

LATE COMMUNICATION

#1.
Robert Pecoraro

Re: **Approval of Resolution Requesting the Governor and State Legislature to Increase Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) Funding in the 2021-2022 NYS Budget**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna L. Braun" followed by a horizontal flourish.

Donna L. Braun
City Clerk-Treasurer

Late Comm #1.

City of North Tonawanda

COMMON COUNCIL
CITY HALL
216 PAYNE AVENUE
NORTH TONAWANDA, N.Y. 14120
(716) 695-8555

FEB 02 2021

February 1, 2021

Dear Honorable Body

I will introduce this late communication during our Common Council Meeting on February 2, 2021 for a call to action to communicate to Governor Cuomo to increase Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) in the 2021-2022 budget. The NYS Legislature is currently meeting on this issue attempting to recommit AIM funding and we need all parties to implore them to increase AIM and not decrease it as proposed by the Governor reflected in the attached resolution.

Please let me know if you have any questions. My draft copy was sent out on Friday and two Council Members responded with draft inputs.

Sincerely,



**Alderman at Large ROBERT E. PECORARO
President, North Tonawanda Common Council**

**CA: Arthur Pappas, Mayor
Donna Braun, City Clerk Treasurer
Luke Brown, City Attorney**

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CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

2021 FEB 1 PM 12:11
NORTH TONAWANDA NY

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND STATE LEGISLATURE TO INCREASE AID AND INCENTIVES TO MUNICIPALITIES (AIM) FUNDING IN THE 2021-2022 NYS BUDGET

By Collective NT Common Council:

Robert E. Pecoraro ,
Frank DiBernardo,
Eric Zadzilka,

Austin Tylec,
Bob Schmigel

February 2, 2021

WHEREAS, Aid & Incentive to Municipalities (AIM) funding is the unrestricted State aid that cities and villages in New York receive from the State and such aid is distributed annually via the State budget; and

WHEREAS, a strong state and local fiscal partnership is essential to generating economic vitality in all regions of our State and the New York State Budget providing AIM funding to the local governments is a critical component of such a partnership; and

WHEREAS, in 2021 Governor Cuomo proposed cut in AIM funding to municipalities in Niagara County by \$1,709,462. Specifically, North Tonawanda's funding is to be cut from FY21 enacted budget of \$4,335,111 (does not include the impact of withholdings during the year) to \$3,468,089, a decrease of \$867,022.

WHEREAS the Governor's proposed budget presents "The Budget equitably reduces the amount of Aid and Incentives to Municipalities (AIM) for cities in New York State based on their reliance, calculated as a percentage of the total city budget. Payments will be reduced by 2.5 percent for those cities with the highest reliance on AIM, and up to 20 percent for those who have the least reliance."

WHEREAS North Tonawanda has an approved FY2021 budgeted that if altered negatively will drive potential cuts in services and personnel. This could include all departments including health and safety, which Police and Fire are impacted.

WHEREAS, the fact that the New York State tax cap is now permanent only accentuates the need for annual increases in AIM funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council call upon Governor Andrew M. Cuomo, State Senator Rob Ortt, Assemblyman Angelo Morinello, Assemblyman Bill Conrad, and all members of the NYS Legislature to increase AIM funding in the 2021-2022 New York State Budget; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Clerk forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Governor and all of our State representatives. In addition, request the Mayor invite the North Tonawanda Police Benevolent Association (PBA) to write the NYS PBA and, the North Tonawanda Fire Department to write to Fireman's Association of the State of NY (FASNY), employees associated with the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), Civil Service Employee Association (CSEA), and the Office and Professional Employees International Union (OPEIU) write to their NYS representatives -- together we can make this happen!