



COUNTY OF ERIE

OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Kathy Dahlkemper
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

MEDIA RELEASE

Contact: Chanel Cook
ccook@eriecountygov.org
814-451-7440

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 22, 2015

County Executive Announces Temporary Protocol As State Budget Impasse Continues

Erie, PA – Earlier today Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper announced the implementation of a temporary protocol aimed at reducing spending as the state budget impasse continues. October 22 marks the 114th day of gridlock, leaving Erie County's ability to operate and provide critical services in question.

Erie County will need \$6.4 million to continue operations if the state budget impasse continues through November. The figure will rise to \$28.8 million by the end of December.

"Due to careful planning and sound fiscal management, we will continue to operate through October without significant disruptions; however, that window is closing as the impasse looms. Enacting these cost-cutting measures and minimizing our need to borrow is absolutely necessary," said Dahlkemper.

Effective immediately, all non-essential travel will be suspended, employee overtime and compensatory time must be approved by department directors, purchases not essential to immediate operations will be deferred, all invoices normally paid within 30 days will be held, and no new employees will be hired unless critical to operations.

As a former legislator, the County Executive understands how difficult the process is and urges the Pennsylvania General Assembly to work with the Governor to end the state budget impasse.

###