

RESOLUTION NO. 599 -2015, DIRECTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COST BENEFIT ANALYSIS FOR RETAINING A COUNTY ARCHITECT

WHEREAS, the County Department of Public Works (“DPW”) is responsible for the design and construction of new facilities and the renovation of existing structures to meet the needs of Suffolk County Government; and

WHEREAS, DPW frequently hires architects on a consultant basis to provide expertise in building construction or renovation plans for a fee on an individual project basis; and

WHEREAS, the consultant fees associated with architecture services are substantial, generally amounting to 10% of a project’s budget; and

WHEREAS, it may be more cost effective to retain architects on staff to design projects in-house; and

WHEREAS, a study should be conducted to examine the costs and benefits of the County hiring one or more full-time architects; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Office of Legislative Budget Review (“BRO”), in conjunction with the Department of Public Works, is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to perform a fiscal evaluation that compares the costs involved in hiring and retaining one or more architect(s) on staff as opposed to hiring architects as consultants; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the analysis shall evaluate the expenditures on architect consulting fees and an estimate of the costs associated with hiring a full-time architect in DPW to design County projects, as well as an examination of whether the workload generated by the County would be manageable by a single architect; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that BRO shall issue a written report with its findings and recommendations to each member of the County Legislature and the County Executive within 120 days of the effective date of this resolution; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that DPW is directed to cooperate fully with BRO in the preparation of this analysis; and be it further

5th RESOLVED, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: June 16, 2015

EFFECTIVE PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-15(F) OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER,
RETURNED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE UNSIGNED JULY 1, 2015