



## **CITY OF UTICA**

Urban & Economic Development

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BRIAN THOMAS, AICP COMMISSIONER

## PLANNING BOARD RESOLUTION

February 15<sup>th</sup> 2018

PB Case No.: 05-18

Address: Proposed Hospital Footprint

Applicant: MVHS
Owner: Various

Zone: Central Business District

WHEREAS, the Mohawk Valley Health Systems (MVHS) submitted an application to the Oneida County Local Development Corporation (OCLDC) requesting certain financial assistance related to the proposed construction of a state-of-the-art hospital in Downtown Utica; and

WHEREAS, as part of its consideration of the MVHS application, OCLDC must consider the impact to the environment anticipated to result from the provision of said financial assistance. To that end, the MVHS application included a full Environmental Assessment Form (EAF), pursuant to the State's Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). Based on their review of the EAF, the OCLDC determined the proposed project to be a Type I action under SEQRA, thereby requiring establishment of a Lead Agency that will take responsibility for conducting the coordinated review; and

WHEREAS, the OCLDC felt that they had limited jurisdiction over the proposed project and, on that basis, opted not to act as Lead Agent. OCLDC expressed a desire for the City of Utica Planning Board, given the professional planning staff at its disposal and the knowledge base required to properly conduct coordinated review for a project of the size and scope as that proposed by MVHS, act as Lead Agent; and

WHEREAS, the full EAF submitted by MVHS to OCLDC identifies the City of Utica Planning Board as a potentially Involved Agency and was duly notified in writing of the action taken by OCLDC relative to SEQRA, in accordance with SEQRA regulations. Under SEQRA regulations, any potentially Involved Agencies can act as Lead Agency, regardless of the fact that actions by other potential Involved Agencies that require SEQRA compliance may be considered ahead of involvement by the City of Utica Planning Board; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Board acknowledges that its jurisdiction over the proposed project is considerable given the Board's Final Site Plan authority under the City's zoning ordinance.

BE RESOLVED THAT on a motion made by Mr. Colon, seconded by Mr. Mitchell and approved by a 3-1 majority vote (Mr. Priore voted against and Mr. Matrulli was absent), the City of Utica Planning Board agrees to act as Lead Agency for the purposes of SEQRA review for the proposed construction of a state-of-the-art hospital in Downtown Utica and hereby directs City Planning staff to indicate the Board's intentions to OCLDC in writing in advance of OCLDC's March 3rd deadline, in the event that other potential Involved Agencies express a desire to act as Lead Agency.

Jøseph Caruso, Acting Chair

February 2018

Date