



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

Virtual Meeting

New Items Agenda

Thursday, September 23, 2021, 10:00 AM

[21-5276](#)

Sponsored by: TONI PRECKWINKLE (President), Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT FOR THE BUILD BACK BETTER REGIONAL CHALLENGE

WHEREAS, Cook County has long recognized the critical importance of deepening collaboration, partnerships and planning to advance the economic growth and competitiveness of the Chicago region and the state of Illinois,

WHEREAS, the negative impacts of COVID-19, have impacted the region's economy, supply chains, workforce and lives of residents;

WHEREAS, the federal government through the American Rescue Plan has allocated \$1 billion to the US Economic Development Administration (EDA) to establish the Build Back Better Regional Challenge (BBBRC) to assist communities nationwide in their efforts to build back better by accelerating the economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and building regional economies that will be resilient to future economic shocks; and

WHEREAS, the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), at the request of the Chicago region's seven county board chairs and the City of Chicago established the Regional Recovery Task Force to support a strong economic recovery and build back a more inclusive, prosperous, and resilient region.

WHEREAS, Cook County's Policy Roadmap prioritizes the growth of economic clusters by launching and supporting industry led partnerships like the Clean Energy Coalition and the pursuit of new and emerging sectors that lead to living wage jobs,

WHEREAS, Cook County's Policy Roadmap prioritizes capturing the job and economic growth potential of making Cook County more sustainable through the attraction of green or clean energy sector jobs to the region and the development of workforce program to provide residents with skills and credentials to obtain jobs in this sector.

WHEREAS, research by organizations like the Brookings Institution have found that clean energy jobs offer equitable wages, promote transferable skills and pose lower formal educational barriers to entry and encourage policy makers to invest in industries that offer these types of jobs as part of the post-pandemic recovery.

WHEREAS, Cook County's Bureau of Economic Development and Department of Environment and Sustainability have jointly identified business growth, supply chain, and job opportunities within the Clean

Energy sector as warranting further investigation, support and collaboration with stakeholders to support the resiliency and sustainability of the County's economy.

WHEREAS, Cook County joined the Illinois Clean Tech Coalition of partners led by mHUB, a leading hardtech and manufacturing innovation center, to pursue the EDA's Build Back Better Regional Challenge.

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois, the City of Chicago, Cook County Government, the University of Chicago, the University of Illinois Voorhees Center and other stakeholders identified clean energy as a priority growth sector based on a data and market review through emerging independent efforts;

WHEREAS, this research highlights that clean energy sector is a growing and major employer in Illinois employing 123,247 persons and that Illinois has more jobs in energy efficiency, renewable energy, clean fuels, and advanced grid than any other state in the Midwest;

WHEREAS, an inclusive economy encourages sustainability and smart growth, improves human well-being, and builds social equity while reducing environmental risks and scarcities;

WHEREAS, Cook County's Clean Energy Plan lays out the path for continual Greenhouse Gas emissions reduction of 45% by 2030 and carbon neutral by 2050 as well as 100% renewable electricity use for County buildings by 2030; and

WHEREAS, the County has spurred the uptake of clean energy in the community through Solarize Chicagoland for homeowners; through the recent launch of the County's C-PACE program, which provides long-term, fixed-rate funding to private building owners for energy efficiency projects to be installed in both existing and new commercial and industrial properties across Cook County; and through promotion of Community Solar for renters and others who cannot put solar on their rooftops; and

WHEREAS, the County works to support manufacturers transition to energy efficient alternatives and invest in related technology, as well as the potential to identify new manufacturing supply chains in the clean energy space to improve their operations;

WHEREAS, the Build Back Better Regional Challenge will provide a transformational investment to 20-30 regions across the country to support economic revitalization that advances equity across the county; and

WHEREAS, the mHUB has issued a Request for Proposals to identify three to eight proposals to include in the application submission due on October 19, 2021. If the Coalition's application proves successful, the Coalition will receive up to \$100 million to support projects and programs over the next 24 to 48 months in a comprehensive and coordinated way.

WHEREAS, Cook County, selected project leaders and their key partners will form a coalition of eligible entities that commit to working together to apply to the BBBRC and to build and expand the competitive

regional growth cluster in an inclusive way;

WHEREAS, Cook County commits \$100,000 in financial assistance to support the development of a solid, strong and competitive proposal for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge. These funds will support consortium management, steering committee organization, project cultivation, identification and evaluation, necessary research to draft application materials, gather and organize supporting documentation, public engagement in a very limited timeframe.

WHEREAS, Cook County encourages members of the CMAP Regional Recovery Task Force to support this effort through facilitating business and stakeholder engagement, financial support for the application and if Phase I application is successful, allocation of matching funds towards potential projects with regional impacts;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby authorize the Bureau Chief of the Bureau of Economic Development, or his or her designee, to enter into an agreement with mHUB to develop a proposal for the Bureau of Economic Development to submit to the Clean Tech Coalition for the Build Back Better Regional Challenge, including payment of \$100,000 from its FY 2021 budget.

[21-5318](#)

Sponsored by: SCOTT R. BRITTON, ALMA E. ANAYA, LUIS ARROYO JR, JOHN P. DALEY, DENNIS DEER, BRIDGET DEGNEN, BRANDON JOHNSON, BILL LOWRY, KEVIN B. MORRISON, DEBORAH SIMS and LARRY SUFFREDIN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL PROTECTION OF FUNDAMENTAL ACCESS TO DEMOCRACY AND AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN VOTING

WHEREAS, the right to vote is a foundational principle of our democracy and ensures that government can inclusively reflect the diverse communities it serves; and

WHEREAS, Cook County values participatory citizenship; and

WHEREAS, Cook County has a history of ensuring voters can actively and confidently participate in the democracy that serves them, including by making absentee voting easier, expanding the availability of voting locations, protecting the right to vote, and recently increasing the number of languages into which a ballot is translated through the Voting Opportunity and Translation Equity (VOTE) Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, over the past year, forty-three states have introduced more than 250 bills that restrict voting access, according to the Brennan Center for Justice; and

WHEREAS, new laws add criminal penalties for voters that make mistakes, like voting in the wrong precinct, in Arizona, Georgia, and Texas; and

WHEREAS, voters will face tougher identification requirements to vote by mail and in-person in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Montana, Texas, and Wyoming; and

WHEREAS, new laws impose earlier voter registration deadlines in Iowa, Kansas, and Montana; and

WHEREAS, new laws restrict the return of ballots on behalf of another in Arizona, Florida, Kansas, and Montana; and

WHEREAS, voters will have less time to request and deliver a mail-in ballot in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, and Iowa; and

WHEREAS, new shortened early voting periods and early voting poll hours will go into effect in Iowa and Texas; and

WHEREAS, secure ballot drop box locations and hours of operation will be limited in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, and Iowa; and

WHEREAS, the past practice of sending absentee ballot request forms to registered voters will be eliminated in Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, and Texas; and

WHEREAS, shorter registration, ballot request, and voting periods make it more difficult for military, overseas, disabled, ill, elderly, and less-resourced voters to participate in elections; and

WHEREAS, making mail-in ballot application and drop-off less accessible punishes those with challenges accessing transportation or postal services, who may need language assistance, who need physical help returning a ballot, or who make mistakes showing up at the wrong precinct; and

WHEREAS, laws that increase identification requirements to vote disproportionately affect voters of color; and

WHEREAS, meaningful federal legislation is required to protect voting rights for all citizens across this nation and dismantle efforts that make it more difficult for vulnerable residents to access their constitutional right to representation; and

WHEREAS, in March 2021, the United States House of Representatives passed the For The People Act, or H.R. 1, which would increase automatic and same-day voter registration, expand mail-in ballots and early voting, and limit purging voters from registration lists, among other provisions for election security, transparency in campaign fundraising and spending, and conflict-of-interest and ethics reform; and

WHEREAS, in August 2021, the House also passed the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, or H.R. 4, which would mandate that jurisdictions with a history of racial discrimination in voting receive federal pre-approval before changing voting rules and would ensure that any history of official voting

discrimination be considered when courts hear challenges to voting practices; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby call on the United States Senate to pass the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the For The People Act so that every voter's rights may be secured, citizens may be protected against racial and ethnic discrimination in voting, and the federal government safeguards fundamental access to democracy.

[21-4662](#)

Presented by: BILQIS JACOBS-EL, Director, Department of Facilities Management

PROPOSED CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Department(s): Department of Facilities Management

Vendor: Tiles in Styles d/b/a Taza Supplies LLC, Willowbrook, Illinois

Request: Authorization for the Chief Procurement Officer to increase contract

Good(s) or Service(s): Furnish and Installation of Carpet

Original Contract Period: 11/1/2016 - 10/31/2019 with two (2), one (1) year renewal options

Proposed Amendment Type: Increase

Proposed Contract Period: N/A

Total Current Contract Amount Authority: \$4,476,600.00

Original Approval (Board or Procurement): Board, 10/26/2016, \$2,856,600.00

Increase Requested: \$1,500,000.00

Previous Board Increase(s): 7/11/2020, \$1,500,000.00

Previous Chief Procurement Officer Increase(s): 1/13/2021, \$120,000.00

Previous Board Renewals: 7/11/2020, Renewal period 11/1/2019 - 10/31/2020

Previous Chief Procurement Officer Renewals: 1/13/2021, Renewal period 11/1/2020 - 10/31/2021

Previous Board Extension(s): N/A

Previous Chief Procurement Officer Extension(s): N/A

Potential Fiscal Impact: FY2021 \$1,500,000.00

Accounts: 11100.1200.12355.530188

Contract Number(s): 1645-15455

Concurrences:

The vendor has met the Minority- and Women-owned Business Enterprise Ordinance via direct participation. The prime is a certified MBE.

The Chief Procurement Officer concurs.

Summary: This increase will allow the Department to continue to have carpet furnished and installed for the duration of the contract term at various Cook County facilities.

This contract was awarded through a publicly advertised competitive bid process in accordance with the Cook County Procurement Code. Tiles in Styles d/b/a Taza Supplies LLC was the lowest, responsive and responsible bidder.

[21-5316](#)

Presented by: MARY MODELSKI, County Auditor

REPORT

Department: Office of the County Auditor

Report Title: Fiscal Year 2022 Audit Plan

Report Period: Fiscal Year 2022

Summary: In accordance with the County Auditor Ordinance 11-O-93 Sec. 2-311.9, at the beginning of each fiscal year, the Auditor shall submit an audit schedule to the County Board for referral to the audit committee for review and comment.

[21-5329](#)

Presented by: MARY MODELSKI, County Auditor

REPORT

Department: Office of the County Auditor

Report Title: FY'21 3rd Quarter Open Recommendation Status Report

Report Period: September 2021

Summary: Report on the status of open audit recommendations

[21-4656](#)

PROPOSED TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Department: Cook County's State's Attorney's Office

Request: Transfer of Funds

Reason: Funds needed in professional membership account to pay attorney related dues for office employees

From Account(s): 11100.1250.35050.501010 Salary/Wages of Regular Employees)

To Account(s): 11100.1250.14245.501791 Professional Development Fees

Total Amount of Transfer: \$315,000.00

On what date did it become apparent that the receiving account would require an infusion of funds in order to meet current obligations? What was the balance in the account on that date, and what was the balance 30 days prior to that date?

This transfer of funds became apparent on 8/16/2021. 8/16/2021 Balance \$62,851.00; 7/2021 Balance \$64,341.00

How was the account used for the source of transferred funds identified? List any other accounts that were also considered (but not used) as the source of the transferred funds.

The salary and wages of regular employees account was identified as having sufficient balance for the

transfer. The obligation associated with this transfer is also personnel related; as it is for the Illinois Attorney Registration & Disciplinary Commission dues of Cook County's State's Attorneys. No other accounts were considered.

Identify any projects, purchases, programs, contracts, or other obligations that will be deferred, delayed, or canceled as a result of the reduction in available spending authority that will result in the account that funds are transferred from.

None

If the answer to the above question is "none" then please explain why this account was originally budgeted in a manner that caused an unobligated surplus to develop at this point in the fiscal year.

The office has experienced significant attrition and less than expected hiring in FY2021, beyond planned delay, thus creating an unanticipated surplus of funds in the salary and wages of regular employees account.