



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 07/18/17 05:30 PM
Department: Planning and Sustainability Department
Category: Environmental
Functional Category:

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION NO. DOC ID: 7129

1 **Appropriating Funds from Tompkins County Natural Infrastructure**
2 **Capital Project for the Etna Swamp – Brotherton Farm Protection**
3 **Project**

4 WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Legislature established the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project in 2017,
5 and

6 WHEREAS, as of June 29, 2017, the balance in the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund is \$200,000,
7 and

8 WHEREAS, the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project is focused on protection, by acquisition, easement,
9 restoration, and/or stabilization, of:

- 10 • Upper watershed forests and wetlands;
- 11 • Stream corridors and floodplains;
- 12 • Aquifer recharge areas, and

13 WHEREAS, the objectives of the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project is to:

- 14 • Protect and enhance those natural systems that can help to mitigate the impacts of intensive rainfall events
15 that are expected to continue to increase as a result of climate change;
- 16 • Help decrease sediment loads in streams and Cayuga Lake;
- 17 • Protect overall water quality in streams, surficial aquifers, and Cayuga Lake, and

18 WHEREAS, the Natural Infrastructure Capital project goal is to reduce risks of flooding and protect public
19 and private water supplies, and

20 WHEREAS, the Project Selection Criteria and Process, accepted by the Planning, Development, and
21 Environmental Quality Committee in February 2017, outlined the following evaluation criteria:

- 22 • The cost effectiveness of project in achieving the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project objectives;
- 23 • The ability for the project to leverage additional funding;
- 24 • The project is of sufficient size to make a major contribution to protection of natural infrastructure, and

25 WHEREAS, the project is to provide funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund to support
26 the Etna Swamp - Brotherton Farm Protection Project, and

27 WHEREAS, the Etna Swamp - Brotherton Farm Protection Project,

- 28 • Enhances the Unique Natural Area Etna Swamp (UNA-82) wetland area that feeds Fall Creek;
- 29 • Helps to decrease the sediment loads to Fall Creek;
- 30 • Leverages funding from the Finger Lakes Land Trust to develop and implement the permanent
31 conservation easement;
- 32 • Is of sufficient size to make a major contribution of natural infrastructure by formally protecting
33 hydrologically sensitive areas in the Fall Creek corridor; and

34 WHEREAS, support from the Natural Infrastructure Project fund is an important but not sole component of
35 the total funding needed to implement the Etna Swamp - Brotherton Farm Protection Project, and

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Planning and Sustainability and the Planning Advisory Board have recommended that the County Legislature authorize \$20,000 in funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project to support the Etna Swamp - Brotherton Farm Protection Project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Planning, Development, and Environmental Quality Committee, That a total of \$20,000 in funding from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project be appropriated for the purpose of supporting the Etna Swamp - Brotherton Farm Protection Project,

RESOLVED, further, That the Director of Finance be authorized and directed to make an adjustment to the Planning Department budget from the Natural Infrastructure Capital Project fund for this project,

RESOLVED, further, That the County Administrator or his designee be authorized to execute any contracts or agreements related to this project.

SEQR ACTION: Unlisted (Short EAF on file with the Clerk of the Legislature)