

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEES MEETING

HOWARD KOPEL

PRESIDING OFFICER

CHAIRMAN

RULES COMMITTEE

County Executive and Legislative Building

1550 Franklin Avenue

Mineola, New York

Monday, February 5, 2024

1:19 p.m.

TAKEN BY: KAREN LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A P P E A R A N C E S

CHAIRMAN HOWARD KOPEL

VICE CHAIRMAN THOMAS MCKEVITT

LEGISLATOR JOHN FERRETTI

LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

LEGISLATOR DELIA DERIGGI-WHITTON

LEGISLATOR SIELA BYNOE

LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER

MICHAEL PULITZER Clerk of the Legislature

1
2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Good afternoon,
3 everyone. Welcome to the session of the
4 Legislature. We're going to start off
5 with the Pledge of Allegiance. I'll ask
6 Legislator Giuffre to lead us, please.

7 (Whereupon, the Pledge of
8 Allegiance is said.)

9 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay, so for those
10 of you who don't know the way we work
11 this, we start off with the Rules
12 Committee, at which time we will consider
13 some contracts.

14 After that, we put the Rules
15 Committee into recess and we'll go
16 through the other committees and we'll
17 come back to the Rules Committee after
18 those other committees have concluded
19 their work.

20 The way we'll work this is that each
21 committee will call the items. All of the
22 items will then engage in debate and
23 discussion among the members of the
24 Legislature, following which, before we
25 take a vote on all of these items, if

1
2 there's any member of the public who
3 wishes to comment on an item that was
4 before that specific committee -- this is
5 not a general comment period, this is on
6 an item before that specific committee --
7 please fill out a slip out in front and
8 you will be given that opportunity.

9 So let's start off, Mr. Pulitzer,
10 would you please call the roll for the
11 Rules Committee?

12 CLERK PULITZER: Chairman Howard
13 Kopel?

14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Here.

15 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman
16 Thomas McKevitt?

17 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Here.

18 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator John
19 Ferretti.

20 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Here.

21 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Kennedy?

22 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

23 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking member
24 Delia DeRiggi-Whitton?

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Here.

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2 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Siela
3 Bynoe?

4 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Here.

5 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Arnold
6 Drucker?

7 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Here.

8 CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum,
9 sir.

10 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Thank you.

11 We're going to start off with a
12 motion to suspend the Rules made by Mr.
13 Kennedy and seconded by Mr. Drucker.

14 All those in favor of suspending the
15 Rules, please say, "Aye".

16 (Whereupon, all members of
17 the Rules Committee respond in
18 favor with, "Aye".)

19 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

20 (Whereupon, no verbal
21 response.)

22 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: The Rules are
23 suspended.
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25

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2 I am now going to call a number of
3 contracts:

4 E15-24; E12-24; E16-24; E14; E19;
5 E13; E17; E18.

6 Motion by Legislator Ferretti,
7 seconded by Legislator Bynoe.

8 I'm going to take a motion to table
9 E13.

10 Motion to table by Mr. Kennedy and
11 seconded by Minority Leader
12 DeRiggi-Whitton.

13 All those in favor of tabling E13,
14 please so indicate by saying, "Aye".

15 (Whereupon, all members of
16 the Rules Committee respond in
17 favor with, "Aye".)

18 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

19 (Whereupon, no verbal
20 response.)

21 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That item is
22 tabled.

23 E15, which is a resolution
24 authorizing the County Executive to
25 execute a Personal Services Agreement

1
2 Between the County and Nassau County
3 Department of Human Services and Ed Moore
4 Advertising Agency. Anyone here to speak
5 for the item? From the administration.
6 Anyone here? Chris?

7 MR. LEIMONE: Sorry, I apologize.
8 Deputy County Executive Anissa Moore is
9 going to present that. She just stepped
10 into a meeting, but I'll have her come
11 right down. I apologize.

12 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We'll come back to
13 that.

14 MR. LEIMONE: I apologize. Yes.

15 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay.

16 We'll go back to E12. Which is a
17 resolution authorizing amendment to a
18 Personal Services Agreement the county
19 Department of Public works and H2M
20 Architects, Engineers and Land Surveying.

21 COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Good
22 afternoon; Ken Arnold, Public Works.

23 E12-24 is a contract amendment for
24 H2M's on call environmental design
25 contract. The original contract had a \$1

1
2 million cap. This amendment increases the
3 cap to \$2 million. The original term
4 remains the same, which expires
5 3/29/2026.

6 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any questions from
7 the legislators, any debate, discussion?

8 (Whereupon, no verbal
9 response.)

10 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay. Thank you.

11 E16 is yours, which is a resolution
12 authorizing amendment to a Personal
13 Services Agreement between Public Works
14 and LIRO.

15 COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: E16-24 is a
16 contract amendment for LIRO, who's
17 providing construction management
18 services for the upgraded electrical
19 distribution system at Cedar Creek
20 Wastewater Plant. This amendment is for
21 both time, additional two years, and for
22 capacity, adding \$1.4 million. This
23 amendment is retroactive as LIRO has
24 provided services during the time the
25 base contract expired.

1
2 The reason for the additional time
3 and dollars relates to three major items:

4 1. Manufactured delays associated
5 with Covid. Most electric material right
6 now is very hard to get, so this has
7 delayed the project quite a bit.

8 2. We also had to make major
9 changes to the design of this project
10 because of conveyance. Conveyance changed
11 some of the needs of the project. So we
12 had to look at that and that delayed the
13 project.

14 3. Finally, there were many
15 unforeseen conditions related to buried
16 utilities that had to be worked out as
17 part of the project.

18 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Thank you. Any
19 questions on this?

20 Mr. Drucker.

21 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Ken, do you
22 anticipate that they'll be able to finish
23 this project within the next two years?

24 COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: Yes.

25 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: What stage are

1
2 they up to now? Do you know?

3 COMMISSIONER ARNOLD: They're in
4 construction. There's eight substations
5 on the property, I believe six are
6 complete. I can get you more information
7 if you like. But, yeah, this is moving
8 along. It's just that the equipment took
9 a long time to get delivered.

10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: All right.
11 Thanks, Ken.

12 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anyone else?

13 (Whereupon, no verbal
14 response.)

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CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Next is with Parks.
E14 is a resolution authorizing execution
of agreement for the Parks department and
RRDA LI, Inc.

Anyone here for Parks?
(Whereupon, off the record
discussion.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: I'm hearing we're
going to hold that for a while.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We'll come back to
3 E15. Miss Moore, I saw you come in
4 before. That's with Ed Moore
5 Advertising.

6 DCE MOORE: Anissa Moore, Deputy
7 County Executive for Health and Human
8 Services.

9 Good afternoon to the Presiding
10 Officer, to the Minority Leader, and to
11 the entire Body.

12 I'm before you to seek approval of
13 contract E15-24. I'm joined today by Dr.
14 Barry Wilensky, as well as Director
15 Perez, as it relates to the Ed Moore
16 Advertising Agency. We just wanted to
17 remind you that this agency is going to
18 assist the County and the Department of
19 Human Services to develop and implement
20 marketing, as well as advertising
21 campaign that will educate all of our
22 residents, regardless of their zip code,
23 about drug use prevention as well as
24 treatment.

25 The ad content is going to focus

1
2 primarily on school aged children as well
3 as their parents. We are planning a mixed
4 media campaign to ensure that the
5 cultural diversity of our county is once
6 again reached. We'll use various formats
7 which include Snapchat, Twitter,
8 Instagram, TikTok along with the
9 conventional methods of advertising.

10 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Thank you. Any
11 questions?

12 Legislator Bynoe.

13 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you, Mr.
14 Kopel.

15 Good day, Ms. Moore. How are you?

16 DCE MOORE: Good afternoon,
17 Legislator.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you for
19 being here.

20 I am excited that we are starting to
21 use some of this funding for the purpose
22 of changing the trajectory of Nassau
23 County's issue with opioids.

24 I do have some questions regarding
25 the use of this money and the plans of

1
2 the County. I hope it's good because
3 we've been sitting on this \$8.5 million
4 (sic) for quite a while, and I want to
5 make sure that we're not putting good
6 money after bad. So I'm going to start
7 here first.

8 You mentioned that this
9 advertisement is going to specifically
10 target young people.

11 DCE MOORE: Yes. We're starting in
12 the middle school because we're finding
13 across the board that this is where our
14 young people are really struggling.
15 Before we assumed it was high school age.
16 But in talking with all of our community
17 partners, we're finding the struggle
18 begins in middle school.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: That's absolutely
20 right. And so part of what I'm going to
21 be speaking from and referencing today is
22 going to be from the Opioids Task Force,
23 their action plan that was authored in
24 October 2019. The co-chairs of that
25 committee were Patrick Ryder, our police

1
2 commissioner, and myself, we were part of
3 this committee. And so we identified back
4 in 2019 that we do need to be in the
5 schools, that we need to be specifically
6 looking at young people who had adverse
7 childhood experiences. We felt that
8 there needed to be two different
9 approaches, a more generalized approach
10 as a catchall, but that there needed to
11 be an approach that would deal with the
12 middle school students.

13 Can you tell me a little bit more
14 how you're planning to roll out something
15 that might, in fact, address these
16 adverse childhood experiences directly?

17 DCE MOORE: First, again, thank you
18 for your concern and your compassion as
19 it relates to working and moving forward
20 with our children. We believe that this
21 is the only way to address this
22 situation.

23 Second, obviously the Task Force was
24 formed before I came on in 2022. However,
25 um, this Administration is still

1
2 committed to the work in terms of
3 education, prevention and awareness.

4 With that being said, we're looking
5 at this in several ways. One, we're still
6 going back to empowering our community
7 partners. We have not deviated from that.
8 In other words, the community partners
9 are the ones that have to be on the
10 ground to address the issue. They are
11 actually going into the schools. They
12 will actually be partnering with our
13 Department to make sure that the
14 education and prevention takes place. We
15 will be working with our local PTAs
16 within the school. We want to get to
17 everyone because without allowing for the
18 community to partner with us, it's going
19 to be impossible for us as a government
20 to actually solve or try to resolve this
21 pressing issue. So yes, we are still
22 maintaining our commitment to all of our
23 community partners.

24 The other side is the advertising.
25 That's why I'm here, because advertising

1
2 does play a major part. We recognize that
3 it's very difficult for all of us,
4 whether you have children or not, if you
5 have a niece or nephew, to get them off
6 that cell phone. So what we're doing is
7 we're looking at marketing strategies,
8 creative ways in which we can go ahead
9 and look through technology to see what
10 kinds of ads, what kind of childhood
11 games our young people are playing on
12 their phones. This advertising agency is
13 going to target that. And so based on the
14 apps that they're using, will be able to
15 counter that. They'll be Google ads,
16 they'll be different kinds of strategies
17 along with traditional ways of
18 advertising.

19 And that's what makes this unique,
20 because we believe that this is one of
21 the ways in which we have to reach our
22 young people where they are. So
23 education, working with the schools,
24 using our community partners to work with
25 the schools, but then also addressing

1
2 technology because that also plays a
3 major part in the socialization of our
4 children.

5 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I 100% agree.

6 Can you tell me a little bit in more
7 detail, granular detail, what type of
8 trauma-informed services currently exist?
9 Because if we're advertising, the end
10 goal of advertising is to change
11 behaviors and create awareness. Right?

12 DCE MOORE: Absolutely.

13 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: If we create
14 awareness and there is some chance to be
15 able to get folks to where we need them,
16 we need to know that there's someplace
17 for them to go. Case in point, if you
18 could tell me a little bit about how
19 we're going to be targeting these young
20 people who may have had some trauma.

21 DCE MOORE: Okay. For example, one
22 of our community partners is YES
23 Community Counseling. First of all,
24 they're in the schools right now.
25 They're also providing counseling --

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2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm sorry, who's
3 in the schools?

4 DCE MOORE: This is the YES
5 Community Counseling Center.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: They're in how
7 many school districts?

8 DCE MOORE: I don't have that
9 information with me because I was really
10 prepared to speak on the Ed Moore
11 contract. I have no problem sending all
12 of that information to all of you,
13 because I think it's important that you
14 have that information so that you can
15 share that with your districts, and I'll
16 make sure that you have that information.

17 Particularly I know that they're in
18 the area of Massapequa. They also handle
19 the area of Farmingdale. I do know that
20 off the top of my head because, like I'm
21 saying, I'm just going to go impromptu
22 from that. They're in that particular
23 area and they, again, are working with
24 their mental health professionals to make
25 sure that our young people are not only

1
2 educated, but we recognize that on the
3 middle school level, depression has
4 already hit these young people. So
5 someone has to be there to detect that.
6 And they're on the ground doing that
7 work.

8 I can speak to Long Beach Reach,
9 which is also one of our community
10 partners. They are handling the Long
11 Beach area. They're also on the ground.
12 They also have mental health
13 professionals in the schools. They're not
14 just helping those individuals who are
15 identified, but they're helping the
16 teachers, they're helping the
17 superintendents, they're helping those
18 who are working within the school system
19 to identify those young people who need
20 resources.

21 Many of our young people -- again,
22 the stigma is there. And what we're
23 trying to do is remove the stigma as it
24 relates to mental health.

25 We can also speak to Central Nassau.

1
2 You're aware of central Nassau and all of
3 their guidance counseling. That would be
4 on a larger level in terms of adults that
5 are struggling with these issues, but
6 they're also available to us at beck and
7 call if an emergency arises.

8 We also obviously have our Catholic
9 Health Services. They are also engaged
10 with us and they're on the ground.

11 And then obviously our Family and
12 Children's Association, which is
13 throughout the county, they are
14 countywide and they are providing those
15 services for us.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Okay. And so if
17 my memory serves me correctly -- well,
18 let me go here first. How much funding
19 does YES receive?

20 DCE MOORE: Right now from the 2023
21 contract, they received \$556,328. And
22 that was as of now with the contract.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So, 557,000.

24 DCE MOORE: Pretty much. But keep
25 in mind that many of our vendors, it's

1
2 taking them some time to submit their
3 claims. This is what we have right now.
4 But the number is going to get larger as
5 the claims come in.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Okay. That's a
7 whole different discussion at some point.

8 DCE MOORE: I just want to make sure
9 you were clear.

10 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I think that this
11 Body and the Administration should be
12 reviewing is how we're approaching these
13 not-for-profit organizations and having
14 them do this work. Some of it is an
15 expansion of what they might be already
16 offering, or it should be. Because I know
17 for a fact that YES is not in every
18 community. I know for a fact that Reach
19 is not in every community. I know for a
20 fact there are communities that don't
21 have services of this kind.

22 So I -- were you going to say
23 something?

24 DCE MOORE: I was just going to say
25 that the Family Children Association is

1
2 working to address that. And this
3 Department is also working to address
4 those areas where there are gaps. And
5 that is the purpose of doing further work
6 with the committee to make sure that all
7 of our areas are covered. And that's one
8 of the major reasons why all of the money
9 has not been spent at this time, because
10 we have to do due diligence as it relates
11 to cultural diversity and reaching all
12 people.

13 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I agree 100%
14 about due diligence and evidence-based
15 plans. But we can't be paralyzed either.
16 So that's why today I am happy that we're
17 moving towards something. I'm just
18 wondering, since you've acknowledged on
19 the record that there are gaps in
20 services if we're not putting the cart
21 before the horse. We have been crying
22 for programs, asking for new initiatives
23 because we know what we're doing to this
24 point is not enough, that we need to do a
25 deeper assessment of our current

1
2 condition and what opportunities are out
3 there for us to be able to close the gap
4 on some of the problems that we're
5 facing.

6 So I think a PSA is great. I think
7 it should be part of every plan as it
8 relates to trying to prevent and treat
9 those who need it. But we know there's a
10 gap in services. And so this
11 Administration had this plan -- because
12 I've mentioned this plan time and time
13 again -- that laid out where there were
14 areas of development and stating that we
15 should be doing training for families and
16 educators and others that are in the
17 community with these young people to
18 identify when there is some level of a
19 trauma and target those individuals
20 because they know that those who
21 experience trauma are more likely to use.

22 DCE MOORE: Agreed. And that's what
23 this plan is for. So everything you just
24 said, we haven't deviated from that. I
25 just want to be clear about that. We

1
2 haven't deviated.

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: You are
4 deviating, because PSAs should be coming
5 after you have the program, because
6 you're driving the kids and the family to
7 where? We are already very aware that
8 parents are in desperate need to get
9 their kids counseling and there are no
10 readily available services. We already
11 know that there's a shortage of those
12 type of professionals in our communities.
13 We know that there's a shortage for
14 programs. We know that there aren't --
15 and I'll just deviate for a second that I
16 know today it was announced that NUMC and
17 Catholic Charities would get some funding
18 to create beds and to be able to treat
19 folks. I'm not saying that we shouldn't
20 do anything. I'm just saying we should do
21 things in decency and in order.
22 Programming gaps that exist means that
23 the PSA is not going to be as fruitful as
24 it could be.

25 DCE MOORE: Okay, so if I can

1
2 clarify, the PSA is in tandem with all of
3 the programs that are currently operating
4 and the programs that we're going to
5 share with this Body at a later date.

6 You've raised a great point and that
7 is the PSA is out there by itself. But I
8 want to be clear, the PSA is not out
9 there by itself. It's a part of us
10 rolling out new programming and new
11 initiatives. We believe that you have to
12 present both. You cannot present one or
13 the other, and we're not prioritizing one
14 or the other. You need to have technology
15 and social media and other forms of
16 advertising and marketing while you have
17 the programs, because it could be one of
18 those ads that a young person sees on
19 their phone that could make the
20 difference. So we're not ruling out one
21 over the other. And I just want to be
22 clear about that.

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So I don't know
24 your background, but I'm going to speak
25 for my own. I'm not a mental health

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2 professional. I have a degree in
3 psychology, but that doesn't reign me
4 supreme over the process. But I'm just
5 going to say that I know because I speak
6 to parents. I've been in the homes with
7 young people and their parents, with the
8 Police Department and the Mobile Crisis
9 Unit and there's just not enough services
10 out there. I'm not saying you do
11 nothing. I'm saying that it just strikes
12 odd that we start here and we haven't
13 started to fill the gaps. We haven't
14 started to in a very deliberate and
15 intentional way, provide for the training
16 that we have told folks in this plan that
17 people need and that we -- having someone
18 -- that's like giving me all the symptoms
19 for back when just not too long ago when
20 we had Covid and me determining that I
21 might be symptomatic and then not being
22 able to go anywhere and be treated.

23 DCE MOORE: No, I think we're saying
24 the same thing in a different way. And
25 the reason why I'm saying that is that

1
2 because I think everyone that's here, we
3 all agree that this is a crisis. We all
4 agree that action has to be taken. I
5 think we're all saying that.

6 What I'm saying is this is one of
7 the first steps in terms of us coming
8 forward now being transparent, saying,
9 here's some things that we're getting
10 ready to roll out. But I'm not saying
11 that that's the only thing that we're
12 going to roll out. You're going to see
13 this Administration right now recognizes
14 that it is imperative that we move
15 forward with these initiatives. And a
16 part of that is working with our
17 community partners.

18 I'm also not a mental health
19 professional, but I do see myself as a
20 mental health professional because I am a
21 grief care counselor. I'm also an
22 ordained minister. I'm also out there on
23 the street when the parent calls about
24 the fentanyl. So I'm seeing it as well.
25 And I think all the legislators are

1
2 seeing something in their areas. And I
3 think the people in the audience are too.
4 I think right now we have to come
5 together and say, let's start somewhere.

6 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I agree with
7 starting somewhere. I don't disagree with
8 that. And had you been here -- I've
9 already acknowledged that I think that
10 this is a good thing, that we're finally
11 being actively involved in trying to
12 address this while we sat on \$85 million
13 for this length of time. I am bringing to
14 your awareness in the event that you are
15 not aware that there is a significant
16 gap. So I feel like we should be plugging
17 the gap. I would have loved if you were
18 here today telling me that we were
19 providing funding for the backfill.

20 DCE MOORE: Right.

21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But instead --

22 DCE MOORE: What I will do, is I --

23 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Can I finish?

24 But instead we're here today looking
25 to utilize all of these platforms

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2 branding, I'm certain, utilizing this PR
3 firm and I'm unsure that a real deep dive
4 has been done even to analyze where the
5 gaps are. Because today, you can't tell
6 me every community YES is in. You can't
7 tell me where Reach is.

8 DCE MOORE: It's not that I can't
9 tell you. But I'm not here -- I'm just
10 here to share --

11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm going to need
12 to finish.

13 DCE MOORE: Okay. Because I'm here
14 to talk about the Ed Moore contract.
15 That's what I'm here for.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: That's fine.

17 DCE MOORE: That's what I'm here
18 for.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: That's fine.
20 Because the Ed Moore contract is tied to
21 every single thing that I'm speaking
22 about today.

23 DCE MOORE: Right. So we agree. It's
24 together. It's not separate. I'm not
25 here to in any way promote just

advertising. What we're saying is -- -

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But you said
that's all you're here to talk about.

DCE MOORE: Right. That's the only
thing I want to talk about. That's it.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Ms. Moore, I'm
just going to ask --

DCE MOORE: That's it. Just the
contract. That's what I was asked to do
before this Body.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you, Ms.
Moore. And I appreciate you being here
today. I'm going to need you to allow me,
as you testify to this Body, to be able
to complete my thoughts before they get
stepped on.

DCE MOORE: I would never do that,
with all respect. The floor is yours.
You're the legislator.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I was told in the
last session that folks need -- I won't
go there today.

Today, what I want to do is finish
my thoughts and my questions, because my

1
2 questions and my thought process is
3 informed by the community to which I
4 serve.

5 Again, I don't know that there's
6 been any time spent to analyze these
7 programs. And I think this Body should
8 have you provide us with where programs
9 are currently being provided and how much
10 money is in the pipeline for those
11 programs. I would also like you and your
12 organization, your Department, to give us
13 a plan for how you will backfill where
14 these gaps are. And because I don't want
15 someone from one of these gap communities
16 not to have anywhere to go.

17 It's not a question, so I'm moving
18 on.

19 DCE MOORE: Can I respond to that
20 before you go on to your next item?

21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Uh-hmm.

22 DCE MOORE: Okay. So that's not a
23 problem because I said that earlier, I
24 was going to provide that list. And
25 please to all of the legislators at any

1
2 time, if you have a question, please feel
3 free to reach out to me because I can
4 share this information with you. I have
5 no problem doing that. Because we're here
6 to share information, because the goal is
7 to help our community.

8 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I believe that to
9 an extent and I want to believe that
10 there are good intentions behind this,
11 but I'm challenged to really be able to
12 embrace that fully because of the time
13 delay. And then that we start out with a
14 PR firm as opposed to funding the folks
15 that would be boots on the ground, so
16 people would be able to have somewhere to
17 go.

18 In any event, I want to move on
19 because I want to ask you some questions
20 regarding this process. Who's going to be
21 informing this process? What
22 evidence-based process will be utilized
23 to determine what type of PSAs will be
24 actually utilized and to engage and raise
25 awareness?

1
2 DCE MOORE: All right. So you're
3 asking about are we moving forward with
4 having some kind of metrics?

5 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'll start here
6 then. So this is probably the case in
7 point. You mentioned that you were here
8 with some doctors.

9 DCE MOORE: So I'm here with the
10 staff from the Department from Human
11 Services. We're here today just again to
12 focus in on this. However, as you said,
13 you have some other questions.

14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Yeah. I'm
15 wondering who's going to inform the
16 process for creating these PSAs. Because
17 when I look at the media company Ed
18 Moore, whose homepage for the website
19 says, Ed Moore Advertising Agency is a
20 third generation family owned full
21 service agency located on Long Island.
22 They were established in 1974, fueled by
23 the popularity of disco music and
24 nightclubs. They go on to name studio 54
25 OBI, Crazy Eddie, Adventureland and the

1
2 County Parks Department. Their clients
3 are Miller Lite, the Coral House,
4 Friendly's, the Cactus Salon,
5 Adventureland, Maliblu, NYCB Theater at
6 Westbury, H2O, Salt, and I can go on and
7 on. The only entity that I find from a
8 municipal government is Nassau County,
9 which is that they serve the parks. So
10 again, my question is who will be
11 providing an evidence based plan for PSAs
12 that will raise awareness and hopefully
13 drive a behavior that will result in
14 recovery or abstaining? Who is doing
15 that?

16 DCE MOORE: Okay. So that will come
17 from our Department. I've already shared
18 that our assistant to the commissioner
19 who was here with us today, Dr. Barry
20 Wilensky, who's worked in this area for
21 many, many years. He's an educator. He's
22 a mental health professional. Along with
23 his team, they will be sharing the
24 information using data because you cannot
25 do this work without being data informed.

1
2 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I agree. So they
3 have so they have background and
4 experience in doing PSAs in their past?

5 DCE MOORE: So the way this works is
6 that the content, we're really
7 responsible for driving the content, the
8 information that's needed, and then our
9 Creative Services will design the actual
10 media communication.

11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Excellent.

12 Data. You make an excellent point
13 about data being center. Can you tell me
14 how many deaths that we had related to
15 opioids in 2023?

16 DCE MOORE: In 2023, if I look at my
17 numbers, I can tell you a couple of
18 things:

19 I can tell you that 1 in 4 people in
20 Nassau County have been diagnosed with
21 some level of a disorder as it relates to
22 mental health.

23 I can tell you in terms of where we
24 are in NUMC, I can tell you that we had
25 20,000 patients last year with an

1
2 addiction, because this is about bringing
3 it home.

4 I can tell you that the addiction
5 doesn't have a zip code. It doesn't have
6 an actual race or ethnicity, because it's
7 all of us, that I can tell you.

8 I can tell you in terms of numbers,
9 and if I look for a number today, I'm
10 sure that number will not give me the
11 specifics, because we've been hit as a
12 community and that hurts all of us.

13 I can tell you, in 2022, the
14 overdose deaths in New York state was
15 6,391.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I'm specifically
17 looking for Nassau County's number.

18 DCE MOORE: Okay.

19 And I can tell you in 2022, the
20 overdose deaths that were involving
21 fentanyl were 4,971.

22 I can tell you, in 2022, the
23 overdose deaths in Long Island for Nassau
24 and Suffolk County were 810.

25 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: How many for

1
2 Nassau specifically, please?

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I can tell you
4 that there were 172 opioid deaths in
5 2022. There were 219 in 2021.

6 But regardless of the number --

7 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Can you repeat
8 that number, please?

9 DCE MOORE: 172 in 2022 and 219 in
10 2021. Regardless of those numbers --

11 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you for the
12 answer.

13 I ask that because when I go on to
14 Nassau County's Department of Health
15 website, it references the numbers from
16 2014 through 2017. There's no updated
17 information on the website, and I didn't
18 really see an opportunity on the drug
19 overdose facts and statistics sheet that
20 allowed you to click on anything that
21 would provide you with any updated
22 information.

23 DCE MOORE: And I can make sure that
24 that's updated. But I think we all agree
25 here within the body that I'm standing

1
2 before, it's one death to many.

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I agree 100%.
4 It's one death too many and potentially
5 we could have really staved off that
6 number and and save some lives if we
7 hadn't sat on money since we got it to
8 the tune that we are.

9 I would argue that we may have even
10 been able to save some additional lives
11 had we analyzed where the gaps were and
12 and backfilled programming. I would
13 actually go as far as to say that, quite
14 honestly, we know. We know because the
15 study said that for every \$1 we save \$4
16 and \$5 on the back end in treatment, and
17 that was only addressing treatment and
18 counseling. When you add in the fact that
19 some of those people might be
20 incarcerated, may be hospitalized for
21 long periods of time, the number goes up.

22 So I would argue, yes, one death is
23 too many. And our inability to get ahead
24 of this, to the extent that Suffolk has
25 in utilizing this money and funding a

1
2 plan that was in existence since 2019 for
3 the purpose of being able to hit the
4 ground running when the opioid settlement
5 came in, that we are here now in 2014
6 (sic). We could have saved some lives. We
7 could have saved some families from
8 having to grieve the loss of their loved
9 ones.

10 So, yeah, one life is too many and
11 one day is too long. Each day that we sit
12 here and we don't put the programs in
13 place and we don't backfill is a day too
14 long.

15 I'm going to close in saying that
16 I'm going to support this contract, but I
17 need to know that more contracts will be
18 coming down the pike that actually will
19 do the hard work of helping the folks
20 that are in need and targeting those
21 people because we know who they are.
22 They're the ones that are neglected.
23 They're the ones where they're having
24 trauma in their life, where there's some
25 level of abuse towards them. We know who

1
2 they are. Let's get it done.

3 I am going to state for the record,
4 I am just shocked and saddened that we
5 started with PR.

6 Thank you.

7 DCE MOORE: Thank you. And I thank
8 you for your passion.

9 But to your point, I want to make it
10 clear that the Department of Human
11 Services has not stopped working. The
12 staff are working, the staff are
13 partnering with all of our community
14 partners. Just because this particular
15 amount of money that you were looking for
16 was not rolled out, doesn't mean that the
17 services have stopped.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: But we all know
19 the that there are gaps. We know that
20 there are communities that are not being
21 served. So while I applaud you for the
22 work that you're doing, we know that we
23 had resources that came in here because a
24 judge and a jury decided and understood
25 what we had was a health crisis on our

1
2 hands. And what we needed to do was do
3 something that was extraordinary, not
4 just keeping pace with what we currently
5 have. We need to do something that was
6 life changing, that would change what we
7 were currently faced with. And I applaud
8 all of the folks. I don't want to in any
9 way say that the folks who are out there
10 on the ground aren't doing it from their
11 heart with what resources they have. I'm
12 just saying we could have resourced them
13 better and we could have made this whole
14 process a lot more fruitful a lot
15 earlier, which could have saved lives.

16 That's all I have for today. Thank
17 you.

18 DCE MOORE: Okay. Thank you.

19 Are there any other questions?

20 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Minority leader?

21 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I just
22 wanted to follow up with my colleague who
23 just did an amazing job.

24 We attended a legislative breakfast
25 recently, a number of us. Exactly what

1
2 Legislator Bynoe is saying is what they
3 are saying, which is it's great if you
4 refer more people to us, but we can't
5 handle the people that we have now
6 because we lacking of funding. All that
7 has to happen is -- I went to the press
8 conference when the County Executive
9 listed those agencies that were going to
10 be getting the funding. That was almost
11 two years ago. At least a year and a
12 half, almost two years ago. Many of them
13 have not received any of it. It is
14 horrible. They were they were told they
15 were going to get the money. And here we
16 sit this many years later and they have
17 yet to receive it.

18 Like Legislator Bynoe said so
19 eloquently, while it's great to let
20 people come out be aware that they can
21 come get help. What's going to happen
22 when they go to Dr. Reynold's agency and
23 he says, well, I'll do the best I can.
24 But they have like a waiting list, which
25 is unheard of.

1
2 Again, this isn't your payroll --
3 it's not your job. But the message is,
4 okay, let's hope that they do a good job
5 with the messaging. I have to tell you,
6 what I saw today was not very impressive.
7 It was something that I think is pretty
8 old. We've seen it before. It was not
9 life changing, the message. I don't think
10 Ed Moore even did that what I saw today.
11 So I hope that he's somewhat more
12 qualified than what we saw today.

13 But again, it's like you're pushing
14 people to get the help, but the help's
15 not there. Not just Nassau County. We're
16 talking about other agencies that were
17 promised this money, it'll be two years
18 in September.

19 Again, it's not you, you're the
20 messenger. But it has to be known that
21 those people were promised that money.
22 They have yet to receive it. These
23 agencies and Suffolk County is doing a
24 much better job than we are according to
25 them, at the legislative meeting that we

1
2 just went to. And that's not what we want
3 to hear. We I think we were all
4 embarrassed.

5 Thank you.

6 DCE MOORE: Thank you, Legislator.

7 To that point, I think this is an
8 exciting time for all of us to move
9 forward. I'll also say that we have to
10 recognize that this is a crisis. And as a
11 result, when we talk to our community
12 partners, they've also reached out to say
13 that they're still trying to find mental
14 health workers. But this is a whole other
15 piece that hopefully at a certain point,
16 I'll be able to come back to this body
17 and have that conversation, how we
18 support the mental health workers.

19 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Anissa,
20 I have a lot of respect for you. You know
21 that. However, like it's not that much of
22 a complicated situation. The
23 Administration just has to give the money
24 like he promised a year and a half ago to
25 these agencies. They could pay more

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2 people more money than they can now, and
3 then they would have more social workers.

4 It's not like we have to figure out
5 the problem. We know what the problem is.
6 What was promised a year and a half ago
7 was never delivered.

8 DCE MOORE: Right. When I say it's
9 a crisis, it's further than that because
10 now all of the private agencies, they're
11 providing a higher salary that the
12 everyday agency, even the nonprofits
13 can't even compete with the private
14 salaries. So I believe we can work
15 together and we can move forward in terms
16 of the work that we've shared today.

17 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. Drucker.

18 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
19 Presiding Officer.

20 DCE Moore, how are you? Nice to see
21 you.

22 DCE MOORE: How are you? Good to see
23 you.

24 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I've been
25 involved in substance abuse issues since

1
2 I've been a legislator, it's my eighth
3 year. And every one of us on this dais
4 have all recognized, and I'm sure, agree,
5 that substance abuse is the scourge of
6 our of our society, of our country.
7 There's no dispute about that.

8 Some of the buzzwords when you talk
9 about substance abuse is prevention,
10 treatment, recovery. I always equate
11 prevention with education. And one of the
12 things I noticed about reading some of
13 the backup on Ed Moore Advertising and
14 promotional is they're heavily loaded,
15 and their experience and specialty is in
16 promotion and advertising. I'm hopeful
17 that we can deal with the education
18 component of it. That's really what I'm
19 concerned about. Advertising and
20 promotion. Okay. You know, it's like
21 Legislator Bynoe said, all of the Ed
22 Moore's clients, none of them are
23 governments except for Nassau County now.
24 So it's really more about promoting the
25 clients that they have. I'm hopeful that

1
2 the campaign, the project will really
3 deal with the education component because
4 that's where it starts.

5 You mentioned it too, DCE Moore.
6 Today with the proliferation of social
7 media and cell phone usage by kids at
8 very young and vulnerable ages, the
9 challenges of stemming the tide on
10 substance abuse is infinitely more
11 challenging.

12 I'm curious, you mentioned that your
13 community partners and the Agency has
14 creative ideas. Those were your words.

15 DCE MOORE: Yes.

16 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'd like to
17 hear more about those creative ideas. And
18 maybe I'm a little old school. The
19 digital campaign and the apps; yeah, I
20 guess they'll be good because all the
21 kids are on their phones. But I like to
22 deal more with human contact and
23 one-on-one relationships and people who
24 have gone through that horrible rabbit
25 hole of substance abuse. And when they

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2 could speak to 12 and 13 year olds about
3 it, I think it's impactful. I personally
4 think that's really impactful.

5 I'm curious, if you could just
6 describe some of the creative ideas you
7 mentioned that they have.

8 DCE MOORE: Sure.

9 Again, I've had the opportunity to
10 serve as an educator for 25 years at
11 Nassau Community College. And so I can
12 tell you as an educator that education is
13 going to be the foundation of what we do
14 with this campaign. That's my heart,
15 education. So I just wanted to just say
16 that out loud, that this is not going to
17 be just another campaign.

18 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I know your
19 commitment. Your commitment is well
20 known, but I'm concerned about Ed Moore's
21 commitment.

22 DCE MOORE: Right.

23 Again, we're going to provide
24 guidance to Ed Moore. This is not going
25 to be another, whatever you said earlier,

1
2 Disco 54 situation. This is going to be
3 us guiding the Ed Moore Agency in terms
4 of relevant content. And a part of that
5 is getting at the humanity of the
6 disease. It's removing some of the stigma
7 that occurs for parents as well as for
8 those children for addressing what we
9 talked about earlier, the trauma. Right.
10 Because right now that's what's happening
11 in the schools. And as a result of the
12 pandemic, the trauma, again, has been
13 overwhelming for our young people. So
14 yes, we are going to the schools. Yes,
15 there are going to be town halls. Yes, we
16 are going to increase our interaction
17 with the community. That's paramount if
18 we're going to actually fight this deadly
19 crisis.

20 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I hope so, and
21 I will certainly be looking out for this.

22 So thank you very much.

23 DCE MOORE: Thank you. And I look
24 forward to that conversation with you.

25 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. Ferretti.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Hi, Anissa
Nice. How are you?

DCE MOORE: Hi. How are you,
Legislator? Good to see you.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: I'm doing
well. You too. Thank you for your
presentation.

One thing you said earlier really
hit home for me and that's this Ed Moore
initiative is really going to focus on,
on the YouTubes, the social media, right?

DCE MOORE: Yes. Google ads.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I know a lot of
us up here on both sides have have young
kids. And I can speak just from my own
experience. It drives me crazy. A kid
can have a 75 inch TV in front of them,
but they're sitting there on a cell phone
that's four inches watching YouTube. And
that's what all the all kids are watching
these days. So I think that's a really,
really smart way to go about it. I didn't
know that until you brought it up. So
thank you for that.

1
2 So it's my understanding that the
3 administration has four main purposes
4 with the spending: Education, treatment,
5 prevention and enforcement; is that
6 correct?

7 DCE MOORE: That is correct.

8 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. And
9 obviously this Ed Moore contract would go
10 towards the education and prevention
11 components of that plan.

12 DCE MOORE: That is correct.

13 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And today the
14 County Executive, along with other
15 members of the Legislature announced
16 additional spending, correct?

17 DCE MOORE: Yes.

18 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And can you
19 itemize what that was?

20 DCE MOORE: Sure. I can do that for
21 you.

22 So today, based on what the County
23 Executive said, he was adding additional
24 agencies. One would be NUMC, they would
25 receive \$2.5 million.

1
2 Catholic Health would receive \$2
3 million. They're connecting mental
4 health to the mental health of the actual
5 healthcare workers in addition to their
6 work at Mercy Hospital to add the
7 additional beds.

8 Also, our Police Department will
9 receive 500,000 so that they will have
10 the opportunity to move forward with the
11 fentanyl testing. This is for the device
12 to make sure that they'll be able to do
13 the tests itself.

14 And then the Ed Moore, which would
15 be 600,000 for the next three years.

16 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. So now
17 we're hitting on the treatment portion of
18 of the plan, correct?

19 DCE MOORE: Correct.

20 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So we're
21 hitting all the main bullet points there,
22 yes?

23 DCE MOORE: Yes.

24 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Now the County
25 Executive, if my memory serves,

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previously spoke about tranches of money.
If I remember correctly, 15 million was
it was a goal.

DCE MOORE: That is correct. It was
\$15 million.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And after
those allocations, would it be a correct
statement that we're at about 13 to 13.5?

DCE MOORE: Yes.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And that would
be in that first tranche, correct?

DCE MOORE: That is correct, sir.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: I want to talk
a little bit about what you were asked
about a few minutes ago, which is the
September 2022 RFI. You with me?

DCE MOORE: Yes.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. So is it
a fair statement that there was an RFI in
September of 2022?

DCE MOORE: Okay. When we talk
about the RFI, that is correct. There
was. And the score had to be 80 or more.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: I'll get

there. I'll get there.

How many responses were there to that RFI?

DCE MOORE: There were 60.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Is there a Body that reviews those responses and issues a score?

DCE MOORE: That went through the opioid RFI Committee. I was not a member of that committee, but there was a committee.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So yes.

DCE MOORE: And they did due diligence in terms of reviewing the information and making sure in terms of the scoring, yes.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Is there a threshold in order to be awarded a contract, a score that you have to receive?

DCE MOORE: You had to receive a score of 80 or more to be awarded.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Out of those 60 responses, how many scored a score of

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80 or over?

DCE MOORE: At that time, it was the initial seven that we granted.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So 53 did not, correct?

DCE MOORE: That is correct.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Out of those seven, let's go through them. Do you have a list of them?

DCE MOORE: Yes. I'll get my list for you.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Let's go on one by one. What's the first one?

DCE MOORE: Okay. Out of the seven, it was the YES Community Counseling.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So let's start there. Was there a contract awarded for the YES Community?

DCE MOORE: There was a contract awarded, and not all of the claims have been submitted at this time. We're still waiting for claims against the funding.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: But there was a contract awarded, correct?

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DCE MOORE: Yes.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. What's number two?

DCE MOORE: Number two was the Central Nassau for 2.9 million.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And was there a contract awarded?

DCE MOORE: Yes. Contract certified.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: What's the third one?

DCE MOORE: Third one is Long Beach Reach.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Was there a contract awarded?

DCE MOORE: Contract awarded.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay, how about number four?

DCE MOORE: This was the Family and Children's Association, contract awarded. And then Catholic Health Services. That was only for \$93,000 at the time. But we are still waiting for the disclosure forms from the vendor.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So what does that mean? Can you can you award a contract without them?

DCE MOORE: No. We cannot.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: What's the next one?

DCE MOORE: The Long Island Jewish Medical Center. We're also still waiting for insurance forms from the vendor.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The sixth one, we can't award a contract for that one either, correct?

DCE MOORE: Correct.

And then LICADD which only received 50,000. But we're still waiting for vendor forms.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. So we can't award a contract for that right now.

DCE MOORE: Correct. So there was 60 responses. There were seven that we could award a contract if they get us all the information. Those that did, the contract was awarded, correct?

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DCE MOORE: That is correct.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And those that have not gotten us what we need, we're still waiting on them.

DCE MOORE: We're still waiting because we do not want to violate the procurement policy or any other policy and procedure.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. That's all I have for now. Thank you.

DCE MOORE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Ms. Bynoe, you had another question.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you, Mr. Kopel.

I dropped a couple of questions in our back and forth.

How much money is going to NUMC?

DCE MOORE: NUMC is now receiving 2.5 million.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And what exactly will they be doing there?

DCE MOORE: For this, they're going to create a central referral unit.

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2 They're going to increase the amount of
3 patient rooms. And they're also going to
4 expand their psych in the E.R. section.

5 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Okay.

6 DCE MOORE: Also, I forgot, the
7 counseling stations. They're going to
8 increase the amount of counseling
9 stations there because we felt that that
10 was very important as it relates to the
11 addiction piece.

12 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Great.

13 Again, my comment is not a
14 reflection of your service, the people
15 who are boots on the ground from your
16 department.

17 DCE MOORE: I understand.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: It's again a
19 scenario that I think we should be
20 addressing something that's critical as
21 we decide to expand NUMC, similar to
22 having PSAs and not having enough
23 programs and having gap areas.

24 NUMC, I'm told, is eminently looking
25 at running out of money by the end of

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2 this quarter with extraordinary debt
3 service that they're facing. And we're
4 going to put \$2.5 million at NUMC before
5 we have a discussion on how we might work
6 to eliminate that debt and sustain them
7 over time. The lights could be out. I
8 have been calling for an extended -- this
9 caucus has been calling for an extended
10 period of time for hearings, for there to
11 be meetings to discuss. The prior county
12 executive put NUMC Forward, a board where
13 I serve along with Legislator McKeivitt.
14 There has been not one meeting, not one,
15 since this Administration started. There
16 has been -- outside of the appointment of
17 Chairman Bruderman, there has been no
18 interaction from this Body to that
19 hospital or from this Administration to
20 this Body regarding the health and the
21 sustainability of NUMC, but now we're
22 going to take \$2.5 million and put it
23 there. I think it's a great idea if all
24 the other pieces were in place. If all of
25 the attention were paid to the

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2 outstanding issues, I think this is a
3 great idea. I want to be excited.

4 I don't come here because it's for
5 form or fashion. It's because I want to
6 serve. I want to make sure the people I
7 serve can get their needs met. But time
8 and time again, I just feel like we're
9 putting the cart before the horse where
10 we're putting our efforts and things that
11 look good and sound good, but if you look
12 under the hood, there's some significant
13 issues.

14 And so --

15 DCE MOORE: I don't have any
16 oversight over NUMC. But if there's
17 someone that's here from NUMC, if they'd
18 like to speak at this time, they can come
19 and join me at the podium.

20 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I know. I
21 prefaced by saying -- I didn't say you. I
22 said the Administration. I said, this
23 Body, we guarantee a good portion of
24 their debt. We are now investing in them.
25 And I would love for the appropriate

1
2 people from NUMC to come here and share
3 their plan for how their operation might
4 in some way be able to capitalize on some
5 of the mechanisms for billables and some
6 of those other things, the grants, all of
7 that. And then tell us about a plan for
8 sustainability into the future.

9 I mix up saying sometimes. So I ask,
10 listen, I hope we're not putting good
11 money after bad in that decision along
12 with starting our investment with this
13 PSA knowing that we have gaps in our
14 services. So all of the recounting of how
15 much money and all these other things, we
16 know, we said they failed to get the
17 contract and get the money and the
18 services aren't being ready, and they're
19 not. So the point again is there's a gap
20 in services.

21 Thank you.

22 DCE MOORE: All right. Well, I still
23 disagree that there's a gap in service.
24 But once you receive the information,
25 what I said to you before was we've

1
2 identified those individuals. But the way
3 you're using is not what I said. And I am
4 concerned about that.

5 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: You said there
6 was a gap in service.

7 DCE MOORE: Yes. When we looked in
8 2022 and we saw what was happening, we
9 addressed it. That's why I kept saying
10 that the service that we have hasn't
11 ended. In 2022, we looked at certain
12 things and we're on the ground.

13 So I know what you're saying, but I
14 want to be clear that we're addressing
15 some of that. We can't say it's just
16 gaps because there are gaps. I'm not
17 taking that away. All I'm saying is, the
18 way that you said it was, if we're not
19 doing the work and we are, this
20 department is working and that's --

21 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I never said you
22 weren't doing the work. I actually have
23 in many cases, painstakingly taken the
24 time to acknowledge that you're doing the
25 work.

1
2 DCE MOORE: And I appreciate that.

3 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: What I'm saying
4 is the gaps still exist and that we got
5 this money to do something extraordinary.
6 And I want to hone in on the first
7 syllable of that word extra, above. And
8 if the money that we've allocated for
9 those entities, and for whatever reason,
10 they're failing to be able to utilize it
11 and get it into their programming and get
12 it into the community, that means gaps
13 still exist. The gaps exist. You've not
14 only acknowledged that here, we've
15 acknowledged it in the budget hearing.
16 The gaps exist.

17 So I thank you for shaking your head
18 and acknowledgment that they exist. And
19 so the gaps existing, coupled with
20 putting money into NUMC that could go
21 belly up at the end of this quarter,
22 leaves me to say, all that glitters is
23 not gold.

24 Thank you.

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Thank

1
2 you.

3 I don't like disagreeing with
4 Legislator Ferretti. But from what I
5 recall, and it was a long time ago when
6 we went to the press conference when the
7 first tranche of opioid funding was
8 supposed to be given out, it was given
9 out to agencies like Jeff Reynolds, the
10 Family and Children. And the reason why
11 it was given out to those agencies is
12 because the County already has a contract
13 with them, and they were in good standing
14 and there wasn't need to go back and do
15 procurement and renew the contract. They
16 already had a contract with us. So we
17 were able to give out more funding
18 without starting from scratch with the
19 whole procurement issue.

20 The other thing is, this is not
21 about submitting invoices for the money
22 that's spent. That's not how this money
23 is supposed to be spent. This is a
24 punitive award that was given to the
25 County because the pharmaceutical

1
2 companies were found guilty of knowing
3 more about opioid damaging effects than
4 they let on. So the funding we're able to
5 give it directly as just like we're doing
6 with NUMC. We're allowed to give the
7 funding directly to these agencies. And
8 if you have any questions, all you have
9 to do is see what Suffolk County did.
10 They did the same thing. They did it to
11 some of the same agencies, including Jeff
12 Reynolds.

13 We sat there and McKevitt was there,
14 they went over how much of the funding
15 they've already distributed, and we just
16 haven't. And there are different reasons
17 as to why, but these excuses are really
18 not valid. We do not have to wait for the
19 vendors that were approved during that
20 press conference a year ago, September,
21 to validate anything. They are already
22 okay to receive the funding. They just
23 haven't because it was a choice not to.
24 As many times as we say it, that's the
25 problem.

1
2 I was really hoping this morning --
3 and I get this false hope and then I get
4 disappointed -- but I thought that maybe
5 that was what the message was going to be
6 today, that we were going to allocate the
7 money that was promised a year and a half
8 ago to these groups. Again, I was
9 disappointed when that didn't happen.

10 But I will support this. Anissa,
11 this is nothing to do with you. We're
12 just talking about the policies that were
13 made over a year and a half ago by the
14 Administration that have not come to
15 fruition.

16 Thank you for your time today. I
17 know you're in a tough spot. Understand
18 when we say DSS, we're not really talking
19 about DSS. We're talking more about the
20 other agencies that need this funding
21 that are telling us and calling us and
22 saying that they are desperate for the
23 funding that they were promised a year
24 and a half ago. So that's what we're
25 talking about.

Thank you.

DCE MOORE: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Moving along. Thank you.

Parks, RRDA LI, Inc., E-14.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good afternoon. Darcy Belyea, commissioner of Parks. For those of you that I haven't met yet, I look forward to working with you. Welcome.

Presenting a service agreement, E14-24 between the County and RRDA LI, Inc., a Nassau County based marketing and tourism marketing firm.

An RFP was conducted in April 2023. Seven proposals were received. Five proposals moved on to oral presentations and were then scored by the selection committee. RRDA LI, Inc., a certified MWBE, outscored the other proposers by nearly or more than 100 total points.

The term of this agreement will be from the execution date, termination on the third anniversary of the commencement date. The contract may be renewed for two additional one year terms at the

1
2 discretion of the Department. There's no
3 cost to the County.

4 As you know, this contract is funded
5 by a percentage of the Hotel/Motel tax
6 fees, as indicated in the Miscellaneous
7 Law. To be specific, it is 66.67% of 25%
8 of total fees allocated. We estimate this
9 amount to be \$970,000 for the first year
10 of the agreement.

11 Any questions?

12 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anybody? Mr.
13 Drucker.

14 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
15 Presiding Officer.

16 Hello, Darcy. How are you?

17 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good. How are
18 you, sir?

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Good. Thank
20 you.

21 I guess Ed Moore must feel that they
22 hit lotto today with the contract before
23 this one, and this one. Pretty good
24 contracts. I'm a little troubled by this
25 one, though. Although we indicated we're

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going to support the previous --

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: This is 14.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: This is RRDA
LI, Inc., sir.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: RRDA Long
Island, right? That's the one that's
taken over for Discover Long Island.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: This is a new
tourism promotion agency, yes.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'm sorry I
said Ed Moore. I'm sorry, I misspoke.

But there was another one for Ed
Moore, right?

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: The next one.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'll reserve my
comment for hitting lotto for the next --

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: No, no. You've
said it. You're done (laughter).

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'm troubled by
the way we've abandoned or gone away from
the regional approach towards promoting
tourism on Long Island. And I think it's
been proven, or certainly the data shows
that throughout the state of New York,

1
2 there are other regions that benefit from
3 a regional approach. And especially Long
4 Island. There are only two counties on
5 Long Island, and they're different. But
6 yet when you come to talking about
7 promoting tourism, it needs to be a
8 united or unified front because people
9 from other states who want to come here,
10 they may not know the distinction between
11 looking for something in Nassau County as
12 opposed to Suffolk County. And I kind of
13 think that Discover Long Island -- I'm
14 not going to go back to administration
15 after administration that used them in
16 the past, but has there been any
17 quantifiable downward trend in tourism
18 over the last few years that has
19 influenced the Administration's decision
20 to sever ties with Discover Long Island
21 after so many years?

22 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: The only
23 indication I have is Hotel/Motel tax
24 fees, which, as we all know took a dip
25 because of Covid. We are recovering

1
2 nicely. I feel like the events this year
3 will really trend us higher. But I have
4 never received any statistics from
5 Discover Long Island that could answer
6 that question for you. They seem to have
7 gotten very comfortable in their role,
8 focused on their own brand as opposed to
9 promoting the two counties equally.

10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Well, their
11 position is that Suffolk County pays more
12 so the majority of the advertising and
13 promotion was more geared towards Suffolk
14 County. But certainly, those
15 discrepancies and dissatisfaction can be
16 addressed. And it seems that no effort
17 has been made to try to find out why.

18 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Initially when
19 I came in in 2022, there was a 2021
20 letter of intent to award to a different
21 agency, not discover and not RRDA, and I
22 was unsure what to do with it. So we
23 interviewed Discover Long Island, who was
24 the second place finisher and we
25 interviewed that agency. And to put it

1
2 lightly, Discover Long Island was resting
3 on their laurels. They felt that what
4 they did was the best and that we needed
5 them. And personally, I didn't find them
6 a good business partner. I didn't find
7 them somebody that I would look forward
8 to working with who was giving the County
9 the bang for our buck. And you mentioned
10 the answer, which I've gotten as well,
11 that, well, Suffolk gives us more money.
12 It's a shame to have found out that
13 dozens and dozens of Nassau County
14 businesses pay a monthly or a yearly fee
15 for stepped up service from Discover Long
16 Island. So I can't speak to the money
17 that we've given as their only source of
18 revenue. I just honestly don't feel that
19 they brought any events to Nassau County.

20 Again, I wanted to share that. I'm
21 not on the committee. I did not meet
22 RRDA LI, Inc. until I met with them after
23 the scoring was presented to me, before I
24 made the intent to award notification.
25 And I've gotten more out of them in two

1
2 introductory meetings than I've gotten
3 out of the previous vendor in my two
4 years here.

5 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Yeah, but you
6 can't dispute the fact that tourism has
7 been -- maybe there's an anomaly during
8 Covid -- but it's a \$6 billion a year
9 industry.

10 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Correct.

11 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: And Long Island
12 was doing okay. I'm just curious as to
13 when you change course midstream, and now
14 you're going with an entirely different
15 company that has a different strategy,
16 perhaps, I want to see data. I want to
17 see the downward trend that justifies
18 changing direction like that. And I don't
19 think we're getting it. The decision has
20 been made based upon the committee that
21 you said wasn't so impressed by their
22 presentation, and they were so-called
23 resting on their laurels. Well, maybe if
24 they were really spoken to in a way that
25 let them know that their future is at

1
2 stake here, they need to do a better job
3 in certain ways; maybe that could have
4 been addressed.

5 But now we've given up \$85,000 --
6 You're shaking your head. No, we haven't
7 given up \$85,000?

8 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: No. That was
9 kind of misrepresented in the *Newsday*
10 article.

11 For 2023 and 2024, the County served
12 as our own tourism promotion agency. And
13 this Body did resolutions to allow us to
14 proceed that way. And that was done
15 primarily so that I could apply to Empire
16 State Development for the I Love New York
17 grants. And in that grant, we have to
18 decide if we are going to agree, Nassau
19 County, to a regional tourism promotion
20 campaign.

21 So when applying in October of '22,
22 I said yes after I met with them online,
23 had a couple phone conversations,
24 understood it, and basically it gave
25 about \$66,000 to Discover Long Island to

1
2 serve as our regional tourism promotion
3 agency, to conduct a regional campaign.

4 So that money is granted. We have it
5 by the first or second week of January of
6 '23. I never heard from Discover Long
7 Island, and it's not my job to manage
8 that campaign. We're giving them this
9 money. Until I said no with the
10 administration's approval to not do a
11 regional campaign in 2024, with two weeks
12 left to the deadline, I got an e-mail
13 from Discover Long Island saying, hey, we
14 thought we were getting the contract, so
15 we laid back on doing a regional
16 campaign. We'd like to use that money to
17 promote our new app.

18 So that's why I can say with you to
19 you with confidence that they've gotten
20 to the point where they're promoting
21 their brand and not promoting Nassau and
22 Suffolk as a region or separately.

23 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: You said they
24 were getting six. They got 61 million?

25 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: \$66,000 was

1
2 the regional program. I guess had I opted
3 in for 2024, it would have been about
4 80-85,000 for a regional program.

5 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: *Newsday* had
6 this all wrong?

7 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: *Newsday* took
8 what Discover Long Island probably was
9 telling them to be honest with you.

10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Okay.
11 Again, I'm more of a data driven
12 person. Does RRDA Long Island have an
13 ability to track and correlate tourism
14 with their ongoing efforts?

15 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Yes, they do.
16 And they're also going to focus their
17 first campaign -- again, I've only met
18 with them introductory because we're not
19 contracted with them yet -- but as
20 they've done in Colorado and in
21 Connecticut and Louisiana and some
22 international locations, they are going
23 to conduct research first and find the
24 demographic and the personas that want to
25 come here or that we want to try and draw

here and then expand on getting them to come here and getting them to stay here, to play here, eat here, and spend here.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Have you seen examples of what their marketing campaign is going to look like?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I've seen dozens of them. I'd be happy to share them with you.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Yes, I'd like to see them. Certainly.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: No problem.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Because again, we have a track record with one company, we're going to go with an entirely new one. I have certain reservations about that.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Okay.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you. I have nothing further.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Deputy Presiding Officer.

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Just a couple of points. Just to point out that, number

1
2 one, it wasn't this Administration which
3 initially decided not to go with Discover
4 Long Island, it was actually the previous
5 Administration. And you're just
6 following behind them to go and have it
7 reevaluated and have this company; is
8 that correct?

9 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Basically,
10 when I came in in 2022, there was a
11 letter of intent to award that was
12 issued, but no contract was was brought
13 before you. So it was unsure. Should we
14 follow through on that or do a new RFP?
15 And after interviewing that agency and
16 Discover Long Island, we decided to do a
17 new RFP.

18 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: I just wanna
19 go and share some information. I remember
20 we distinctly had a meeting on behalf of
21 the Majority Legislature with Discover
22 Long Island a couple of years ago. I
23 remember it was in the Ciotti Conference
24 Room. I remember it so clearly. And at
25 that point, we had indicated the point

1
2 that it seemed like a lot of their
3 advertising was geared more towards
4 Suffolk than Nassau. And there is a
5 historical reason behind NIFA where their
6 funding is different between the two
7 counties. I'll never forget that they
8 indicated that when they polled around
9 the United States and saw people on what
10 the rest of the country thought of Long
11 Island, the first thing came to your mind
12 with the Hamptons. And they did a lot of
13 marketing towards the Hamptons. I thought
14 that was very nice, but that's Suffolk
15 County, not Nassau. From my perspective,
16 if that's where the focus is going to be
17 on the Hamptons, there's a lot in Nassau
18 County, and essentially we should be
19 paying for Suffolk County, an agency
20 which is primarily promoting Suffolk
21 County. That was just my perspective on
22 having that meeting.

23 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: And I would
24 have to agree with you. And that's why I
25 said previously, businesses, on top of

1
2 the money that Nassau County is giving
3 out of these Hotel/Motel tax fees,
4 businesses are being given the option to
5 pay either a yearly or monthly fee for
6 increased efforts from that TPA. And I
7 just think that we could do better. I
8 think we can do better with a better
9 business partner. And I'm looking forward
10 to working with them.

11 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Okay.

12 Thank you.

13 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Hello, Darcy.
14 How are you?

15 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good. Thank
16 you.

17 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: So, just to be
18 clear, RRDA, is it their intention to
19 move forward with an application for that
20 same grant for the New York State grant?

21 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I applied for
22 the county for 2024 and I would need to
23 carry that out. It's not transferable. So
24 I think it's \$52,000 and change that will
25 carry out as we did last year. But

certainly going forward they will apply for that grant. They could use the option to apply for the regional bonus as well. They have indicated -- again, I've only met with them a couple of times -- that there are other grants that they're going to apply for us.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: But that specific grant, have they indicated to you that they plan on applying for that?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Absolutely. And I would share what I've learned in the last two years of doing it with them.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And there's no reason to think that that grant, which had been awarded to Discover Long Island in the past, won't be awarded.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Correct.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anyone else?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: You've got one
3 more. Ed Moore, E-19.

4 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Item E19-24,
5 I'm presenting an amendment number three
6 between the County and Ed Moore
7 Advertising Agency, Inc., which, as you
8 know, is a media placement agency.

9 The original agreement was approved
10 by this body on March 1st, 2020.
11 Amendment one was presented and approved
12 in July of '22. Amendment two was
13 presented and approved in November of
14 '23.

15 This amendment seeks to add
16 additional funds received by the County
17 under the Coronavirus Local Fiscal
18 Recovery Funds in the amount of \$4
19 million, and also amend the term end date
20 from February 28, 2025 to February 28,
21 2026, which will allow spending of these
22 funds to be within the timeframe
23 allowable under the guidelines for these
24 specific funds.

25 These additional funds will be used

1
2 in an effort to boost tourism to the
3 County, which will have a direct effect
4 on bringing outside money into the
5 county. In turn, our businesses will
6 benefit, restaurants, bars, local shops
7 and major retail as well.

8 The mechanism to make this all
9 happen will include advertising and
10 events surrounding the T20 World Cup
11 Cricket and the watch parties at the
12 county will be hosting in June. And if I
13 could just add for a moment, there's 1
14 million tickets that are available for
15 the cricket matches in June. There's been
16 requests for 3.5 million tickets for
17 those 1 million. So we're already in the
18 in the right direction to sell out.

19 Events surrounding the 125th
20 anniversary will also be used for part of
21 these funds: Golf outings, restaurant
22 weeks, police galas, military gala,
23 fireman's gala, classic car shows, exotic
24 car shows and motorcycle parades, among a
25 few that a committee unrelated to me are

1
2 working on. There'll also be other events
3 to be determined.

4 These additional funds will increase
5 the maximum amount paid to the
6 contractor, not to exceed \$6,750,000 over
7 the term of the contract. I note that
8 \$150,000 per year of this contract is
9 funded by Hotel/Motel tax Grant fund.
10 Funds will continue to be used to promote
11 our many great annual events and concerts
12 as well.

13 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. Drucker, you
14 want to talk about the the lottery?

15 (Whereupon, off the record
16 discussion. Passes to Minority
17 Leader.)

18 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Hi,
19 Darcy. We just were wondering why we
20 couldn't use the same vendor that we just
21 gave the contract to promote things like
22 the cricket.

23 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: So RRDA is
24 going to be working with us on the
25 marketing campaigns. Ed Moore Agency just

1
2 places those campaigns in the media for
3 us.

4 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: We're
5 paying them that much money?

6 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Well, that
7 gives us the ability to buy more.

8 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Holy
9 smokes.

10 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: And this is up
11 to that amount. It's not indicated that
12 we're spending this amount. And I want to
13 clarify also, this is part of the \$10
14 million bucket that this Board already
15 approved.

16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I
17 didn't. We didn't approve it.

18 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: For those of
19 you who did.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: The 10
21 million gala, I know.

22 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: But also this
23 is just a mechanism with which to spend
24 some of that money.

25 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I

1
2 understand. It's a lot of money to spend.

3 So in your opinion, we couldn't use
4 the other agency to --

5 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: RRDA does not
6 place advertising for us. Ed Moore
7 Agency contract is in place to place that
8 advertising for us. And this is a
9 contract that predates me. I believe it
10 goes back ten years.

11 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Oh, my
12 God. So okay, so they're placing the
13 adds.

14 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Exactly.

15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Who is
16 making the ads?

17 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Tourism
18 promotion agency will. And then some of
19 it's done in-house. We have our own
20 campaigns that we execute in-house for
21 the concert and different events that I
22 work with the Communications Office on.

23 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So when
24 we have the first, I believe the cricket
25 game is Pakistan versus India, is that

1
2 correct?

3 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: The first
4 match is Sri Lanka versus South Africa.

5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: And
6 then it's Pakistan versus --

7 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Pakistan, June
8 9th versus India, right. Eight
9 altogether. But we're going to host watch
10 parties at different parks in our system
11 so that those that don't qualify to get
12 the tickets, they're unable to purchase
13 them, can still watch it and be part of
14 the event.

15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I'm
16 sorry, maybe I don't understand the
17 advertising business well enough, but
18 right now if we're going to -- once we
19 allocate the money, you have to
20 understand, it's gone. We can't claw
21 back on any of it. To allocate \$1
22 million to place the ads -- almost \$1
23 million, 975,000 -- to place the ads that
24 they're going to be writing on things
25 that we kind of already think that we

1
2 sold out already?

3 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: We are not
4 advertising for the ICC T20 event. We are
5 going to put some advertising in place to
6 draw additional people to Nassau County
7 to attend other events surrounding the
8 event. So we're going to have meet and
9 greets with the players. We're going to
10 have open practice sessions. We're going
11 to have watch parties with giant screens
12 in the fields of different parks where
13 people can come buy the food, buy the
14 merchandise associated with the event,
15 and we hope to do that in different spots
16 throughout the county to bring people in.

17 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: With
18 all due respect, I happen to have a
19 stepson in Pakistan. So when we do the
20 Pakistan/India, who covers the security
21 with that?

22 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: So that goes
23 back to the used in occupancy permit for
24 T20 USA. They're hiring a private
25 security for inside the arena. And our

1
2 services are going to be providing all of
3 the park closure and other safety issues
4 for us. And we're reimbursed for that per
5 match.

6 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: And the
7 watch parties and all that?

8 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I've spoken to
9 Commissioner Ryder loosely about that and
10 also DCE Fox and there'll be security
11 from T20. Then also our own PD as well.

12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: That's
13 going to cause a lot of overtime, I would
14 imagine.

15 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: It's odd. I'm
16 not sure. We haven't worked all out all
17 those details out yet, but all the
18 matches start at 10:30 in the morning
19 weekdays some of them.

20 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: The
21 history of some of these situations,
22 there could be a potential of needing
23 security.

24 Where are these ads going to be
25 placed? Is it only New York state or is

1
2 it out of New York state?

3 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: No. Once RRDA
4 does their campaign for us, again, I've
5 only met with them a couple of times
6 introductory. I'm looking forward to
7 hitting the ground running with them
8 pending approval so that we can have a
9 campaign. And we are looking to do it
10 both regionally and extended to markets
11 that have a popularity of South Asians
12 and cricket community. They've already
13 identified one area, Central New Jersey,
14 for example. So we would look to target
15 advertising there as well.

16 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Okay.
17 Because I just leery when we advertise,
18 especially if we use some of our names on
19 it and it's throughout the state. And
20 then later on people say that it could be
21 maybe interpreted possibly as political
22 should someone run for a higher office.
23 It's just something to be aware of.

24 I think it's a lot of money to spend
25 on placing ads again. I don't know if

1
2 that's a standard amount of money, but
3 just a place ads for \$1 million on events
4 that we already know are pretty much sold
5 out -- if we're going to be holding all
6 of these watch parties and everything
7 else, I really think we have to do a
8 careful cost analysis as to overtime by
9 our police and make sure they're able to
10 have the added responsibility.

11 I guess that's pretty much it. I
12 think we really have to be careful to
13 make sure it doesn't -- it is covered by
14 ARPA money. This is Covid recovery
15 money. I don't know. Again, I didn't
16 support this. This is coming from the
17 125th, correct or no?

18 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: This is money
19 that was set aside. That \$10 million
20 bucket.

21 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: So
22 yeah, it is that's the \$10 million.

23 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: As we said
24 when I when that was presented, not by
25 me, I was here though, that we would be

1
2 coming back forward with contracts to
3 amend with to make a mechanisms with
4 which we can spend that money.

5 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: I just
6 don't think it's the best use of money.
7 There's so many food banks and other
8 groups that needed this money and I hate
9 -- I'm not going to support this one. So
10 if we could not bulk this, I would truly
11 appreciate it.

12 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Deputy Presiding
13 Officer McKevitt.

14 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Darcy, just to
15 go through the complexities, when you
16 have an advertising contract. When we're
17 giving money to Ed Moore, the money is
18 not just staying with them. Aren't they
19 really essentially a pass through? And
20 they then book the space with either TV
21 stations or print media. So what really
22 happened is RRDA does the substance, and
23 Ed Moore really does the placement and
24 most of that money will then go to, you
25 know, the TV stations and the print, not

necessarily with Ed Moore. Is that how these agreements are usually structured?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Correct.

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. Drucker.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you, Presiding Officer. I'll be very brief. Just back to follow up on Legislator McKevitt's question. That's how all promotional companies work. I mean, they get the contract and then they have to contract out to various print media or TV stations. So there's nothing unusual about that, correct?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I'll give you an example: Right now where are preparing ads to promote our summer program. So those are prepared in-house. It's something that parks has done every year since I've been here. And then we give that to Ed Moore, he comes back with various weeklies and streaming and News 12 options for us. And then we say,

1
2 okay, we have X amount in the wallet.
3 We're going to spend X amount on on this
4 particular campaign. But we can't go to
5 *Newsday* or News 12 or the *Herald's* and
6 place it ourselves. So he does that for
7 the County.

8 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Do you know, is
9 there any sort of split? You mentioned
10 that we could get 3 million tickets sold.
11 Did you say that?

12 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: There are
13 requests for 3.7 million tickets. It's
14 called a ballot. Basically, expressed
15 interest in buying tickets. Our events,
16 unless we add another one, we'll sell 1
17 million tickets to fill the stadium each
18 match.

19 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: What's the
20 split on? How do how does the County
21 benefit from those 1 million tickets that
22 are sold?

23 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: So that goes
24 back to the use and occupancy permit that
25 was passed by this Board. And we are

1
2 getting the net revenue for parking, net
3 revenue for concessions, and we're
4 getting a reimbursement for services for
5 Parks and for Public Safety. And then we
6 also getting a percentage of merchandise
7 sales -- global merchandise sales at all
8 the venues, nine of them.

9 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: This just all
10 flows back to this caucus's opposition to
11 the prioritization of the Administration
12 to to promote of this event by using
13 money that's really earmarked for
14 something far more serious and
15 substantial that the ARPA funding was
16 supposed to be designated for. So I'm
17 still against this particular contract as
18 well.

19 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Ms. Bynoe.

20 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Thank you.

21 How are you, Commissioner?

22 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Good. Thank
23 you. You?

24 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Good, good.

25 I'm told there's homeless folks in

1
2 the park there. How you contending with
3 that?

4 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: It has been a
5 problem that my team and I have been
6 trying to deal with. The Third Precinct
7 is very, very cooperative with us. And it
8 seems have died down, and they are
9 elsewhere at the moment.

10 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: So they shifted
11 somewhere?

12 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Shifted or
13 hopefully they're using our warming
14 centers. And then we're working closely
15 with DSS to be able to place them in
16 emergency housing.

17 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Because right in
18 proximity to the park, I can speak for
19 the community that I represent that's
20 closest to it, which is Uniondale,
21 they're reporting that up to ten homeless
22 people are in their library daily. They
23 come there maybe when they get kicked out
24 of the park or they leave a warming
25 station or what have you, and they go to

1
2 the library and they kind of hang out
3 there. I, like my colleagues, find it
4 challenging to support ARPA money because
5 we know that there's homeless people
6 throughout the county. Throughout the
7 county. I don't think one community is
8 unscathed. This is right in the face of
9 what the County is not doing with the
10 ARPA money, which is funding homeless
11 services at a larger percentage, giving
12 them more money. In fact, one of the
13 entities that's charged with being out on
14 the street, outreach that might be able
15 to go into that park and help you and
16 your staffers, that was really funded at
17 close to pennies on the dollar for what
18 they need. Prior to Covid, based on a
19 report that my office asked for, there
20 was 325K that was set aside where we
21 could have DSS staff, from the APS, Adult
22 Protective Services Group, coupled with
23 folks from the Homeless Prevention Team,
24 and they'd go out and they respond to
25 those things and really not just move

1
2 them to a warming center. They would look
3 at what are the underlying issues for
4 them being homeless and try and rehouse
5 them. That would be a really great use of
6 the ARPA money. And even if we didn't
7 want to do it based on the fact that it's
8 the right thing to do, maybe we would
9 want to do it just because we're trying
10 to attract people to come to the park for
11 cricket, and they're going to come
12 through the byways and the highways and
13 see our homeless folks and see how we
14 treat our people. We might want to do
15 something a little bit better than that.

16 Just last week, we had a group here
17 of individuals that were speaking on the
18 fact that there's about 200 young people
19 on the list waiting to get serviced.
20 When I spoke last week on the record or
21 the week before, I really wasn't tying
22 ARPA money to this process, but I have
23 the personal prerogative to do that after
24 I've been informed by a third party
25 entity and my own research that we could

1
2 use that money to backfill and offset the
3 expenses that we need to lay out to
4 increase the pay, and then we'd be
5 reimbursed from the State for that. And
6 that would be a real great eligible use
7 of ARPA money.

8 I could go on and on and on. I just
9 think that we keep looking at the stuff
10 that glitters and we keep saying and
11 hearing from our financial wizards here
12 at the County -- and I think that they do
13 a phenomenal job maintaining and managing
14 the budget -- But I think they were off
15 point when they say that for every dollar
16 we spend, three comes back into the
17 communities. And to think that every
18 community would benefit from any small
19 business, that opportunity is not fair
20 and just either we know that's not going
21 to be the case either.

22 But I'm going to say on the record
23 today that I did some research because I
24 really wanted to know, was it \$3 that was
25 going to come back to the County? And I

1
2 found that that \$3 really could be as
3 little as \$0.50 on the dollar in this
4 inflated market. And so when we talk
5 about us, the collective, the residents
6 of Nassau County, benefit from this type
7 of expenditure using Covid money, I say
8 it's falling flat. Falling flat for me.

9 We know that for \$1 -- we talked
10 about it earlier, it's in the report --
11 we save seven when we put that money into
12 mental health, substance abuse. We know
13 based on -- I'm sorry, it was 1 to \$5.
14 Sorry. It's 1 to \$7 -- When we put that
15 money into early childhood intervention.
16 And here we know now that based on the
17 inflation of the current situation that
18 we find ourselves in, it could be as
19 little as \$0.50 on the dollar.

20 So we've got to stop playing games
21 and be real about how we're spending this
22 money and who benefits from it. So yeah,
23 I'm going to be a no today on this as I
24 was when the initial money was set aside.

25 Thank you.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. Ferretti.

3 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Hello again.

4 So again, as attorneys, sometimes we
5 have to interpret statutes and try to
6 determine what lawmakers, whether it's
7 federal or state, mean by what they write
8 in the statute. But in this statute, do
9 we have to do that? And I asked that in
10 terms of tourism; is there ambiguity or
11 is tourism one of the things that the
12 lawmakers put specifically into the
13 statute as an eligible item?

14 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: You're correct
15 in that. Yes, and I'm directed on that by
16 OMB. And they they are a clearinghouse
17 for Parks as to how we can spend that
18 money. And that is a use that is
19 encouraged by the ARPA funding
20 guidelines.

21 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: But when you
22 say it's encouraged by the guidelines, do
23 you have the guidelines in front of you?

24 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I don't have
25 them in front of me. I'm sorry.

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LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right.

But it's not ambiguous. The words in the statute, correct?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Yes.

Actually, I do have some language in this in the contract with regard to the statute, if that, if you want to refer to that.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Well, that's okay if you want to refer to that, but.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: (Perusing)
Maybe I misspoke.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All right.
Don't worry about it.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I don't have any amendment. Maybe I have it in the original agreement.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: But when we talk about this money that's being generated from cricket, my understanding is that the projection is approximately \$150 million in revenue to the County, different bars, restaurants, etc.. Is that an accurate number?

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COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Yes, that's the estimated. And with complete sellouts and adding a possible ninth match, it could be even higher.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay. Just to be clear, with the number \$150,000,000.

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Million.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And that can be spread that could be spread out to bars, restaurants --

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Nail salons, hair salons.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All these places that presumably took a substantial hit during Covid, correct?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Correct.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: And as a result of them taking a substantial hit during Covid, that trickles down to the employees, right?

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Correct. Bartenders, waiters, nails, what do they call them --

COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Nail

1
2 technicians.

3 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: All that does
4 trickle down to all those workers, right?
5 That's the idea of it.

6 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Well, to me
7 that's my understanding of what the whole
8 intent of that money is to be used for.
9 Recovery.

10 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Recovery for
11 lost revenue. Helping the employees,
12 helping the businesses.

13 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Right.

14 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: The \$150
15 million, if that revenue was to be
16 realized throughout the county, wouldn't
17 that generate sales tax for Nassau County
18 as well?

19 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Sales tax,
20 Hotel/Motel tax fees? We have thousands
21 and thousands of rooms already held for
22 this tournament.

23 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Do we have any
24 numbers on the projections of sales tax
25 and Hotel/Motel tax?

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2 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: I don't.

3 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Okay, but it's
4 not hard to figure out. Right? 8.675
5 divided by two we got about half of it
6 times 150 million is a lot of money.

7 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: A lot of
8 money.

9 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I just want to
10 respond to Legislator Ferretti.

11 As a lawyer, yes, we are often asked
12 to interpret statutes. But in this
13 particular case, if there is ambiguity in
14 the statute, I would submit that the
15 error should go towards -- the
16 interpretation should go towards the
17 residents, the taxpayers, the people who
18 are in need because of substance abuse,
19 opioid addiction treatment facilities.
20 If there's any sort of leeway in
21 interpreting the statute, let's opt for
22 going in that direction rather than the
23 tourism. That's all I'm saying.

24 And I don't disagree with Legislator
25 Ferretti, that all of the goals of this

1
2 \$150 million and how it's going to
3 trickle down. Yeah, theoretically, that
4 makes sense. And it would go that way.
5 But even you said yourself, it's an
6 estimate. There's no quantifiable data
7 driven to this at all. It's all
8 speculation and conjecture. What if it
9 doesn't turn out that way? What if it's
10 a big flop? What if there are weather
11 conditions that impact the turnout? What
12 if ticket sales aren't what they are
13 projected? Again, I'm not saying that in
14 theory, this trickle down will benefit a
15 lot of people, a lot of businesses, the
16 County. But I still think the priority --
17 the Hotel/Motel tax can be used in a lot
18 of other ways, rather than having to
19 invade money that should be spent for
20 people who are really affected and
21 afflicted by substance abuse. That's all
22 I'm saying. And if it comes down to an
23 interpretation of a vague, ambiguous
24 statute, let's opt for going in the other
25 direction, not towards promoting

1
2 promotion and tourism.

3 Thank you.

4 LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Thank you.
5 Just very quickly.

6 Arnie, I don't necessarily disagree
7 with you, except for the fact that it is
8 not ambiguous at all, and I'll just read
9 from it: "To respond to public health
10 emergency or its negative economic
11 impacts, including assistance to
12 households, small businesses and
13 nonprofits, or impacted industries such
14 as tourism, travel and hospitality".
15 That's not ambiguous. It's black and
16 white.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Ms. Bynoe.

19 By the way, I just want to point out
20 everybody. We're not even talking about
21 the contract anymore. Not for a while,
22 which is what this was supposed to be
23 about.

24 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: I hear, Mr.
25 Ferretti and I don't disagree that we

1
2 should be investing into our economy by
3 way of tourism. I believe that it's a
4 justifiable use. I just think that it's
5 not balanced. It's not balanced based on
6 the needs that we have here, that we can
7 have some level of a celebration. And we
8 should look to find ways to bring other
9 entities here to invest also, because I
10 believe we're getting a cricket stadium
11 out of Cantiague Park by way of this; is
12 that correct?

13 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Cricket field.

14 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Field, not a
15 stadium. That's what I meant.

16 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: And batting
17 cages.

18 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: And batting
19 cages.

20 So I believe in all that. We should
21 be utilizing this money for all that it
22 was intended for. It was purposed to have
23 multiple uses. I'd just like to see the
24 same energy that's put behind this
25 tourism component, to be put behind the

1
2 programs, put behind the essential needs
3 that are unmet. And I'm not an economist.
4 I'm not a social worker. I'm not an
5 economist. I don't want to be a jack of
6 all trades and master of none. So what I
7 do is rely on people in the industries.
8 And I have proof that in this
9 inflationary economic condition that we
10 find ourselves in based on the research
11 and the publication and Econ Focus, a
12 reputable financial publication, that we
13 could make as little as \$0.50 on the
14 dollar that we spend.

15 So my point today on the record is
16 to look at the justification and for us
17 as a body, to listen to the justification
18 that was presented to us by Mr. Persich,
19 who said that it was upwards of \$3. It is
20 not in this inflationary market. It could
21 be as little as \$0.50 on the dollar,
22 especially since we haven't even taken
23 into account how much we will spend on
24 law enforcement to protect the area. We
25 haven't even looked at that.

1
2 So when we say that we want to do
3 good for everyone in our communities
4 based on economic conditions utilizing
5 this money, we should know what that
6 means. Because it wasn't too long ago
7 that at the UBS arena, they quickly did
8 an analysis and determined how much extra
9 money was going to be needed for a rap
10 concert. But we haven't done it for the
11 cricket. I hear crickets.

12 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: No, no. We
13 have, we have. But for the stadium
14 events, we haven't done it for the watch
15 parties.

16 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: We all of that
17 should be taken into account. All of it.

18 COMMISSIONER BELYEA: Working on it.

19 LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Overnight we
20 found out how much it was going to cost.
21 And we charged the folks at UBS or the
22 promoter there. And we have all of this
23 time that has been allotted to you to be
24 able to do that analysis so we as a Body
25 could determine whether we're looking at

\$0.50 on the dollar or no benefit at all.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anyone else?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay. Moving on.

Thank you, Darcy.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Comptroller. The
3 next two contracts with the Comptroller's
4 office. How are you? Number E17 with
5 Deloitte and Touche.

6 MR. CASOLARO: Yes. Good afternoon,
7 Legislators. Charlie Casolaro, Chief
8 counsel to the Nassau County Comptroller.

9 There is one contract and one
10 amendment for you to consider today. The
11 first one is with Deloitte and Touche
12 through Nassau County, through the
13 Comptroller's Office. And that's a
14 contract to help the County in their
15 preparation of their ACFR, Annual
16 Comprehensive Financial Report. It's a
17 rather complex report drawn upon
18 different financial statements from each
19 department in the County.

20 This is a four year contract with a
21 maximum amount of \$649,000. It was
22 acquired through an RFP process. There
23 were three proposers. The Committee chose
24 Deloitte. We're asking for an initial
25 encumbrance of \$122,270. It's necessary

1
2 and needed. Our ACFR is due June 30th,
3 and we'd ask that it's approved.

4 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anyone? Mr.
5 Drucker.

6 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: One quick
7 question, are there any state regulations
8 compelling or obligating the
9 Comptroller's Office to utilize or engage
10 in these outside contracts? Because I
11 understand it's been done for a while. Do
12 you know anything about what the history
13 of this is?

14 MR. CASOLARO: Legislator Drucker, I
15 don't know if there's any state rule,
16 statutory rule that says we must use
17 outside vendors. But I will tell you that
18 the process of preparing these reports,
19 because of the GASB rules from the
20 Government Accounting Standards Board,
21 have become so complex that we need
22 outside vendors to assist us in
23 reconciling. I don't know if there's any
24 specific statute. We've been using
25 outside agencies for 10-12 years, but I

don't know of any specific statute.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Okay. So about 10 or 12 years the Comptroller's Office has been used utilizing these third party vendors.

MR. CASOLARO: Yes, yes. And especially since the reporting and requirement standards have become more and more complex.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Okay. Thank you.

MR. CASOLARO: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Anyone else?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Let's move on, E18.

MR. CASOLARO: Thank you.

The second item is an amendment with the vendor Crowe.

This is to assist the County in preparing their pronouncements and financial disclosures in the financial impact and reporting of leases pursuant to GASB '87 and GASB '96.

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2 GASB, Government Accounting
3 Standards Board '87 is a section of
4 ground leases that the County has to make
5 an evaluation on and a financial analysis
6 and report.

7 And '96 is IT subscriptions and
8 leases that the County must report.

9 We've asked to increase the funding
10 to \$102,000 for Crowe. These reports are
11 also becoming more and more complex, and
12 we need these outside vendors to help our
13 departments and assisting with this
14 preparation. So I'd ask that this be
15 approved.

16 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any questions?

17 (Whereupon, no verbal
18 response.)

19 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay. Thank you.

20 MR. CASOLARO: Thank you.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay, so we're
3 going to vote, I think. Let me call them
4 in bulk. Except for one. Except for 19.

5 (Whereupon, Public member
6 expresses the want to have
7 public comment.)

8 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We'd love to hear
9 you, Miss Mereday.

10 MS. MEREDAY: Meta J. Mereday.

11 Reverend doctor in celebration and
12 recognition of February, with the one
13 added day being Black History Month, I
14 want to start out with a quote:

15 "If you see a good fight, get in
16 it." By Reverend Doctor Vernon Johns.
17 And if you don't know who he is, this is
18 your history assignment: Look him up.

19 I am very distressed as I stand here
20 and I try to keep in within the three
21 minutes, but as I said, have been sitting
22 here for hours seething with regard to
23 the complete disrespect and disregard for
24 residents who are falling through the
25 cracks including our veterans, our

1
2 seniors, our young people and the
3 communities that Legislator Bynoe so
4 eloquently stated are feeling and
5 experiencing the gaps on a regular basis.

6 First of all, there was a company
7 that was listed as an MWBE. It's a
8 certified woman business enterprise. Not
9 a minority, not a veteran. The lack of
10 inclusion, the lack of equity, and the
11 lack of distribution of resources to
12 these impacted communities that pay their
13 taxes equally, if not more so, continues
14 to be an area of strong dissatisfaction.
15 And I'm trying to be kind as I'm trying
16 to start off the year a little more
17 gentler.

18 But as I said at the end of 2023,
19 when the opportunities were still
20 lacking, when the access was still vacant
21 in many areas, this is going to be a
22 bumpy ride, clearly. And if *Newsday* does
23 not get on the ball now to start
24 investigating in February, we will have
25 the same negative impact what we did with

1
2 the Sandy money that many people are now
3 experiencing luxury vacations while
4 residents, particularly on the South
5 Shore, suffering. We need to do better.

6 But it's a give in. We already know
7 what this side of the room is going to do
8 (indicating). I applaud the ones on this
9 side of the room. They're still trying to
10 fight the good fight for those of us who
11 are struggling out here. To have
12 contracts again, that are being awarded
13 to people who are probably or indirectly
14 afforded their funding to donate to
15 campaigns when you do not have
16 representation. And I've looked at some
17 of these contracts, the information
18 that's provided to the public is pithy.
19 But one thing that I see that it was not
20 marked there is no MWBE participation.
21 There is no service, disabled or veteran
22 disabled business participation. I'm the
23 one to draft it. Not any of you who were
24 there before and after. I drafted the
25 legislation that was put in this Body to

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2 increase opportunities for veteran owned
3 businesses, and it's still vacant. What
4 is this all about? I don't know.

5 I know my time is up that I had to
6 demand to get. I have more to say. But
7 when we talk about drug support service
8 programs, \$10 million for an advertising
9 contract, and you're only going to give
10 \$2 million to a public benefit facility
11 hospital that is struggling and
12 straining. You're just going to open more
13 beds for what support system? The nursing
14 staff shortage. You have physicians that
15 are shortchanged and depression among
16 doctors and physicians is second only to
17 what's impacting our veterans.

18 We already know what you're going to
19 do. I'm just hoping that *Newsday* can
20 catch up before millions of dollars get
21 wasted. This time, let's do a better job.

22 Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN KOPEL: On E15, E12, E16,
E14, E17 and E18. All those in favor of
those items, please so indicate by
saying, "Aye."

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Those items are
unanimous.

Now on E19, all those in favor,
please say, "Aye".

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Aye.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Nay.

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: Nay.

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Nay.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: So the vote is 4 to
3.

I'm going to place the Rules

Committee and recess now.

Public safety is next. Thank you.

(Whereupon, recess, 3:18
p.m.- 4:27 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay, we're back to
Rules.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: I'm going to call a
number of items together. These are
consent items, meaning items that have
gone through other committees and have
been agreed by the Majority/Minority that
they require no further debate or
discussion. And those items are numbers
13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26,
27, 28, 29, 30, 31. On the Addendum, 40,
41. And that is it.

So the motion on that is made by Mr.
Kennedy and seconded by Ranking Member
Delia DeRiggi-Whitton.

All in favor of these items, say,
"Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Those items are
unanimous.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 32 is a resolution to confirm the County Executive's appointment of Marissa Brown to the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency.

Motion by Mr. Ferretti, seconded by Mr. Drucker.

Any debate or discussion on that.

(Whereupon, off the record discussion.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All those in favor of that nomination, please so indicate by saying, "Aye".

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Aye.

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Aye.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Aye.

LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any abstentions?

LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

(Indicates.)

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: (Indicates.)

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: (Indicates.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Three. So it's
4:0:3. Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 33 is to
confirm the County Executive's
reappointment of Samuel Nahmias to the
Nassau County Bridge Authority.

Motion on that is by Mr. McKevitt
and seconded by Ms. Bynoe.

Any debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All in favor of
these items, say, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Unanimous.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 34.
Resolution to confirm the County
Executive's reappointment of Vincent
Pasqua to the Nassau County Bridge
Authority.

Motion by Mr. Drucker, seconded by
Mr. Kennedy.

Any debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All in favor of
these items, say, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Unanimous.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 35 is a Resolution to appoint Marissa Brown, the board of directors of Nassau County Local Economic Assistance and Financing Corporation.

Motion by Mr. McKevitt and seconded by Ms. DeRiggi-Whitton.

Any debate or discussion on that.

(Whereupon, off the record discussion.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All those in favor of that nomination, please so indicate by saying, "Aye".

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Aye.

LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Aye.

LEGISLATOR FERRETTI: Aye.

LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Aye.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any abstentions?

LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON:

(Indicates.)

LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: (Indicates.)

LEGISLATOR BYNOE: (Indicates.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Three. So it's
4:0:3.

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: On the Addendum,
Number 36 would be a Resolution
authorizing County Executive to execute
an Inter Municipal Agreement with
Levittown Union Free School District.

Motion on that is made by Mr.
Kennedy and seconded by Mr. Ferretti.

Any debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All in favor of
these items, say, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Unanimous.

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Resolution 37 is a
resolution authorizing an IMA with
Village of Kings Point.

Motion by Mr. Kennedy and seconded
by Ms. Bynoe.

Any debate or discussion?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All in favor of
Number 37, say, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 38 is an IMA
with the Village of Cedarhurst.

I'll make that motion. Seconded by
Mr. Drucker.

All in favor of these items, say,
"Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of
the Rules Committee respond in
favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 39 is an IMA
3 with the village of East Williston.

4 Motion by Mr. Ferretti and seconded
5 by Ms. DeRiggi-Whitton.

6 Any debate?

7 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Can we
8 just make like a quick statement?

9 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: By all means.

10 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: We're
11 gonna support this one as well. We're
12 supporting all of them. If I could, I'm
13 going to defer to Mr. Drucker. Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Sure.

15 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you,
16 Chair.

17 This is really more of an anecdotal
18 comment by the Minority side.

19 In the interest of collegiality and
20 bipartisanship, with respect to these
21 particular CRPs, we recognize that they
22 benefit the communities in which they are
23 located, and we are going to approve
24 them. But we are beseeching the Majority
25 in the interest of fairness and

1
2 bipartisanship, if the Majority will
3 calendar our CRPs. I mean, you got a
4 number of them here, and we feel like
5 we're getting short shrift in that
6 regard, and we're just asking. We have no
7 hesitation at passing these --

8 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: And let me just
9 tell you that when they are submitted to
10 us by the Administration, we will
11 calendar them and approve them.

12 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: We have your
13 word on that?

14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: No problem, sure.

15 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Can I
16 just add that that I think is where the
17 problem lays. I have 11 I think that
18 we're waiting on either IMAs or for it to
19 be sent down. Seven or for first
20 responders. I actually have like three
21 different first responder groups that
22 want to come down to the meeting. I've
23 been actually told that mine are going to
24 be held up because of my insistence on
25 trying to get the opioid funding out. So

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2 I've actually had staff that has been
3 told that.

4 I don't want to have to write
5 another column and have to have my
6 firemen and have Seacliff Fire Department
7 and Glenwood Landing Ambulance and Sands
8 Point -- they all want to come down.
9 They're waiting. And now I've been told
10 that mine are not going to be followed up
11 on or moved.

12 So I don't really know what to do as
13 a legislator. I'm asking for your
14 assistance. I realize that you're not the
15 holdup, but if I'm being told they're
16 being held up because of columns I'm
17 writing about opioid funding, and then
18 they are being held up, I think it's a
19 very poor message to my -- it's actually
20 kind of funny, a lot of them have
21 Republican mayors and they don't even
22 know what what the issue is.

23 I could move to the next step of
24 having them come down, but I would really
25 prefer not to have to do that. So if

1
2 there's any way we could find out if the
3 IMAs can be approved or sent down. And
4 the rest of the approval, as far as I
5 know, on our end, everything should be
6 set because they've been there for a
7 while. They're all from like '22.

8 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We will mention
9 your concerns to the Administration, and
10 I have no doubt that they're listening in
11 as well.

12 LEGISLATOR DERIGGI-WHITTON: Thank
13 you.

14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay.

15 All in favor of Number 39, please so
16 indicate by saying, "Aye".

17 (Whereupon, all members of
18 the Rules Committee respond in
19 favor with, "Aye".)

20 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

21 (Whereupon, no verbal
22 response.)

23 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That is unanimous.
24

25 *****

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 42 is a
3 resolution to confirm the County
4 Executive's appointment of Joseph
5 Manzella to the Nassau County IDA.

6 Motion by Mr. McKevitt, seconded by
7 Mr. Ferretti.

8 Any debate or discussion?

9 (Whereupon, no verbal
10 response.)

11 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: All in favor of
12 these items, say, "Aye".

13 (Whereupon, all members of
14 the Rules Committee respond in
15 favor with, "Aye".)

16 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

17 (Whereupon, no verbal
18 response.)

19 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That is unanimous.
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CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Number 43 is a resolution to appoint Joseph M. Manzella to the Board of Directors of the Nassau County Local Economic Assistance and Financing Corporation.

Motion by Ms. DeRiggi-Whitton, seconded by Mr. Kennedy.

All in favor of these items, say, "Aye".

(Whereupon, all members of the Rules Committee respond in favor with, "Aye".)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal response.)

CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That item is unanimous.

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2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Mr. McKevitt moves
3 to adjourn. Ms. Bynoe seconds.

4 All in favor of adjourning, please
5 say, "Aye".

6 (Whereupon, all members of
7 the Rules Committee respond in
8 favor with, "Aye".)

9 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Any opposed?

10 (Whereupon, no verbal
11 response.)

12 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We are adjourned.

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15 (Whereupon, the Rules
16 Committee is adjourned, 4:36
17 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

: SS.:

COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, KAREN LORENZO, a Notary Public
for and within the State of New York, do
hereby certify:

That the above is a correct
transcription of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 5th day of February, 2024.

Karen Lorenzo

Karen Lorenzo

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