

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **International Recycling Group Awarded Loan to Continue Development of Plastics Recycling Plant on Erie's Eastside**

*IRG Furthers Commitment to Erie County*

**ERIE, PA** (June 21, 2022) – International Recycling Group (IRG), a local company committed to tackling the plastic waste crisis, has furthered its commitment to Erie County by securing a \$307,657 loan from the Erie County Redevelopment Authority (ECRDA).

“This loan from the Redevelopment Authority helps us to continue to drive the Recycling Revolution forward and move one step closer to officially breaking ground on our plastics recycling plant on Erie’s eastside,” said Mitch Hecht, Founder and Chairman, IRG. “This loan will help us to advance our efforts quickly alongside our private investors including Erie Insurance and Plastek Group — we are thankful the Redevelopment Authority has the vision to invest in Erie’s eastside and our environmental future.”

The ECRDA loan, funded with American Rescue Plan dollars, will go towards IRG’s recent purchase of 25.48 acres of the former Hammermill Paper site, which will be the home of what will become the country’s largest plastics recycling plant.

“This project will revitalize a dormant site on Erie’s eastside, create about 300 jobs, and strengthen our economy — falling directly in line with the Redevelopment Authority’s mission,” said Chris Groner, VP, ECRDA.

IRG also secured private financing through ERIEBANK in the amount of \$615,315.

"We're happy to partner with the Erie County Redevelopment Authority on the development of

IRG Erie's plastics recycling plant,” said Dave Zimmer, President, ERIEBANK. “As a company focused on reducing our own carbon footprint, we’re excited to help fund a project that will make such a significant impact on the environmental and economic sustainability of Erie County and beyond.”

On Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, IRG with the Erie County Redevelopment Authority, ERIEBANK, and local elected officials will be presented with their check at their property site. The media is invited to attend.

**WHEN:** June 22, 2022  
**TIME:** 8:30 a.m.  
**WHERE:** International Recycling Group property (former Hammermill Paper site)  
1565 E. Lake Road  
Erie, PA 16511

The country's first SuperPRF™ (“PRF” = Plastics Recovery Facility) will revolutionize the recycling of plastics by accepting all forms of post-use plastics, including cups, lids, tubs, single-use plastics, drink containers, and milk cartons from residential and commercial sources. Right now, almost two-thirds of the plastic Erie households generate are not accepted for recycling. IRG, with its sister company, newBin, promise to ensure not a pound of plastic goes into landfill or the environment.

To learn more about IRG and join the #RecyclingRevolution, visit <https://www.InternationalRecycling.com/>.

### **About International Recycling Group (IRG)**

*International Recycling Group (IRG) is designing the country's largest plastics recycling plant to process all types and grades of plastic scrap. In the United States, according to EPA estimates, less than 9% of all plastics that enter the municipal solid waste ("MSW") stream are recycled. Combined with plastic scrap generated by industrial and commercial industries, we estimate that over 50 million tons annually of plastic scrap are destined for landfills. Plastic scrap has considerable potential to be repurposed and IRG plans to efficiently utilize this untapped resource. Located on the US Great Lakes, IRG's new "SuperPRF" will be able to accept ALL types of plastic—not just bottles (the "#1s and #2s"). Thus, "single streaming," or combining all plastics into a recycling bin or cart for pickup, will now be economically viable.*

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