



This increased investment builds upon the progress made in the last two State Budgets and reflects a continued recognition that New York’s strength begins in its cities and villages. While not every community receives significant funding through this program, the inclusion – and now expansion – of TMA sends a powerful message about the importance of a strong state-local partnership.

At the same time, this proposal is not yet final. As budget negotiations continue with key members of the Senate and Assembly, it is critical that local officials make their voice heard to ensure:

- At least \$150 million in TMA is included in the final adopted State budget; and
- The Governor and State Legislature develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid.

I ask that your Honorable Body pass the attached Resolution.

**ANNETTE IAFALLO, MAYOR**

Moved by Marrano second by Anderson to receive and file, act on resolution.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

#### **RESOLUTION #6, 2026**

#### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED AID TO MUNICIPALITIES AND STRENGTHENING NEW YORK’S STATE-LOCAL PARTNERSHIP**

**WHEREAS**, Governor Kathy Hochul released her 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years; and

**WHEREAS**, these additional investments reflect a recognition that New York’s strength begins in its cities, villages, and towns, and that a strong state-local partnership is essential to delivering the services, infrastructure, public safety, and quality of life that residents expect and deserve; and

**WHEREAS**, local governments across New York continue to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, infrastructure needs, and rising operational costs, while striving to provide relief to taxpayers amid a rising cost of living; and

**WHEREAS**, NYCOM Executive Director Barbara Van Epps, along with mayors from across the State, testified at the Local Government Joint Budget Hearing in Albany, advocating for increased unrestricted aid and a strengthened state-local partnership; and

**WHEREAS**, the additional \$100 million in TMA will offer meaningful assistance to many municipalities statewide, helping to address fiscal challenges and maintain essential services for residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Lackawanna applauds Governor Hochul for recognizing the importance of investing in local governments and for reaffirming her commitment to strengthening New York’s cities and villages; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Lackawanna urges the New York State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance in the adopted state budget; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Lackawanna calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid to ensure long-term fiscal stability for New York's local governments; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the members of the State Legislature representing the City of Lackawanna.

**THIS RESOLUTION SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY**

**Dated:** March 16, 2026  
Lackawanna, New York

Moved by Marrano second by Anderson to adopt resolution as written.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

**Communications from Division/Department Heads:**

**Director of Development requests the Council allow a 7 to 10-minute presentation pertaining to the South Branch of Smoke Creek Stream and Habitat Restoration Project. Informational only.**

6. Frederic Marrano, Council President  
Charles Clark, Director

**Re:** City Council Meeting Agenda Item for March 16<sup>th</sup>

I'm requesting time on the March 16<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting Agenda for a short information-only presentation pertaining to the South Branch Smoke Creek Stream & Habitat Restoration Project.

Upon completion, this grant-funded initiative will produce a 60% design solution for addressing identified habitat and ecology improvement opportunities on ~ 110-arces of property located south of Martin Road; a footprint comprised of various parcels owned by the City of Lackawanna, the Lackawanna City School District and Erie County which is designated wetland under oversight of the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC).

The presentation will present a high-level overview of the 60% design elements and grant-funded opportunities for further development which may be possible in the future. Your cooperation in allowing 7-10 minutes for the presentation, inclusive of questions, is appreciated.

C&S Engineers assisted the Department of Development with this project and a representative will attend the meeting to co-deliver the presentation.

Thank you for your consideration.

**CHARLES D. CLARK, DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT, MARKETING & PUBLIC INFORMATION**

Moved by Marrano second by Meegan to receive and file.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

**Communications from Citizens:**

**Anwar Al-Kalai requests the closure of Wilkesbarre St. from Pearl St. to Wilson St. for the Observance of Eid Prayer on March 19<sup>th</sup> or March 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.**

7. Anwar Al-Kalai – President  
Lackawanna Islamic Mosque  
154 Wilkesbarre St.  
Lackawanna, NY 14218

Mayor – Annette Iafallo  
Council Member 1<sup>st</sup> Ward – Amira Muflahi  
Director of Public Safety – Dino Marrocco

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing to formally request a temporary street closure in the First Ward of the City of Lackawanna for the observance of Eid Prayer, marking the end of Ramadan.

As the date of Eid depends on the lunar sighting, we respectfully request the closure of Wilkesbarre Street, from Pearl Street to Wilson Street, on either March 19<sup>th</sup> or March 20<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., to accommodate our congregation.

We also request an increased police presence during this event. In light of the current international climate and tensions in the Middle East, enhanced visibility would help ensure the safety and reassurance of attendees, as well as assist with traffic management.

We appreciate the City's continued support and are committed to coordinating with all relevant departments to ensure a safe and orderly event. Please feel free to contact me at (716) 208-5287 for any additional information.

Thank you for your consideration.

**ANWAR AL-KALAI, PRESIDENT**

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve request, refer to Public Safety and Public Works.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

**Kimberly Smith requests the closure of Olcott St. from the west side of Olin Lane to Steellawanna Ave. on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 11:30 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. for the 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Spring and Easter Egg Fest.**

8. Kimberly Smith  
[kimberlysmith@hotmail.com](mailto:kimberlysmith@hotmail.com)

Honorable Body,

I'm requesting that Olcott Street be closed from the west side of Olin Lane to Steelawanna Ave. on Saturday, March 28, 2026 from 11:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

We are hosting our 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Spring Easter Egg Fest at the Resource Center on that day and want that small portion of the street closed for the safety of our children in attendance.

LMHA is supportive of this event and is aware of partial street closure.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

**KIMBERLY SMITH, RESIDENT**

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve request, refer to Public Safety and Public Works.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

**Wade Turner, President, Youth Empowerment Program requests the closure of Odell St. between Ingham Ave. and Wilmuth St. on Saturday, June 6, 2026 for the annual Taste of Lackawanna.**

9. Dear City of Lackawanna,

The Lackawanna Youth Empowerment Program Inc. will be hosting the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of Lackawanna. This event is scheduled for Saturday, June 6, 2026 on Odell Street from 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

We are requesting that you allow us to block off Odell Street between Ingham Avenue and Wilmuth Street for the event.

The President and Board members of the Lackawanna Youth Empowerment Program thanks you for your continued support.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact us at 716-292-5467.

**WADE TURNER, SR., PRESIDENT**

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve request, refer to Public Safety and Public Works.

Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano

Carried 4-0

**Entertainment Licenses:**

**Class I – Live Music and/or Mechanical Reproduction:**

Steel City Pub, Tavern, John Bonatati, 1449 Abbott Road.

Sonny Reds, Bar/Restaurant, David Beres, 1841 Abbott Road.

Matthew Glab Post, Restaurant/Tavern, 1965 Abbott Road.

J's White Elephant, Banquet Hall, Karen Jacobi, 1404 Abbott Road.

Col. Weber Post 898, Civic Post/Restaurant/Tavern, 2929 South Park Ave.

Jokers, Bar/Restaurant, Kurt Wojda, 1783 Electric Ave.

Moved by Marrano second by Meegan to approve Class I Entertainment Licenses A-F.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

**Class II – Coin Operated Mechanical Reproduction:**

Abbott Lanes, Bowling Center, Mark Williamson, 1840 Abbott Road.

Moved by Marrano second by Anderson to approve Class II Entertainment License.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

**Business Registrations:**

Bugs and More Pest Control, 2558 Hamburg Tpke., Eric Clear, Pest Control.

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve Business Registration.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

CIR Industrial Automation, Inc., 2558 Hamburg Tpke., John MacKenna, Automation and Control Engineering Consulting.

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve Business Registration.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

Roux Environmental Engineering and Geology, 2558 Hamburg Tpke., Tom Forbes, Environmental and Engineering Consulting.

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve Business Registration.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

Ava and Carter Clothing sales, 8 Gravel Pl., Jessica Kegelmyer, Online Clothing Boutique.

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to approve Business Registration.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0

**Tabled Items:**

**Old Business:**

**Adjournment:**

Moved by Marrano second by Muflahi to adjourn meeting.  
Yeas: Muflahi, Anderson, Meegan, Marrano Carried 4-0