for County control of EMS and that is not what the County seeks. The mass majority of EMS and fire department leaders concur with themselves being the voice of any authority and so they are working on a governance structure through a steering committee of EMS and fire department leaders. Those include John Orr of Stancliff Hose, Dan Oulette from Millcreek, David Banizak from EmeryCare, Bill Vassen from Cranesville, Ron Boll from McKean, Steve Oler from Harborcreek Township.

A county-wide authority is being explored because it is much simpler to administer than multi-municipal which would require individual ordinances from each municipality to make any changes or additions to that authority. They're looking at dividing the county into pods or

districts that would identify their own recommended Board members; those Board members would ultimately make decisions. The steering committee is also working on proposed structure and guidelines to address system gaps. In the research, there is a second round of interviews beginning in early October with a county-wide meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

That's all I have in terms of a report. The County Executive just walked in and asked if he could address you as well.

County Executive Davis: We're going to work with the technological challenges here this morning. I was in Harrisburg a few days ago and met with the Pro-temp of the Senate, Kim Ward and Senator Mastriano who is the Chair of the Veterans and Emergency Services Committee. There is a state bill that would support this county-wide EMS authority. It's looking like we should be able to get that out of committee; we are working to get the votes in the House to hopefully get this through and passed - by the end of the year is the goal.

I know there has been some discussion, I just read through the ECGRA minutes, we just need to be very careful in terms of what we're funding with fire departments and EMS; I don't want to get conflicted missions here. With the knowledge that we have working through bringing these different committees online, I don't want ECGRA's funding to work against the mission of what we're trying to do in terms of making investments that aren't supported by the data and aren't supported by fire departments and EMS entities collaborating or making investments in fire companies. We have some that are open less than 5% of the time. There is one fire company that was only open seven hours out of the entire month last month. I would just be very leery without you having access to that data that you're investing in an entity that isn't providing services as opposed to us rewarding the entities and kind of reimbursing the entities that are. I just think we need to make sure that we're moving in lock step with this EMS mission; it's going to make it a lot easier for us to achieve this county-wide mission. That would be my ask in the EMS is that ECGRA hold off on funding any types of fire and EMS until we can work through this mechanism in the coming months. There shouldn't be any drastic needs. We do have the second tranche of ARPA funding that we are deliberately allocating out to support the EMS mission. I don't believe that there is anyone who is critical.

I think we need to improve our communications; I've had this conversation with the other Authorities as well, that our funders, whether it be DEI or the Redevelopment, obviously there's an Infinite Erie mission, there's the Chamber's Fly Fund that I see is on your agenda. We need to make sure that we are communicating where these investments are and we're investing this intelligently with the taxpayers in mind. I think Authorities, albeit separate, are still an arm and an entity of Erie County government and it's from the same pockets of taxpayers so we need to make sure we're not funding initiatives where entities show up and get two bites of the apple. The Fly Fund would be one example of that. I think there are several initiatives that Infinite Erie is bringing forth that that could be another example where they get a bite from potentially DEI, where they get a bite from ECGRA, get a bite from RDA, and then come to the county's budget as well. We need to make sure that we can leverage our funds to the best of our ability and make sure that we're doing this intelligently. And I'm starting to see that we're getting a little conflicted in these different spaces where we could potentially have entities taking two or three or multiple bites of the apple and that's not fair for County taxpayers to front a bill four different directions or three different directions. So, I just think we need to improve our communication on those fronts.

Again, watch our overhead. Across these Authorities and Commissions, it seems the overhead is in an upward trend. That's just a cautionary across all these Boards, Authorities, and Commissions that have staff, have overhead, have different bills; let's start putting our heads together to see how maybe we can collaborate, share spaces, reduce our overhead.

But other than that, that's really all I have before you. I guess we get conflicted on our missions here and fund different stuff, so I appreciate your guy's time. I got a 9:30 I gotta get to, but I appreciate it.

Mr. Barney: Thank you.

CE Davis: Thank you, Perry.

Mr. Cleaver: Mr. Chairman, can I interrupt for a second?

Mr. Barney: Go ahead.

Mr. Cleaver: I'd like to withdraw my request for the Executive Session based on the County Executive's sort of an update and Mr. Smith's sort of an update on what's transpiring with these so-called programs. So, I will withdraw my request for Executive Session until I'm satisfied that there should be an Executive Session to address our Executive Director's contract.

Mr. Barney: Thank you. Request noted.

Let the record show that Ms. Hess leaves the meeting at 9:26am.

#### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood: Folks, I'll be brief. There is a report in your packet. The first is the money that came in from the County for the quarterly funds. Next is the Parker Philips update, and third is the agenda for the meeting that took place in which we discussed the Fly Erie Fund. The Chamber gave a great presentation. Then we went through 26 different applications for the Community Facilities, settling on today's resolution which puts 22 of them on the agenda. Then we wrapped up the meeting with All Aboard Erie giving us an update on rail lines.

I put the full presentation in here that was given. The agenda, the partners, this was the Infinite Erie curated projects that our Board saw with the Community Foundation Board, so you can take a look at that later in your free time. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. Then there's a thank you letter from the Humane Society, there's an article that was in the North East Journal, and the Corry Journal about projects that we have funded in those communities.

Moving on, under Old Business, you're going to see this form – the PMRS Advisory. Every year we have to re-up with PMRS, which is the employee retirement system. If you don't know that stands for the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System; so that's the Pennsylvania-created concept for small Authorities, school districts, counties, municipalities. That's where the staff at ECGRA has their retirement.

You'll see Resolution Number 14; this is the resolution we talked about last month to empower Tim and I to go in and work with the Finance Department at the County to make sure that there's a reconciliation process of Gaming Funds. Resolution 15 would be the 22 Community Facilities, and then Resolution Number 16 is the Fly Erie Fund, which the agreement - Tim and I worked on the agreement - and that's in your packet. We can talk about that when we go over New Business. I'll conclude my report there. Are there any questions for me? Thank you.

#### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter has nothing to report at this time.



## OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Barney: We have the PMRS item to address.

Dr. Wood: Just to clarify – I would need the Board to make a motion to re-up our involvement with PMRS. This is an annual re-up for the staff's retirement program.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the involvement with PMRS. Mr. Winschel seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the PMRS plan. Motion carries 6-0.

## NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution Number 14, 2023 – Resolution to authorize engagement to perform an annual reconciliation with Erie County of gaming local share distributions

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There are no questions or discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- b. Resolution 15, 2023 – Resolution to enter into agreement with twenty-two (22) Erie County Community Facilities as part of the Building a Better Future

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. DiPaolo: I would like to request that we make separations on these, if possible.

Mr. Barney: When you say separation, do you mean all of them or is there one specific one?

Mr. DiPaolo: I have a problem with the Eagle's Nest; I have to abstain from that since I am on the Board.

Mr. Wachter: So, it's not so much that you have a problem with it, it's just that you have to abstain from it.

Mr. DiPaolo: Right, I don't have a problem with it; I'm on the Board. I have a problem with Bodhi.

Mr. Barney: So, it's okay for us to vote on all the others at one time?

Mr. Wachter: Yes. It would be appropriate, since he asked for separation, it would be appropriate to consider a motion to adopt Resolution 15 for every expenditure other than the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation; that can move forward. Then a second motion to approve the Eagles's Nest Leadership Corporation investment, at which point Mr. DiPaolo can abstain. Two separate votes.

Dr. Wood: So, for the first vote, let's do 21 of the 22 Community Facilities. Is that acceptable?

Ms. Loll: I do have a question. The Youth Leadership Institute of Erie, they requested \$91,800 but it was recommended that they receive \$0. Are they at \$0 or are they at the \$91?

Dr. Wood: Zero.

Mr. Barney: Zero for this time.

Ms. Loll: We're talking about \$1,875,285, not the other figure to the left.

Dr. Wood: It's the column that says Award Amount that you can focus on.

Ms. Loll: Well, mine says Recommended.

Dr. Wood: Maybe I have the older version.

Ms. Michali: That one is the old one; there was an updated one.

Ms. Loll: So, this is the column I'm looking at here?

Dr. Wood: Yes, the Recommended column.

Ms. Loll: Okay, thank you.

Dr. Wood: Okay for the first, let's do a role call vote for 21 of the 22 . . .

Ms. Loll: I would like to take Bodhi Gardens out and vote on that separate.

Dr. Wood: Does that require a motion to separate?

Mr. Wachter: Is it a separation because you have a conflict or is it . . .

Ms. Loll: I just want to vote "No" on that particular one.

Mr. Wachter: If we're separating for conflict purposes, it wouldn't require a motion, but if you're going to separate one from the entirety, it would require a motion. So, you would make a motion to separate, which one?

Ms. Loll: Bodhi Gardens from the total list.

Mr. Wachter: Okay. Ms. Loll has made a motion to separate Bodhi Gardens.

Mr. DiPaolo: I'll second.

The motion to separate Bodhi Gardens from the list of Community Facilities is voted on. Motion carries 6-0.

Mr. Wachter: So, now what you have in front of you is a resolution to enter into an agreement with 20 entities, not including Bodhi Gardens and Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation.

Dr. Wood: So, we will take a motion to take a vote on 20 of the 22 entities.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the voting on 20 of the 22 Community Facilities. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the motion. Motion carries 6-0.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. DiPaolo had made a motion to separate Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation first, so we will put that first in line. This is a motion to approve Eagle's Nest grant in the amount of \$125,000.

Mr. Winschel makes the motion to approve the Eagle's Nest grant. Ms. Loll seconds the motion.

Mr. Cleaver: I have a question on that, Dom. Is there a reason we're separating that?

Mr. Barney: He is on their Board.

Mr. Wachter: He wants to abstain.

Mr. Barney: We aren't eliminating it.

Mr. Cleaver: I'm sorry; I didn't hear that. I thought he was taking it off completely.

There is no further discussion on the motion. Motion carries 5-0-1, with Mr. DiPaolo abstaining.

Mr. Barney: Can I get a motion to vote on Bodhi Gardens?

Mr. Wachter: Ms. Loll has separated it from this, so we still need to handle it. So, we would need a motion and if it passes, it passes and if it doesn't, then it doesn't.

Mr. Barney: Can I get a motion to approve Bodhi Gardens?

Mr. Wachter: It has already been removed, so this is the vote on the actual grant itself.

Mr. Winschel makes a motion to vote on the Bodhi Gardens grant. Mr. Oberlander seconds the motion.

Mr. Barney: Now it's time for discussion. Carol, did you have comments?

Ms. Loll: Oh. I just feel it's um, they were planning on selling the product when they were done; it didn't sound, to me, as though it was going to be done properly so and I just wasn't crazy about it so I wanted to separate it.

Mr. Oberlander: So, you don't want to fund it at all?

Ms. Loll: No. Not at all.

Mr. DiPaolo: For discussion, I'd have to agree with Carol. When they were here, number one they didn't do a good presentation. These people we had here this morning were excellent. The director didn't know how many food pantries there were in Erie County . . .

Ms. Loll: . . . and they weren't supplying them . . .

Mr. DiPaolo: . . . not only were they not supplying them, but it's a duplication of what the food pantries do with Second Harvest. So, I feel the same way as Carol.

Dr. Wood: That's good feedback. We appreciate that. The staff is in support of funding Bodhi Gardens. It's at the EMTA facility, it addresses a very unique crowd of veterans, and it addresses a food dessert in the city. That's the other side of the coin.

Mr. DiPaolo: One thing that I don't think they explained, and I don't think anybody knows it, the EMTA is involved and you can take a bus and go there and get your lettuce - do you have to pay for your ride or are they giving you a free ride there?

Mr. Cleaver: It depends upon your age.

Mr. DiPaolo: What if you're not old enough that you have to pay?

Mr. Cleaver: I don't know, but I know if you're a senior citizen you get a free ride.

Dr. Wood: If you have a Community College ID, you can ride the bus for free.

Mr. DiPaolo: I understand that but the bottom line is, you have a food pantry maybe half a block away from you, why would you want to go there and have to pay for a bus ride? That's what I'm saying.

Ms. Loll: And the food . . .

Mr. DiPaolo: If in fact they were giving it to them for nothing and the lettuce for nothing, that's a different story.

Ms. Loll: And they're not.

Mr. DiPaolo: And they're not doing that. Okay, I don't want to prolong this.

Role Call to vote on Bodhi Gardens occurs. Motion fails 1-4-1, with Mr. Barney voting in the affirmative and Mr. Cleaver abstaining.

- c. Resolution Number 16, 2023 – Resolution to authorize an agreement between the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, the Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership, and the Fly Erie Fund for \$375,000 mission-related investment (MRI)

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the resolution. Ms. Loll seconds the motion.

Ms. Loll: My understanding is that this money is not going to be spent unless they are moving forward with it and things are working out to get the airline in.

Dr. Wood: The agreement says that we're going to put money into the Fly Erie Fund in the amount of \$375,000 over three years with multiple drawdowns based upon the ability of the Fund to obtain a match. Now, that's going to be a multi-year process. Every year, as a member of this LLC, we'll make sure the funds have come in and as they do, we'll release funds. That's what this agreement says. This agreement doesn't say . . .

Ms. Loll: This has nothing to do with them getting a new airline?

Dr. Wood: That's the ultimate goal, but it doesn't say that they only get the money if the airline comes in because there is a process to get the airline in and so it's going to take this money to do so.

Ms. Loll: But if they have the money for sure and the airline would know that, so they wouldn't spend it.

Dr. Wood: I just want to be clear that the Fund is for what was presented here and what the folks from the Chamber said was that they were going to have a marketing fund to bring in a legacy carrier and a low-cost carrier and to put more people so that there would be more confidence in locals to use

the Erie Airport. Those are the three big goals of the Fly Erie Fund. So, our funds would go toward that concept.

Think about it this way. If it's going to take a year to get the legacy fund, we can't say that they're only going to get the funds when the legacy fund comes in because our funds will be part of the process of recruiting the legacy fund and the low-carrier fund. Does that make sense?

Mr. Oberlander: And you feel a sense of urgency for this?

Dr. Wood: I definitely feel a sense of urgency. I'd like us to launch this as soon as possible to help them move forward because they are flying and doing all their presentations. They have the most aggressive and comprehensive plan that I've seen to address the airport and I think it should give you confidence that it's your Chamber launching this in conjunction with the airport staff. As we saw in the presentation, they're ready to roll with it.

Mr. Smith: (via chat) Is ECGRA going to maintain the fund for the airport? Did the airport explain who would manage the fund?

Dr. Wood: That's a great question, Doug, and I'm sorry that you have to type that in. No, we are not. It's going to be in the form of an LLC at the Chamber, and that LLC will be governed by the folks that put money into it.

There are no further questions or discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

Mr. Barney: I have something I'd like to bring up. I had discussed it with another Board member who had some concerns, and they wanted more clarity pertaining to us moving forward on the Executive Director's position. We requested our Solicitor to do some research and find out how we can get that clarity. It was brought to my attention that in obtaining that, it's going to cost us a few dollars. We have two entities, and it would cost, but for us to get some additional clarity on what would be appropriate just for guidance. It doesn't lock us into anything, but for additional information. But it would cost so I didn't want to say Yea and then that's why it's before us. Tim, would you like to speak on this briefly?

Mr. Wachter: The question is whether the Board wanted to engage in a salary study to determine whether the, with parameters for the Executive Director's contract. I was asked to obtain proposals. I requested three entities submit proposals; only two did. One by Decision Associates and one by J. L. Nick. The question of whether you approve a salary study or not would be an open session discussion here at the Board level. The question of whether that is the manner that you want to proceed with for considering negotiations of the contract and the extension of the contract with Dr. Wood would be an Executive Session discussion. I would be happy to pass out these proposals so that you can take a look at them and consider whether you want to move forward. But I think on the question of whether this is the appropriate path to move forward would be an Executive Session discussion.

So, if you want to move into Executive Session and have that, we can do that real briefly and then come back if you want to take a motion.

Mr. Barney: What are the Board's wishes?

Ms. Loll: Well, I'd like to know more.

Mr. Winschel: I think we should try.

Mr. Wachter: I can present on this in about five minutes, depending on how much you want to . . .

Dr. Wood: Is someone calling an Executive Session, for the record?

Mr. Winschel calls an Executive Session for the matters of Personnel at 9:50am.

Executive Session resumes at 10:10am.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Oberlander moves to adjourn. Mr. DiPaolo seconds the motion. Meeting is adjourned at 10:10 am.

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Dale Barney  
Chairman of the Board  
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

FROM: Dominick DiPaolo  
ECGRA Board Director

DATE: September 21, 2023

RE: Conflict of Interest Disclosure

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On this date, the Board of Directors of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was presented with Resolution Number 15, 2023, which was a Resolution to enter into agreements with twenty-two (22) Erie County Community Facilities as part of the Building a Better Future. One such entity is the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation. The award from the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation was separated.

I am an Executive Board Member for the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation. As such, I have abstained from any deliberation or involvement in the process to determine whether to recommend an award to the Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation, and I abstain from the deliberation, and vote, regarding the approval of the Resolution. Further, I announced my conflict during the meeting and request that this memo be made part of the minutes of the September 21, 2023 meeting of the ECGRA Board of Directors.





**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority  
Profit & Loss  
September 2023**

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2023-24 YTD</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
44000 · ARPA Fund				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		1,483,780.92		
44801 · Interactive Gaming Revenue	1,914,504.55	1,914,504.55		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	46,510.25	264,064.57		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC - Erie Grow	7,666.67	15,250.00		
46424 · Interest Income - Progress Fund		5,000.00		
46425 · Interest Income - EDF Restruct		6,500.00		
46426 · Interest Income - BWC - Inclusive	6,388.89	12,708.33		
46427 · Interest Income - Blue Highway		904.89		
46428 · Interest Income - eCAT		5,112.00		
46510 · Interest Income - YLI		13,272.00		
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>1,975,070.36</u>	<u>3,721,097.26</u>		
<b>Expense</b>				
62100 · Contracted Services	4,372.04	44,948.98	42,406.00	72,700.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	3,289.50	9,571.99	14,000.00	24,000.00
65000 · Office Administration	1,265.72	6,900.16	13,825.00	23,700.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	3,712.96	33,905.57	32,725.00	56,100.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	23,663.20	139,582.08	200,025.00	342,900.00
67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)	(\$1,974.47)	186,207.47	233,331.00	4,000,000.00
7000 · Provision for Uncollect Notes	(\$2,654.00)	(2,654.00)		
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>31,674.95</u>	<u>418,462.25</u>	<u>536,312.00</u>	<u>4,519,400.00</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	1,943,395.41	3,302,635.01		
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
70000 · Grants / Settlements / MRIs				
70030 · Community Assets		255,497.00		
70050 · Municipal Settlements	478,626.14	849,571.37		
70070 · Special Events		213,424.73		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration	55,000.00	55,000.00		
70100 · Mission Main Street		50,000.00		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program				
70125 · Neighborhoods & Communities MRI				
70130 · Small Business Financing				
70136 · Ignite Erie_Beehive				
70140 · Pilot Projects				
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow				
70170 · Renaissance Block	200,000.00	233,333.00		
70180 · Anchor Building	31,666.00	31,666.00		
70190 · COVID-19 Immediate Human Relief				
<b>Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements</b>	<u>765,292.14</u>	<u>1,688,492.10</u>		
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(765,292.14)</u>	<u>(1,688,492.10)</u>		
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><u>1,178,103.27</u></u>	<u><u>1,614,142.91</u></u>		

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of September 30, 2023

	<b>September</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	111,278.40
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10101 · Committed Funds	1,339,350.00
10102 · Restricted Funds	3,542,957.65
10104 · ARPA Fund	1,993,017.24
10100 · ErieBank - Savings - Other	12,498,024.26
<b>Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings</b>	19,373,349.15
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	19,484,627.55
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12004 · NR - BWC - Erie Growth	1,000,000.00
12005 · NR - Progress Fund	1,000,000.00
12010 · NR - 1855 Capital	500,000.00
12050 · NR - EDF Restructured	1,300,000.00
12060 · NR - BWC - Inclusive Erie	2,500,000.00
12070 · NR - Blue Highway	250,000.00
12080 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Sm Bus	520,000.00
12085 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Nnprofit	100,000.00
12090 · NR - eCAT	500,000.00
12500 · NR - Youth Leadership Institute	108,552.00
12900 · Reserve for Uncollectable Notes	(1,526,946.00)
<b>Total 12000 · Notes Receivable</b>	6,251,606.00
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	6,232.80
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	6,257,838.80
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	25,742,466.35
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>25,742,466.35</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
20100* · Deferred Revenue	(4,000,000.00)
20300 · Unearned Revenue	6,377,099.69
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	2,377,099.69
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	2,377,099.69
<b>Equity</b>	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	18,824,159.57
Net Income	1,614,142.91
<b>Total Equity</b>	23,365,366.66
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>25,742,466.35</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Budget vs. Actual**  
**September 2023**

Expense	September	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
<b>62100 · Contracted Services</b>					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	11,000.00	8,200.00	2,800.00	134.15%
62130 · Professional Services	3,000.00	21,933.92	40,000.00	(18,066.08)	54.83%
62140 · Legal Services	1,285.20	10,310.60	20,000.00	(9,689.40)	51.55%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	1,140.00	3,000.00	(1,860.00)	38.00%
62150 · Payroll Services	86.84	564.46	1,500.00	(935.54)	37.63%
<b>Total 62100 · Contracted Services</b>	<b>4,372.04</b>	<b>44,948.98</b>	<b>72,700.00</b>	<b>(27,751.02)</b>	<b>61.83%</b>
<b>62800 · Facilities &amp; Equipment</b>					
62840 · Office Equipment	0.00	944.99	6,000.00	(5,055.01)	15.75%
62890 · Rent	3,289.50	8,627.00	18,000.00	(9,373.00)	47.93%
<b>Total 62800 · Facilities &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>3,289.50</b>	<b>9,571.99</b>	<b>24,000.00</b>	<b>(14,428.01)</b>	<b>39.88%</b>
<b>65000 · Office Administration</b>					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	65.00	1,327.00	3,000.00	(1,673.00)	44.23%
65020 · Postage	21.19	145.78	250.00	(104.22)	58.31%
65040 · Office Supplies	198.47	642.82	2,000.00	(1,357.18)	32.14%
65050 · Cell Phone	634.71	1,265.93	3,000.00	(1,734.07)	42.20%
65060 · Copier Lease	311.35	1,868.14	4,200.00	(2,331.86)	44.48%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	0.00	68.59	500.00	(431.41)	13.72%
65080 · Bank Fees	35.00	210.00	500.00	(290.00)	42.00%
65085 · Professional Development	0.00	350.00	6,000.00	(5,650.00)	5.83%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	0.00	1,021.90	4,000.00	(2,978.10)	25.55%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
<b>Total 65000 · Office Administration</b>	<b>1,265.72</b>	<b>6,900.16</b>	<b>23,700.00</b>	<b>(16,799.84)</b>	<b>29.11%</b>
<b>65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>					
65105 · Outreach	1,000.00	3,788.00	5,000.00	(1,212.00)	75.76%
65110 · Advertising	159.54	3,239.31	4,000.00	(760.69)	80.98%
65115 · Phone/IT/Fax	824.56	11,492.30	18,000.00	(6,507.70)	63.85%
65120 · Insurance	1,544.08	9,264.48	18,600.00	(9,335.52)	49.81%
65130 · Grant Management Software	0.00	5,562.00	5,500.00	62.00	101.13%
65150 · Travel	184.78	559.48	5,000.00	(4,440.52)	11.19%
<b>Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>	<b>3,712.96</b>	<b>33,905.57</b>	<b>56,100.00</b>	<b>(22,194.43)</b>	<b>60.44%</b>
<b>66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	20,777.80	120,111.03	300,000.00	(179,888.97)	40.04%
66010 · FITW Tax	1,410.44	9,167.86	21,000.00	(11,832.14)	43.66%
66015 · FUTA Tax	0.00	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	0.00%
66020 · PASUI Tax	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
66700 · PMRS	1,474.96	10,303.19	19,750.00	(9,446.81)	52.17%
<b>Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>23,663.20</b>	<b>139,582.08</b>	<b>342,900.00</b>	<b>(203,317.92)</b>	<b>40.71%</b>
<b>67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)</b>					
67005 · Contracted Services - ARPA	0.00	44,707.76	214,540.20	(169,832.44)	20.84%
67010 · Subawards - ARPA	-6,266.26	110,620.19	1,925,293.10	(1,814,672.91)	5.75%
67025 · Indirect Costs - ARPA	496.72	2,593.76	7,772.47	(5,178.71)	33.37%
67030 · Salaries & Wages - ARPA	3,795.07	28,285.76	31,618.94	(3,333.18)	89.46%
<b>Total 67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)</b>	<b>(1,974.47)</b>	<b>186,207.47</b>	<b>2,179,224.71</b>	<b>(1,993,017.24)</b>	<b>149.41%</b>
<b>7000 · Provision for Uncollect Notes</b>	<b>(2,654.00)</b>	<b>(2,654.00)</b>			
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>31,674.95</b>	<b>418,462.25</b>	<b>2,698,624.71</b>	<b>(2,280,162.46)</b>	<b>15.51%</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**September 30, 2023**

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
<b>Restricted Uncommitted Funds</b>	3,542,957.65		
<b>Committed Funds</b>	1,339,350.00		
<b>ARPA Funds</b>	1,993,017.24		
<b>2023 Restricted Funds: (75% - after settlement payments)</b>			
First Quarter Gaming Revenue		300,245.10	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue		1,183,535.82	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue			
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue			<b>1,483,780.92</b>
<b>2023 Interactive Gaming Revenue</b>			
FY 2022-2023	1,914,504.55	1,914,504.55	<b>1,914,504.55</b>
<b>FY Disbursements:</b>			
First Quarter Disbursements		557,111.92	
Second Quarter Disbursements	759,025.88	1,242,000.37	
Third Quarter Disbursements			
Fourth Quarter Disbursements			<b>1,799,112.29</b>

**Disbursements Detail**

**Grants/Settlements/MRIs**

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
<b>MUNICIPALITIES</b>			
<b>Settlements</b>			
Summit Township	215,381.74	382,307.07	
Greene Township	52,648.88	93,452.86	
McKean Township	52,648.88	93,452.86	
Millcreek Township	52,648.88	93,452.86	
Waterford Township	52,648.88	93,452.86	
Erie County	52,648.88	93,452.86	
			<b>849,571.37</b>
<b>Multi-Municipal Collaboration</b>			
Girard Township	21,000.00	21,000.00	
Harborcreek Township	34,000.00	34,000.00	
			<b>55,000.00</b>
<b>AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT</b>			
<b>Small Business Ecosystem</b>			
<b>Anchor Building</b>			
Christian Ministries of the Apostolic Faith	45,000.00	45,000.00	
			<b>45,000.00</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**September 30, 2023**

	September	YTD	Subtotal
<b>AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (cont)</b>			
<b>Mission Main Street</b>			
Downtown Girard		75,000.00	
			<b>75,000.00</b>
<b>Renaissance Block</b>			
Downtown Girard		50,000.00	
			<b>50,000.00</b>
<b>Erie County Investment Playbook</b>			
Nonprofit Partnership		21,127.15	
			<b>21,127.15</b>

**NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES**

**Anchor Building**

**Mission Main Street**

**Renaissance Block**

Bayfront Eastside Taskforce	50,000.00	50,000.00	
Borough of Edinboro	50,000.00	50,000.00	
Borough of Union City	50,000.00	50,000.00	
Impact Corry	50,000.00	50,000.00	
			<b>200,000.00</b>

**QUALITY OF PLACE**

**Community Assets**

**Arts, Culture, & Heritage**

Albion Area Fair, Inc.	5,000.00
AmeriMasala	15,000.00
Community Resources for Independence	3,500.00
Dafmark Dance Theater	12,000.00
Downtown Edinboro Art & Music Festival	15,000.00
Downtown North East, Inc.	12,000.00
Edinboro University Foundation	7,500.00
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	12,000.00
Erie Yesterday	8,325.00
Film Society of Northwestern PA	15,000.00
Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society	5,935.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	10,000.00
Harborcreek Historical Society	9,822.00
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	12,000.00
Lawrence Park Township	1,400.00
North East Arts Council	3,000.00
Our West Bayfront	6,225.00
Performing Artists Collective Alliance	10,000.00

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**September 30, 2023**

	September	YTD	Subtotal
<b>Community Assets (con't)</b>			
<b>Arts, Culture, &amp; Heritage</b>			
SSJ Neighborhood Network		8,000.00	
Unitarian Universalist Congregation		2,500.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association		15,000.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		15,000.00	
WQLN Public Media		15,000.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		15,000.00	
		15,000.00	<b>234,207.00</b>
<b>Community Centers</b>			
Martin Luther King Center		15,000.00	
		15,000.00	<b>15,000.00</b>
<b>Parks, Fields, Trails</b>			
Humane Society of NWPA		18,500.00	
		18,500.00	<b>18,500.00</b>
<b>Special Events</b>			
Albion Area Fair, Inc.		12,707.00	
AmeriMasala		3,543.55	
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.		1,520.11	
Barber National Institute		17,683.00	
Borough of Edinboro		1,625.00	
Borough of Union City		230.00	
Borough of Wesleyville		965.50	
CAFE		20,000.00	
Community Blood Bank of NWPA		1,400.00	
Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.		4,594.55	
Downtown North East, Inc.		887.00	
Edinboro University Foundation		2,525.00	
Erie Bird Observatory		265.00	
Erie County Veterans Memorial Park		300.00	
Erie Downtown Partnership		6,000.00	
Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc		3,011.20	
Erie Lions Club Save an Eye Game		1,068.00	
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.		5,000.00	
Erie-Western PA Port Authority		6,866.00	
Film Society of Northwestern PA		9,255.00	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		2,050.00	
Harborcreek Community Engagement Team		915.00	
Harborcreek Township		1,400.00	
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church		6,925.00	
Humane Society of NWPA		7,500.00	
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie		19,300.00	
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.		5,000.00	
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society		3,000.00	

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**September 30, 2023**

	September	YTD	Subtotal
<b>Special Events (cont)</b>			
Lawrence Park Township		37.50	
McKean Community Development Group		500.00	
Mercy Center for Women		1,200.00	
Mercy Hilltop Center		400.00	
Nonprofit Partnership, The		3,882.00	
Pinkracks		750.00	
Presque Isle Light Station		297.00	
Presque Isle Partnership		4,692.50	
Russian Orthodox Church of the Nativity		2,287.50	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		5,412.74	
SafeNet		3,942.50	
Saint Joseph Church		4,450.00	
Saint Patrick Church		7,746.92	
St. Stanislaus Catholic Church		250.00	
Union City Pride		1,273.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association		9,250.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		12,345.06	
YMCA of Corry		3,072.10	
YMCA of Greater Erie		400.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		4,500.00	
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		1,200.00	
		213,424.73	213,424.73
 <b>SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING</b>			
<b>Beehive Network</b>			
<b>Community Enterprise Financing Loan</b>			
 <b>YOUTH &amp; EDUCATION</b>			
<b>Summer Jobs &amp; More</b>	(19,600.26)	22,282.04	22,282.04
 <b>Total Funds Disbursements</b>	759,025.88	1,799,112.29	1,799,112.29

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**September 30, 2023**

		<u>September</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
<b>Committed Funds:</b>				
<b>N&amp;C</b>	<b>Renaissance Block 2018</b>			
	1 Academy Neighborhood Association		11,250.00	22,500.00
	SSJ Neighborhood Network		7,000.00	70,000.00
	2 Bayfront Eastside Taskforce		25,000.00	50,000.00
	ServErie		29,000.00	58,000.00
	<b>Renaissance Block 2022</b>			
	Borough of Edinboro		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Our West Bayfront		50,000.00	100,000.00
	<b>Renaissance Block 2023</b>			
	Borough of Edinboro	50,000.00	50,000.00	100,000.00
	Borough of Union City	50,000.00	50,000.00	100,000.00
	Impact Corry	50,000.00	50,000.00	100,000.00
	<b>Anchor Building</b>			
	19 Impact Corry		60,000.00	75,000.00
	20 Borough of Union City		15,000.00	64,375.00
	22 Christian Ministries	13,334.00	0.00	95,000.00
	<b>Mission Main Street</b>			
	1 City of Erie		225,000.00	250,000.00
	3 Waterford Borough		84,600.00	249,800.00
	<b>Mission Main Street 2022</b>			
	Downtown North East		87,500.00	175,000.00
	Edinboro Community & Economic Development		62,500.00	125,000.00
	Our West Bayfront		125,000.00	125,000.00
<b>MUN</b>	<b>Multi-Municipal Collaboration</b>			
	21 Borough of North East		50,000.00	100,000.00
<b>SB</b>	<b>Beehive Network</b>			
	<b>Community Enterprise Financing Loan</b>			
	<b>Small Business Ecosystem</b>			
	Impact Corry		87,500.00	175,000.00
<b>PP</b>	<b>Pilot Program</b>			
<b>Y&amp;E</b>	<b>Shaping Tomorrow</b>			
	Empower Erie - Community College		220,000.00	400,000.00
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>		<b>163,334.00</b>	<b>1,339,350.00</b>	<b>2,534,675.00</b>
<b>ARPA Transformative Funds</b>				
	<b>Subawards</b>	(6,266.26)	1,814,672.91	3,622,025.00
	<b>Contracted Services</b>	0.00	169,832.44	273,274.00
	<b>Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	3,795.07	3,333.18	93,406.00
	<b>Indirect Costs</b>	496.72	5,178.71	11,295.00
		<b>(1,974.47)</b>	<b>1,993,017.24</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total ARPA Funds</b>				



**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Transaction List Detail**  
**September 2023**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
09/01/2023	EFT	VISA	2023 August Statement	-284.66
09/05/2023	EFT	Altair Real Estate	2023 August, Sept Rent	-3,355.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Altair Real Estate	2023 June, July Retro Pay	-305.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Borough of Edinboro	2023 Renaissance Block - 1st Draw	-50,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Borough of Union City	2023 Renaissance Block - 1st Draw	-50,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Christian Ministries	2022 Anchor Building	-45,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Girard Township	2023 MMC	-21,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Harborcreek Township	2023 MMC	-34,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Impact Corry	2023 Renaissance Block - 1st Draw	-50,000.00
09/05/2023	EFT	Perry Wood	2023 Q2 Phone/Travel	-393.64
09/05/2023	EFT	Tammi Michali	2023 Q2 Phone	-113.01
09/08/2023	EFT	Bayfront Eastside Taskforce	2023 Renaissance Block - Full	-50,000.00
09/08/2023	EFT	Parker Philips	2023 August Professional Services	-3,000.00
09/08/2023	EFT	Tom M. Maggio	2023 Q2 Phone, Travel	-312.84
09/08/2023	EFT	Velocity Network, Inc.	2023 September Phone/IT	-916.18
09/08/2023	EFT	Local iQ	Ads for 8/15, 8/28	-159.54
09/08/2023	EFT	Highmark Health Insurance	2023 September Health Insurance	-6,135.73
09/13/2023	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	08/26/2023 to 09/08/2023 Payroll	-9,717.21
09/13/2023	EFT	Fidelity Investments	08/26/2023 to 09/08/2023 Simple IRA	-250.00
09/13/2023	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 09/08/2023	-737.48
09/15/2023	EFT	Summit Township	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-215,381.74
09/15/2023	EFT	Greene Township	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-52,648.88
09/15/2023	EFT	McKean Township	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-52,648.88
09/15/2023	EFT	Millcreek Township	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-52,648.88
09/15/2023	EFT	Waterford Township	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-52,648.88
09/15/2023	EFT	Erie County	2022-23 Interactive Gaming	-52,648.88
09/15/2023	EFT	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2023 September Legal	-1,285.20
09/19/2023	EFT	Erie Latino Leadership Association	2023 Outreach	-1,000.00
09/27/2023	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	09/09/2023 to 09/22/2023 Payroll	-9,717.21
09/27/2023	EFT	Fidelity Investments	09/09/2023 to 09/22/2023 Simple IRA	-250.00
09/27/2023	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 9/22/2023	-737.48
09/27/2023	EFT	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2023 October Copier Lease	-345.95
09/30/2023	EFT	Erie Bank	Security Token Fee	-35.00

ERIEBANK

BL ACCT 00100029-10000000  
ERIE COUNTY GAMING  
Account Number: #### #### ####-8643  
Page 1 of 3



**SCORECARD** CASHBACK CURRENT BALANCE \$0.00 CASHBACK PAYOUT DATE 05/15/2024

**Account Summary**

Billing Cycle		08/10/2023
Days In Billing Cycle		31
Previous Balance		\$755.98
Purchases	+	\$284.66
Cash	+	\$0.00
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00
Special	+	\$0.00
Credits	-	\$0.00
Payments	-	\$755.98
Other Charges	+	\$0.00
Finance Charges	+	\$0.00

**NEW BALANCE \$284.66**

**Credit Summary**

Total Credit Line	\$40,000.00
Available Credit Line	\$39,715.34
Available Cash	\$39,715.34
Amount Over Credit Line	\$0.00
Amount Past Due	\$0.00
Disputed Amount	\$0.00

**Account Inquiries**

- Call us at (866) 317-0355  
Lost or Stolen Card: (866) 317-0355
- Go to WWW MyCardStatement.com
- Write us at PO BOX 30495, TAMPA, FL 33630-3495

**Payment Summary**

NEW BALANCE	\$284.66
MINIMUM PAYMENT	\$284.66
PAYMENT DUE DATE	09/04/2023

*NOTE: Grace period to avoid a finance charge on purchases pay entire new balance by payment due date. Finance charge accrues on cash advances until paid and will be billed on your next statement.*

**Corporate Activity**

				<b>TOTAL CORPORATE ACTIVITY</b>	<b>\$755.98-</b>
Trans Date	Post Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount	
08/03	08/03	1620409926	INTERNET PMT-THANK YOU	\$755.98-	

**Cardholder Account Summary**

TAMMI MICHALI #### #### #### 9468	Payments & Other Credits \$0.00	Purchases & Other Charges \$284.66	Cash Advances \$0.00	Total Activity \$284.66
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**Cardholder Account Detail**

Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
07/18	07/19	PBUS01	24692163199103969960600	Amazon.com*057YI6723 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$16.49 O.S.
07/18	07/19	PBUS01	24692163199103970184786	AMZN Mktp US*438SF2S43 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$40.95 O.S.
07/18	07/19	PBUS01	24692163199104196282354	AMZN Mktp US*EL9JK53I3 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$55.28 O.S.
07/18	07/20	PBUS01	24121573200000199180223	KOLDROCK WATERS, INC 000-0000000 PA	\$30.00 O.S.

PLEASE DETACH COUPON AND RETURN PAYMENT USING THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE - ALLOW UP TO 7 DAYS FOR RECEIPT

ERIEBANK  
PO BOX 42  
CLEARFIELD PA 16830-0042

**Account Number**  
#### #### #### 8643

Check box to indicate name/address change on back of this coupon

AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ENCLOSED

<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>New Balance</b>	<b>Total Minimum Payment Due</b>	<b>Payment Due Date</b>
08/10/23	\$284.66	\$284.66	09/04/23

\$

BL ACCT 00100029-10000000  
ERIE COUNTY GAMING  
5340 FRYLING ROAD  
SUITE 201  
ERIE PA 16510-4672



MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:



VISA  
PO BOX 4517  
CAROL STREAM IL 60197-4517

17 4335 2636 1000 8643 00028466 00028466 9

**Cardholder Account Detail Continued**

Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
07/21	07/23	PBUS01	24692163202106398390567	STAMPS COM 855-608-2677 TX	\$21 19
07/25	07/25	PBUS01	24692163206109573700085	AMZN Mktp US*T68DO45A0 Amzn com/bill WA	\$25 46
07/26	07/27	PBUS01	24692163207100625578693	AMZN Mktp US*T60FC7ST0 Amzn com/bill WA	\$30 29
07/28	07/31	PBUS01	24789303211179102001585	GANNETT NEWSRPRR NE 888-8710686 IN	\$65 00

postage  
 O.S.  
 O.S.  
 subscript

**Additional Information About Your Account**

MANAGE YOUR CARD ACCOUNT ONLINE. IT'S FREE! IT'S EASY! SIMPLY GO TO [WWW.MYCARDSTATEMENT.COM](http://WWW.MYCARDSTATEMENT.COM) AND ENROLL IN OUR ONLINE SERVICE. YOU CAN REVIEW ACCOUNT INFORMATION, TRACK SPENDING, SET ALERT NOTIFICATIONS, DOWNLOAD FILES, AND MUCH MORE. MANAGING YOUR ACCOUNT IS FAST, SECURE AND EASY WITH MYCARDSTATEMENT. ENROLL TODAY!

**ScoreCard CashBack Earnings as of 08/09/2023**

SCORECARD	Beginning Balance	Current Earned	CashBack Adjusted	Ending Balance	CashBack Payout Date
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	05/15/2024

**Finance Charge Summary / Plan Level Information**

Plan Name	Plan Description	FCM <sup>1</sup>	Average Daily Balance	Periodic Rate *	Corresponding APR	Finance Charges	Effective APR Fees **	Effective APR	Ending Balance
<b>Purchases</b>									
PBUS01 001	PURCHASE	E	\$0.00	1.00000%(M)	12.0000%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$284.66
<b>Cash</b>									
CBUS01 001	CASH	G	\$0.00	1.00000%(M)	12.0000%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$0.00

\* Periodic Rate (M)=Monthly (D)=Daily  
 \*\* includes cash advance and foreign currency fees  
<sup>1</sup> FCM = Finance Charge Method  
 (V) = Variable Rate If you have a variable rate account the periodic rate and Annual Percentage Rate (APR) may vary.



**E·C·G·R·A**  
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT  
FOR  
OCTOBER  
2023**

## Tammi Michali

---

**From:** Knight, Ericka <EKnight@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 7, 2023 9:42 AM  
**To:** Tammi Michali  
**Subject:** FW: Act 42 LSA Distribution Notification - Erie County

**From:** Lichtenwalter, Paul <PLichtenwalter@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 5:04 PM  
**To:** Knight, Ericka <EKnight@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Act 42 LSA Distribution Notification - Erie County

**From:** RV, BFM Gaming <[RA-BFM-Gaming@pa.gov](mailto:RA-BFM-Gaming@pa.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 3, 2023 3:22 PM  
**To:** Lichtenwalter, Paul <[PLichtenwalter@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:PLichtenwalter@eriecountypa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Perry Wood <[pwood@ecgra.org](mailto:pwood@ecgra.org)>  
**Subject:** Act 42 LSA Distribution Notification - Erie County

This distribution is not part of the yearly local share assessment distributions. The funds mentioned are part of the new annual distribution that is a result of Interactive Gaming, which started in FY 2019.

*Per Gaming Act 42 of 2017 Section § 13B52 (d)(2)(ii), the Department is to determine whether a county hosting a licensed facility received less than the amount the county received during fiscal year 2017-2018 under section 1403 (c) (relating to establishment of State Gaming Fund and net slot revenue distribution). If the department determines that less was received, the department shall calculate the difference. The department shall make distributions from the restricted receipts account to the county but cannot exceed the difference between the current fiscal year and fiscal year 2017-2018.*

For fiscal year 2022-23, an ACH payment in the amount of \$4,254,454.56 should be deposited in your bank account within the next 7 - 10 business days.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thank you.

**Jennifer Heckert** | Division Chief  
PA Department of Revenue  
Bureau of Fiscal Management | Gaming Division  
1147 Strawberry Square | Harrisburg PA 17128  
Phone: 717.346.4004 | Fax: 717.787.6738  
[E-mail: jeheckert@pa.gov](mailto:jeheckert@pa.gov)  
[www.revenue.pa.gov](http://www.revenue.pa.gov)

*Our mission is to fairly, efficiently and accurately administer Pennsylvania tax and Lottery programs.*

**September 2023**

Meeting with Executive Director  
Ongoing Social Media Management  
Ongoing Consulting  
September Comms

**IMPLEMENTED**

- 8 Total September posts
- 6 Total graphics created
- Strategic Marketing Planning with Kate Philips and Executive Director
- 2022-23 Annual report Graphics

**IN PROGRESS | 2023 Grant Releases and Graphics**

- Holiday Graphics
- Economic Impact Report rollout
  - Press release
  - PowerPoint presentation
  - Social media graphics

**IN PLANNING**

- Parks Fields & Trails 2 year report
- ECGRA Playbook
- Roadshow Tours

# INFINITE ERIE

## Meeting Agenda

### **Erie Action Team Refresh**

9.18.23

Noon-4:00pm

Marquette Innovation Learning Center, 920 State St.

- 1. Infinite Erie: Year in Review** – Kim Thomas
- 2. Refresh Introduction** – Karen Bilowith
- 3. Portfolio Structure** – Kim Thomas
  - Introduce Portfolios
  - Project Prioritization
- 4. Next Steps**



INFINITE

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## PA Route 6 Educational Workshop, Annual Meeting, and "Do 6" Awards Sponsors



# CLIMAX & CORSETS ARTS & INNOVATION FESTIVAL

### Sponsors



A Special Thank You to PA Route 6 Conference Planning Committee: Charles Gray, Cherie Hickey, Candace Hillyard, Melinda Myers, Wendy Neckers, Ralph Scherder, and Christine Temple



10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

**The Impact of City Center & Neighborhood Facade Investment with Perry Woods**



Perry N. Wood is the executive director of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA). Dr. Wood received his Doctorate in Social and Comparative Analysis in Education Policy from the University of Pittsburgh, MS in organizational leadership, and BA in political science from Mercyhurst University. Founded in 2008, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was created to administer municipal grants and serve as the main driver of economic development in Erie County. Today, it's expanded its focus to impact investments at every level of community — from schools to small businesses to neighborhoods to municipalities — intended to uplift not only the regional economy, but also its society, culture, and environment.

10:30 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.

**Facade Renovation Investment Video Debut**



10:40 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.

**PA Route 6 Board Meeting and Accomplishments**

11:20 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**What PA Heart & Soul Has Achieved and What is Next**

PA Humanities Senior Program Officer & PA Heart & Soul Community Coach Jennifer Danifo introduces leaders from four PA Heart & Soul Communities.



Heart & Soul Project Manager Lucinda Leonard of Tidioute, Pennsylvania

Youngsville Borough Manager & Youngsville Heart & Soul Leadership Team Wendy Wilcox

Wyoming County Alliance Heart & Soul Coordinator Deborah Shurtleff

NeighborWorks Northeastern Pennsylvania's Neighborhood Revitalization Manager Todd Pousley and Heart & Soul in Carbondale, PA

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**Lunch and invocation by PA Route 6 Alliance President Dan Glotz**

Saturday, September 16, 2023

# County emphasizes impact of proposed Erie to Corry Trail

**HLOE FORBES**  
@thecorryjournal.com

two roads diverged, Erie County is taking the one less traveled and making it the late destination. The Erie County Department of Planning and Community Development started what will be the resolution of 39 acres of land the Erie to Corry Trail. It complete the Erie to Pittsburgh trail using a more direct route.

Currently, the trail comes up Point State Park in Pittsburgh and crosses through Chautauque County before heading toward Erie through Warren, New York. Now, there is a direct path from Corry to Erie, passing through Union City, Waterford, Summit and Millcreek, ending at marker zero on Dobbin's line, though just as Robert predicted, it's not without obstacles.

Adopted as part of the county's comprehensive plan in 2020, the Erie to Corry trail received priority recommendation, and it's taken until now to complete a feasibility study and tourism analysis. The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) funded study, which looked at po-

tential trail routes, available resources, opportunities, partnerships and property access mechanisms.

At an open house on Thursday, Erie County officials gathered to hear the study's findings and analysis. Erie County Executive Brenton Davis applauded the planning department for its efforts and said the Erie to Corry Trail will be a positive asset to the community.

As a bigger picture, he said Erie County tells a story, and each municipality has its part in that storyline. He continued, saying this trail enables people to experience the rich history showcased in each of those places.

According to the study, the trail is estimated to bring in \$3 million to \$5 million annually from out-of-county visitors.

"We're talking salaries and wages," said Joy Fronzoli, head of the study.

She told The Journal that during the planning process, they took all types of trail users into account.

For example, the team looked at the spending habits of serious cyclists with big saddle bags versus a family biking from Union City to Corry for the day. They broke down the different spending habits and types of anticipated

trail users to estimate the economic advantage. The results were significant.

The study estimated the total build-out of the route will cost between \$26 million and \$30 million. The Erie County Data Center estimates the overall spending activities related to out-of-county visitors create annual sales ranging from \$40 million to \$53 million.

In turn, those sales are expected to increase demand for local businesses enough to impact salaries and wages by \$15 million to \$19 million annually — creating 390 to 525 jobs.

Davis told The Journal that it's the experience the trail provides that will keep people coming back to Erie County.

"You see a community differently when you do it on foot, on a bicycle or even on a snowmobile or four-wheeler," he said. "You see things differently and at a slower pace. When you think of most of these trails, they're through French Creek, and they're through the woods, and it's some of the prettiest country we have in Erie County. For people to be able to experience Erie County in that way, it tells that story. You're selling experiences to people."

The trail includes different spur and loops off the main



Joy Fronzoli

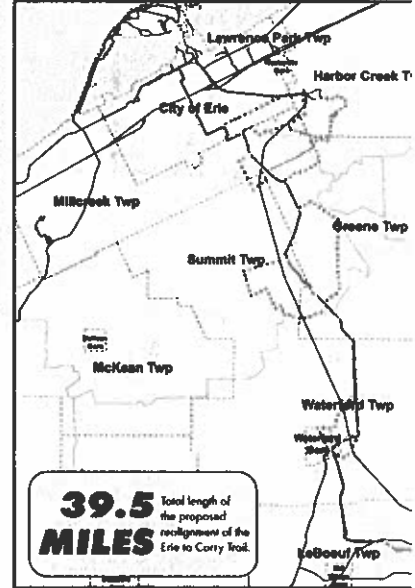
trail that mark spots of interest in each town it passes through.

Davis also said the county would be remiss not to use the trail year-round. The planning team included snowmobile officials to ensure they would have a piece of the puzzle.

The Erie to Corry Trail is 8.5 miles of rail-with-trail paths, 8 miles of shared-use paths and 23 miles of on-road paths.

The urban shared-use paths (think sidewalks) and rail-trail paths (trails along abandoned rail corridors) make up the majority of the trail in Union City and Corry. The proposed segment has very little vehicular interface and requires minimal grading.

The planning team projects a 10- to 12-year timeline for



The Erie County Department of Planning and Community Development is full-steam ahead on an Erie to Corry trail that would connect 10 municipalities over 39.5 miles. Take a virtual tour of it [tinyurl.com/3m3mrdz5](http://tinyurl.com/3m3mrdz5).

completing the entire trail. Fronzoli said Corry has trails thus far and is a trailblazer in the project. done a fantastic job with its

◀ See 1

## Trail

(Continued from front page)

Andrew Schwartz, of Environmental Planning and Design LLC, was part of the study and analysis team and said there's no model or standard for these types of trails. He mentioned trails in Somerset, Blair and Venango counties that have created their own pathways, saying they find their way as they go.

When all is said and done, Fronzoli said trail maintenance will be up to the municipalities and volunteers.

As for Corry, Mayor Mike Baker said he thinks a volunteer base and trail maintenance team will evolve naturally.

"Everything is in the starting stages right now," he said. "I think it's inevitable that they'll get enough people to do it. The city already does a lot of stuff that's unreported."

He said people could go out to the trail right now and pick up leaves or clear the trail, and there's no one to track or report it, so much of the work is done without acknowledgment. Still, he says, it's happening behind the scenes.

In Venango County, a trail that was created in the late 1980s and early 90s is now a line item in the county's budget because it drives so much revenue and requires the county's support to continue.

The planning department

emphasized that any private landowners affected by the trail have been contacted and were an integral part of the study. Many of the landowners, she said, are now driving forces.

In fact, the project is kicking off with the Union City Troyer Trail, which includes property owned by Greg Troyer's family.

The planning department submitted a grant request for \$1.8 million to American250PA for the Union City Troyer trail segment.

There are various potential funding sources laid out in the study, including ARC, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, Erie Insurance, Community Conservation Partnership

Programs (C2P2), Municipal Assistance Programs (MAP), Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) and more.

Fronzoli noted that this trail requires the support of local municipalities and asked those communities to incorporate the trail into their planning efforts.

Davis said he can only see the positives in this plan for all the communities involved.

"An area that was once an unthought-of dot on a map becomes a destination," he enthused, noting that this will be a spoke on the wheel of economic investment.

And with that, Erie County hopes that taking the road less traveled by will make all the difference.



**Matthew Rhodes, CEO and managing director of 1855 Capital, near a clean room inside Bliley Technologies.** GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES NEWS

## Bliley Technologies' new owner plans to build in Knowledge Park

**Jim Martin** Erie Times-News | USA TODAY NETWORK

**I**n 1930, when Erie's Frank Dawson Bliley founded what would become Bliley Technologies, he was in the business of manufacturing quartz crystals for the amateur radio market. ● These days, the company's crystal oscillators are used on military jets, battleships and on NASA satellites. ● More than 90 years after Bliley got its start in Erie, a new buyer, Japan-based Kyocera, sees a bright future for the company. And Kyocera sees that future taking shape in Erie.

**See PARK, Page 5A**



**Keith Szewczyk, CEO of Bliley Technologies in Millcreek Township, shows off the type of glass-covered crystal used in Bliley oscillators in 2018. The company, founded in 1930, has been sold to a division of the Japanese firm Kyocera.**

ERIE TIMES-NEWS FILE

# Park

Continued from Page 1A

The company, which has about 82,000 employees worldwide and annual revenues of nearly \$15 billion, announced Monday that it has purchased Bliley from a group of Erie investors, including the venture capital firm 1855 Capital.

The sale price was not disclosed.

Kyocera, which operates four U.S. divisions under the banner of Kyocera AVX, will create a fifth division with the acquisition of Bliley. The deal, which was in the works for more than a year, was awaiting regulatory approval for much of that time.

Kyocera AVX will operate from now from leased space in the Bliley building at 2545 W. Grandview Blvd. That building is owned by Erie lawyer and businessman Roger Richards, who owned Bliley from 1998 until 2019 when he sold it to 1855 Capital and a group of other investors.

Ralph Ford, who is the chancellor of Penn State Behrend and was among a number of local investors with a small stake in Bliley, said Kyocera has ambitious plans for the company, which generates annual revenues of between \$7 million to \$8 million.

## Investing in Erie

Ford said Kyocera plans to begin work soon on a new 50,000-square-foot manufacturing facility in Knowledge Park, a business technology park located on the Behrend campus in Harborcreek Township.

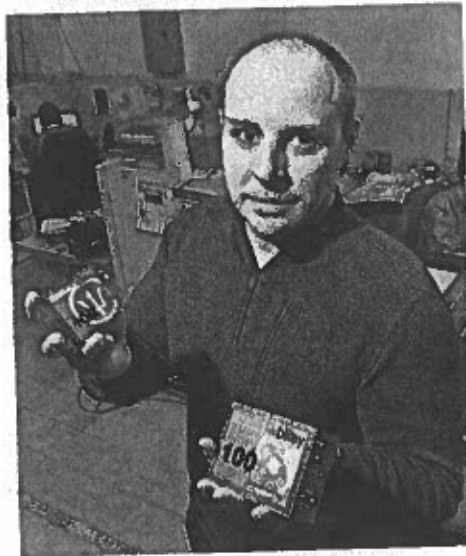
Kyocera AVX will build and equip its own building on leased space on Knowledge Parkway, Ford said.

"They want to be close to the university," Ford said. "Bliley has a strong connection and they hire a lot of our students in engineering and business."

Kyocera is buying Bliley with the expectation that it will grow, Ford said.

"Kyocera is estimating at some point that it will grow to be a \$50 million to \$100 million a year operation," with double or more the current number of employees, Ford said.

Amy Bridger, assistant dean for innovation and corporate strategy for Penn State Behrend, said in a statement that Bliley "is a perfect fit for Knowledge Park. It's exactly the type of business



**Bliley Technologies CEO Keith Szewczyk shows off two types of oscillators the company manufactures in this 2018 file photo.**

ERIE TIMES-NEWS FILE

that benefits from being close to a university."

Ford said he's not concerned that Erie will lose something in this transaction.

"This is a great story in that we are not losing the company," Ford said. "They are building this manufacturing site that is quite significant. They want to create a substantial business in the United States."

## The business of Bliley

Kyocera is already a major player in the worldwide production of crystal oscillators, which can be found in mobile phones and a long list of other electronic devices.

Those oscillators are produced by the millions, with most selling for a dollar or less, said Matthew Rhodes, CEO of 1855 Capital.

Bliley has laid claim to the higher end of the crystal oscillator market, supplying components, many of which sell for thousands of dollars, to the government and for use in outer space, especially on low earth orbit satellites.

It's a big market that's expected to grow as more of these satellites are launched and eventually need to be replaced.

"Space is a nasty place," Rhodes said, where oscillators and other components must withstand a harsh environment.

In a 2018 interview with the Erie Times-News, Keith Szewczyk, the com-

pany's CEO, explained that Bliley was among a handful of U.S.-based companies that manufactured crystals and oscillators within the same facility.

### **Access to the market**

Up until now, Kyocera hasn't had access to the sort of high-end customers that Bliley served, Rhodes said.

"They never had access to that U.S. market. You have to have a domestic presence to get contracts with the government," he said.

Rhodes said a scenario like this one was what he envisioned when 1855 Capital was formed in 2018 with a number of investments coming from the Erie area.

"This is a home run," Rhodes said. "Kyocera is a very good company and a very people-oriented company. I think they have every intention of growing employment here."

In an announcement from Behrend, Rhodes said, "Our goal from the start of this process was to grow the business and position it for a long-term investment that could expand it even further. In every discussion with Kyocera AVX, there was a consistent message of the

need for Bliley's products to be manufactured here in Erie, using the skilled workforce that has always been one of the company's strengths."

The sale includes the transfer of more than 20 patents, Kio Ariumi, a senior vice president with Kyocera, said in an announcement from the company.

"We are very pleased to welcome members from the Bliley Technologies team to KYOCERA AVX and are very excited to further expand our crystal devices portfolio with the disruptive technologies they've developed," he said.

Along with 1855 Capital and Gulfshore Capital, Ben Franklin Technology Partners led the investment in Bliley in 2019.

"The acquisition of Bliley Technologies by KAVX demonstrates the value of having early-stage, risk-tolerant capital operating in our region," Steve Brawley, CEO of Ben Franklin Technology Partners, said in a statement. "Local capital can attract investment that gives our start-ups the opportunity to make global impact and bring job growth to our region."

Contact Jim Martin at [jmartin@timesnews.com](mailto:jmartin@timesnews.com).



Matt Casey, 31, with XL Excavating, works in the south-bound lanes of State Street in Erie on Sept. 27. PHOTOS BY GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS

# 'It is very daunting'

Streetscape improvements on State Street are expected to take months

**Jim Martin**  
Erie Times-News  
USA TODAY NETWORK

State Street is in a state of disruption — a six-block construction zone that stretches from 12th Street to South Park Row.

The good news is that the fences, construction equipment and caution tape should all be temporary as crews employed by the city move ahead with a \$5.8 million streetscape improvement project.

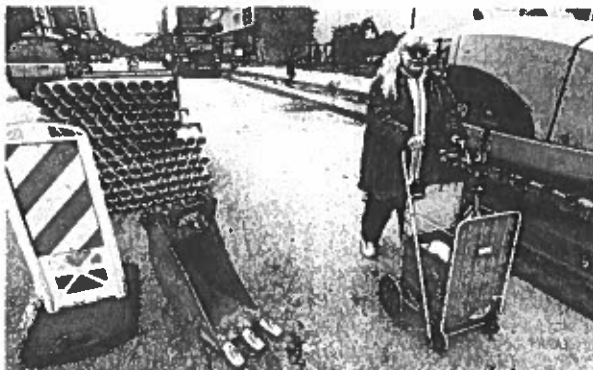
By the time the first two phases are completed, probably by April, that stretch of Erie's downtown business district will have been outfitted with new sidewalks, LED lighting, stamped concrete, trees, soil cells and handicap-accessible curbs.

"I think it's going to be a significant improvement to State Street," said Charles Zysk, Erie's public works director.

While some of the sidewalk work already has been completed, Zysk acknowledged that the project has been disruptive for both motorists and pedestrians.

"It is very daunting and challenging," he said. "We are working closely with businesses to make sure customers still have access."

Despite those efforts, an employee at Isaac Baker Menswear, who didn't give his name, said the construction has created some challenges for customers of the store, located at 1001 State St.



Diane Wolozanski, 81, makes her way north in the southbound lanes of State Street due to construction in Erie. Wolozanski said her usual path to a Dollar General store was blocked, background, causing her to forgo the trip.

"It's a little hard right now," he said.

Meanwhile, a person who answered the phone at the Smoke Cave, at 1012 State St., said customers there were managing to find their way into the store without problems.

The first two phases of the project, being done at an estimated cost of \$3.4 million, are expected to be complete by April of next year. Phase 3 will continue street improvements on State Street north of South Park Row.

The improvements planned for phases 1 and 2 are expected to cost \$3.4

million. The cost of phase 3 is estimated at \$2.4 million.

Funding for the project includes a \$3.5 million state Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant. Other funding sources included a \$1.4 million Community Development Block Grant as well as funding from the city, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and the Perry Square Alliance.

See CONSTRUCTION, Page 2A

## Construction

Continued from Page 1A

The goals of the streetscape project are spelled out in the Erie Downtown Streetscape Master Plan, which challenged to make main streets both more walkable and livable.

### 'A better pedestrian experience'

Despite some temporary challenges, Emily Fetcko, CEO of the Erie Downtown Partnership, said the streetscape project is moving Erie in the right direction.

"While I think there is some frustration over the time it is taking and maybe the amount of space it is taking, I think generally that people are excited," she said. "They are excited about the new lighting. They are excited about the new sidewalks and they are excited about the nice, new appropriate



Fetcko

trees."

In short, Fetcko thinks the streetscape improvements will be worth the wait.

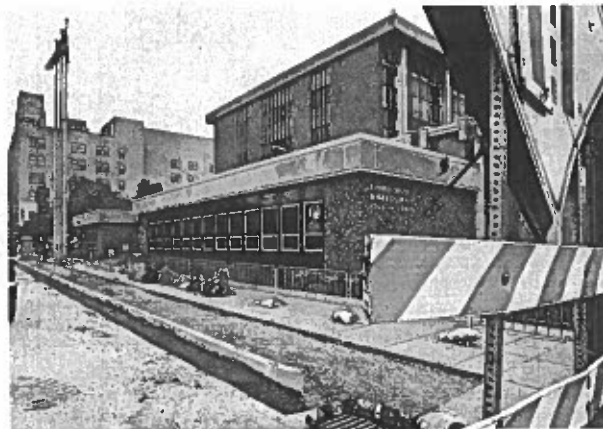
"State Street is so vital, but I think it needs this to make it a better pedestrian experience," she said.

She's also happy to see the transformation start between State Street and South Park Row. It serves as a balance, she said, to all of the investments that the Erie Downtown Development Corp. has made along North Park Row and in the 400 block of State Street.

"We have had so much investment in that north or uptown corridor. Midtown really needs it," said Fetcko, who is particularly excited about the prospect of new LED lighting in the downtown business district.

"I think overall it's a good thing and people are generally happy to see these kind of amenities put in place. The corridor needs it," she said. "There might be a little bit of pain, but overall people see the difference it can make."

Contact Jim Martin at [jmartin@timesnews.com](mailto:jmartin@timesnews.com).



The sidewalks and parking spots in the south-bound lanes of State Street, near the east entrance to Erie City Hall, are blocked due to construction in Erie on Sept. 27. Millions of dollars in streetscape improvements are planned, including new concrete curbs, LED lighting, soil cells that can control sediment and help trees stay healthy, and green space enhancements. GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS