



Kenneth W. Jenkins
County Executive

Department of Law

John M. Nonna
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113804

DATE: May 28, 2026

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: John M. Nonna
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Authority to purchase an insurance policy from the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal ("NYMIR"), through its exclusive brokerage firm of Brown & Brown of New York, Inc., for bus liability insurance for the portion of the Bee-Line Bus System currently operated by Liberty Lines Transit, Inc., for the period from July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2027, for an amount of \$5,844,231.00.

By resolution approved on April 7, 2025, your Honorable Board approved the most recent purchase of bus liability insurance by the County of Westchester (the "County") from the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal ("NYMIR"), through its exclusive brokerage firm of Brown & Brown of New York, Inc. ("Brown & Brown").

Authority is again requested to purchase an insurance policy from NYMIR ("Policy") through Brown & Brown. Under the Policy, the County would be provided with bus liability insurance from NYMIR for the portion of the Bee-Line Bus System that is currently operated by Liberty Lines Transit, Inc. ("Liberty's Bee Line Services"). The Policy will bind a liability limit of \$1M in primary coverage and \$16M/\$32M in excess coverage for the period July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2027. In consideration for said coverage, the County will pay a premium amount of \$5,844,231.00. It is anticipated that the bus fleets may increase or decrease in size during the policy year, as has been the case in the past. Accordingly, the Policy shall be debited or credited, based upon the addition or deletion of one or more vehicles, at the pro-rated per-unit cost.

It should be noted that given the hard market conditions and the County's loss history, a decision is being made this year to retain the County's total limit of bus liability of \$17,000,000, with the first \$1,000,000 being covered by NYMIR as a primary layer and the remaining as the excess layer. The primary layer will provide \$1,000,000 in coverage without a policy aggregate. The excess layer of \$16,000,000 will provide a policy aggregate of \$32,000,000. Policy terms, conditions, etc. remain substantially the same as the expiring policy except that the No Fault/PIP deductible is being reduced from \$100,000 to \$0.

The proposed renewal premium reflects an overall annual increase of 17.36% , However, it should be noted by your Honorable Board that the increase includes a new mandatory No Fault/PIP claims handling charge of \$700,000 for NYMIR to handle the County's PIP/No-Fault Claims up-front on a first dollar basis (as opposed to the County and NYMIR continuing to pay, adjust, and trade dollars for the settlement of No Fault claims throughout the policy period). The remaining increase is only 3.31 % and represents the actual rate at which the Policy is renewing. It is based on the County's loss history, hard market conditions, and inflation.

The new PIP/No Fault strategy serves to stream line claims handling, increase productivity, and eliminate the dollars the County and NYMIR have been trading back and forth on settling and adjusting subrogation on No Fault claims.

The proposed Policy will serve a public purpose by ensuring that the County will have both proper and cost-effective insurance coverage for Liberty's Bee-Line Services. NYMIR in conjunction with the Brown & Brown also provides enhancements such as additional training programs (i.e., Simulator Training for Bus drivers) to assist in updating and improving driving skills. Liberty Lines safety management staff conduct weekly meetings in conjunction with Insurance and Risk Management representatives with a goal toward improving overall driving skills thus reducing the number of incidents.

The goal and objective of the proposed Policy is to provide insurance coverage for the bus system. The goals and objectives are in the best interests of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility, as it will ensure that the County's insurance coverage for Liberty's Bee-Line Services is cost-effective.

The procurement of the Policy is exempt from the County's Procurement Policy and Procedures pursuant to Section 3(a)(v) thereof.

I respectfully recommend the adoption of the attached resolution.

JMN/KD/JPI
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 06/11/2025 - RAYMOND SULEY, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the County Attorney, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (“County”) is hereby authorized to purchase an insurance policy from the New York Municipal Insurance Reciprocal (“NYMIR”) through Brown & Brown of New York, Inc., as NYMIR’s exclusive brokerage firm in Westchester County (the “Policy”); and be it further

RESOLVED, that under the Policy, the County will be provided with bus liability insurance from NYMIR for the portion of the Bee-Line Bus System currently operated by Liberty Lines Transit, Inc., for the period from July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2027, for an amount of \$5,844,231.00 barring the addition or deletion of one or more vehicles resulting in an additional pro-rated per-unit cost; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Policy will bind a liability limit of \$1M in primary and \$16M in excess coverage for the County’s primary carrier, with a policy aggregate of \$32,000,000, for the coverage period July 1, 2026 through July 1, 2027; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby authorized to execute any documents and take any actions reasonably necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Year	Fund	Dept.	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Acct.	Dollars
2026	101	44	2100	4280		\$2,922,115.50
2027	101	44	2100	4280		\$2,922,115.50

Budget Funding Year(s): 2026-2027 Start Date: July 1, 2026 End Date: July 1, 2027
(must match resolution)

Funding Source: Tax Dollars: 100%
State Aid: _____
\$5,844,231.00 Federal Aid: _____
(must match resolution) Other: _____