

RESOLUTION NO. 337

UPDATE AND CREATE AN ALBANY COUNTY MASTER WATERFRONT PLAN TO PROMOTE TRAVEL, TOURISM, RECREATION AND WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT ON THE HUDSON AND MOHAWK RIVERS IN ALBANY COUNTY

Date: 7/9/18

By: Messrs. Signoracci, Beston, Ms. Chapman, Messrs. Clenahan, Comisso, R. Joyce, Ms. McKnight, Messrs. Miller, O'Brien, Touchette, Ward and Ms. Willingham:

WHEREAS, This honorable body recognizes that Albany County has many waterfront assets including trails, waterfalls, waterfronts, places of historical significance, industrial, commercial, residential and entertainment districts located on or in close proximity to waterfronts in Albany County. A thriving waterfront can be a catalyst for economic development and growth, and

WHEREAS, A coordinated strategy addressing this all important driver of economic and neighborhood development needs to be born and have the staying power to see and implement a transformation, and

WHEREAS, It is with this vision that this honorable body proposes the following, that the Albany County Industrial Development Agency and/or Albany County Capital Resource Corporation update a previous 2001 economic development study focusing on the waterfront in Albany County, this updated study will incorporate any and all local masterplans for one comprehensive plan, and

WHEREAS, The purpose of this study would be to examine our waterfront and create a master waterfront plan, including, but not limited to, remediation, recreation and development, as well as the promotion of the entire length of the waterfront as a destination. Coupling the study with the marketing of Albany County and its assets to help promote and encourage development in Albany County, and

WHEREAS, County waterfronts are defined as the Hudson and Mohawk River shoreline and are currently represented by 11 County Legislators District 1, Lucille McKnight, District 3 Wanda Willingham, District 6, Samuel Fein, District 14, Alison McLean Lane, District 15, Robert Beston, District 16, Sean Ward, District 17, Ralph Signoracci, District 18, Gilbert Ethier, District 19, Todd Drake, District 36, Richard Mendick, District 37 Richard Touchette, and

WHEREAS, The study area includes, the towns of Bethlehem, Colonie, Coeymans, the cities of Albany, Cohoes, and Watervliet and the villages of Green Island and Menands, and

WHEREAS, It is also the desire of this honorable body to allow transfer of any county foreclosed property to the Albany County Industrial Development Agency and/or the Albany County Capital Resource Corporation for waterfront development and encourage cooperation between the Albany County IDA and/or Albany County Capital Resource Corporation with local Economic Development Agencies, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature hereby requests the Albany County IDA and/or Albany County Capital Resource Corporation to accept this resolution and appropriate funds to complete a comprehensive study as stated above and invest \$1,500,000 million dollars for development purposes including, but not limited to, land purchase and acquisition, remediation, conservation, public assess and any other soft costs that maybe needed for development, and, be it further

RESOLVED, This study area crosses many geographic boundaries and when complete would be a great tool for the Albany County IDA and/or Albany County Capital Resource Corporation in the spirit of shared services to share with local IDA's, the County Executive and other appropriate local development agencies in the study area to help promote development, business, entertainment and recreation throughout Albany County, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the goal of this study is to compile a development strategy that the County Executive can promote and implement through the powers of the Executive branch of county government, and, be it further

RESOLVED, The Albany County Legislature respectfully requests the Albany County IDA and/or Albany County Capital Resource Corporation to report back to the Legislature within 60 days of adoption of this resolution regarding the status of this study, and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Referred to Audit and Finance and Conservation and Improvement Committees
– 7/9/18