Financial Restructuring Board for Local Governments

RESOLUTION No. 2021-02

MODIFYING A GRANT FOR THE CITY OF SYRACUSE

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Local Finance Law section 160.05(3), the Financial Restructuring Board for Local Governments (the "Board"), upon the request of a fiscally eligible municipality, by resolution of the governing body of such municipality with the concurrence of the chief executive of such municipality, may undertake a comprehensive review of the operations, finances, management practices, economic base and any other factors that in its sole discretion it deems relevant to be able to make findings and recommendations on reforming and restructuring the operations of the fiscally eligible municipality (the "Comprehensive Review"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to New York State Finance Law section 54(10)(t)(ii), the Board may award funding under the Local Government Performance and Efficiency Program to fiscally eligible municipalities for financial restructuring and related purposes, as determined by the Board; and

WHEREAS, on June 13, 2018, the Board approved Resolution No. 2018-11 agreeing to undertake a Comprehensive Review of the City of Syracuse (the "City") in accordance with New York State Local Finance Law section 160.05(3); and

WHEREAS, the Board subsequently undertook a Comprehensive Review of the City; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2019, the Board approved Resolution No. 2019-04 approving the report on the Comprehensive Review of the City (the "Comprehensive Review Report") and all of the findings and recommendations therein; and
WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Review Report includes a recommendation that the City continue its efforts to buy its lighting infrastructure from the utility and retrofit the lights to higher efficiency-LED, as well as invest in related technologies, including but not limited to a smart-node/Wi-Fi network, to be integrated with the infrastructure, and the Board subsequently adopted Resolution No. 2019-04 providing up to $2,000,000 for such endeavor; and

WHEREAS, the Comprehensive Review Report includes a recommendation that the City continue to implement additional efficiency actions that will lower the annual cost of providing specific services; and

WHEREAS, the City has already invested over $38 million into purchasing from National Grid and upgrading its streetlights to modern LED technology, however the final phases and investment into these projects have been delayed, and the City would now rather use Board funding to improve its residential sanitation collection services.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board modifies its Resolution No. 2019-04, attached hereto as Attachment A, by rescinding its authorization of a grant of up to $2,000,000 for the City to purchase and convert streetlights to LED, and instead authorizes a grant of up to $3,000,000 to assist the City with costs related to improving its citywide residential sanitation collection services.

This resolution shall take effect immediately and remain in effect until modified, replaced or repealed by resolution of the Board.

No. 2021-02
Dated: 11-19-21