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July 29, 2022

Honorable Andrew Joyce, Chairman Albany County Legislature 112 State Street, Room 710 Albany, New York 12207

Dear Chairman Joyce:

We are requesting permission to submit applications for the projects listed below via the 2022 Consolidated Funding Application process managed by New York State. All applications that are successful will be submitted to the Legislature upon receipt as a request for approval to accept funding and contract with the grantor.

Planned applications include:

**DEC WQIP Grant** – Water Purification Department - Sludge Processing Improvement Project - The Sludge Processing Improvement Project will consist of two phases. Phase 1 will include improvements to ACWPD's North Plant Sewage Sludge Incinerators (SSI) and ancillary systems needed to satisfy the current NYSDEC Order on Consent and ensure long term air emission compliance. Phase 1 will also include replacement of the existing sludge tank mixers with a more energy efficient system. Phase 2 which includes sludge processing consolidation to the North Plant via forcemain will be submitted for WQIP funding in 2023

GIGP & NYSERDA Commercial & Industrial Carbon Challenge Grant — Water Purification Department - FOG Receiving Station - The Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) receiving station will consist of an hydronic FOG separation system that will be located at the ACWPD North Plant. Processing FOG waste separate from the main wastewater treatment processes will reduce mass loadings to the plant resulting in improved treatment performance, reduced sludge volumes and associated energy reductions. The hydronic separation system will capture brown grease, allowing it to be repurposed as a renewable biofuel product. A small portion of this brown grease will be used within the process as fuel to heat the FOG separation tanks, eliminating the need for outside natural gas. The excess biofuel will be collected and sold as a commodity, where it can be used as an alternate heating fuel or as a biodiesel feedstock further reducing fossil fuel needs in the area.

ESD - Strategic Planning and Feasibility Studies - Al-Tech Specialty Steel Site - The project will complete a site feasibility study and preliminary site plan for the Al-Tech Specialty Steel brownfield in the Town of Colonie (201 Spring St Rd), on of Albany County's largest brownfields. NYSDEC will be completing a \$16.6 million remediation of the 68-acre main site in Q1 2023. Albany County has site control of the property through tax foreclosure and would use the funding to evaluate future industrial, light industrial, or commercial redevelopment opportunities at the site. The study will evaluate further environmental remediation needs, utility and infrastructure considerations, transportation planning, permitting and environmental reviews, community needs, and preliminary site planning.

**DEC Climate Smart Communities Certification Project – Climate Action Plan – The Albany** County Climate Action Plan (CAP) Project will complete two plans: a Government Operations CAP and a Community CAP. The County is currently completing Community and Government Operations GHG Inventories which will be completed by the end of 2022 and provide the baseline data needed to complete CAP work. The plans will: (1) Identify Goals and GHG Emissions Reduction Targets; (2) Identify Existing and Potential Initiatives; (3) Quantify Potential Impact of Initiatives; (4) Prioritize Initiatives; and (5) Develop a Plan for Implementation and Metrics to Track Progress.

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

Daniel P. McCoy

Albany County Executive

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cc: Hon. Dennis Feeney, Majority Leader

Hon. Frank Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel

Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel