

# Inter-County Association of Western New York

*Representing the Counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Cayuga, Chautauqua, Chemung, Erie, Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Niagara, Ontario, Orleans, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Tompkins, Wayne, Wyoming, and Yates*

## RESOLUTION NO. 2023-16-IC OPPOSING WASTE DISPOSAL SURCHARGES AND REQUESTING AN EXEMPTION FOR PLANNING UNITS

**Sponsored By:** Steuben County

**Moved By:** Brenda K. Scotchmer (Steuben)

**Seconded By:** Carol Ferratella (Steuben)

**WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) requires, and relies upon, Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units to provide comprehensive waste reduction, recycling, and disposal services to communities throughout the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units have collectively invested billions of dollars in their comprehensive solid waste management systems and are responsible to set rates to support such systems, including the implementation of their Local Solid Waste Management Plans that are approved by the NYSDEC; and

**WHEREAS**, Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units, including Western New York Counties face constant pressures by the local communities they serve to operate as efficiently as possible, such that they have the lowest possible operating costs, including the waste disposal fees charged to waste haulers and residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Climate Action Council’s Final Scoping Plan recommends (on page 338) that the State “enact legislation in 2023 to establish a disposal disincentive (fee per ton) on all waste generated in New York to provide financial support for reduction, reuse, and recycling;” and

**WHEREAS**, most Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units already implement fee structures that support their waste reduction, reuse, and recycling programs and disincentive disposal because recycling programs are generally offered at no cost or at a fee significantly lower than disposal fees; and

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of statewide per ton fees essentially undermines and penalizes the efforts by Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units to provide cost-effective comprehensive systems; and

**WHEREAS**, waste disposal surcharges, or per ton fees, will not achieve the intended goals of waste reduction, as back-end fees do not change consumers’ purchasing decisions or incentivize producers to make products that are easier to recycle. Now therefore, be it

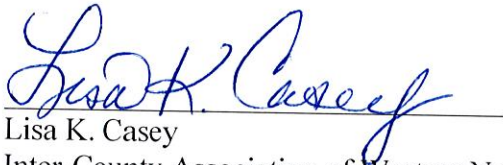
**RESOLVED**, the Inter-County Association of Western New York opposes the implementation of any type of waste disposal surcharge. Be it further

**RESOLVED** that the Inter-County Association of Western New York hereby requests that Local Solid Waste Management Planning Units in Western New York receive an exemption from such surcharges should the State choose to implement them at other disposal facilities. Be it further

**RESOLVED**, that a certified electronic copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Honorable Kathy Hochul, New York State Governor, Honorable Andrea Stewart-Cousins, Honorable Robert G. Ort, Honorable Carl E. Heastie, Honorable Crystal D. Peoples-Stokes, Honorable William A. Barclay, Honorable Thomas M. O’Mara, Honorable Philip A. Palmesano, Honorable George Borrello, Honorable

Stephen Hawley, Honorable Joseph M. Giglio, Honorable Marjorie Byrnes, Gary Maha, President, Inter-County Association of Western New York, Stephen Acquario, Executive Director, NYSAC, Commissioner Basil Seggos, New York State Association for Solid Waste Management (NYSASWM) c/o NYSAC, Jeff Bouchard.

This is to certify that I, the undersigned, Secretary of the Inter-County Association of Western New York, have compared the foregoing copy of resolution with the original resolution now on file in this office and which was duly adopted by the Association at a session held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of May 2023 and that the same is a true copy of said original and of the whole thereof. In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the official seal of the Inter-County Association of Western New York dated May 12, 2023.



Lisa K. Casey  
Inter-County Association of Western New York



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