

DANIEL P. MCCOY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DANIEL C. LYNCH, ESQ. DEPUTY COUNTY EXECUTIVE

February 9, 2022

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

Dear Chairman Joyce:

The County Executive's Office, after significant deliberation and consultation with the Department of Mental Health as well as the Policy Coordinating Group of Albany LEAD, requests authorization to enter into a lease agreement with the Public Defender's Association, the employer of the two project managers of Albany LEAD, to provide office space as well as access to a shared conference room at the Department of Mental Health office building at 175 Green Street in Albany, NY 12202.

The impetus for the County Executive's offer to co-locate the LEAD project managers with the Department of Mental Health comes from the realization that integration of County resources with the LEAD initiative has tremendous benefit for client case management and coordination of other supports and resources for justice-involved individuals who've been diverted from arrest and had their charges dismissed following participation in the LEAD program. The lease would be for an initial term of 2 years (3/1/2022-2/29/2024), with two options for 1-year renewals through 2/28/2026, as well as an option to terminate.

The County will not become the project managers' employer, but the County derives significant benefits from coordinating closely with LEAD project management. Following the County Executive's ongoing support of the LEAD initiative (including securing nearly \$1 million in grant funding for the program), the offer to co-locate seemed the only natural progression, while keeping costs for the program down, as well as enjoying the benefits of LEAD project managers working directly with County departments, including the Department of Mental Health, Public Defender, Alternate Public Defender, Probation, and Social Services.

Should you have any questions about this request, please don't hesitate to contact my Office.

Sincerely,

David P. M = Coy

Daniel P. McCoy Albany County Executive

cc: Hon. Dennis A. Feeney, Majority Leader Hon. Frank A. Mauriello, Minority Leader Rebekah Kennedy, Majority Counsel Arnis Zilgme, Minority Counsel