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Title: Land Use Law Center Economic Development Policy Statement
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Abstract

This draft document is to assist the cities and villages participating in the Mayors' Redevelopment Roundtable regarding the initiation of a strategic sustainable economic development planning effort. This resolution identifies the objectives of the economic development policies to be considered by Roundtable communities and outlines the process to be followed at the local level. Its purposes are to set the stage for each community to create and adopt an economic development policy as a supplement to its comprehensive plan and, by acting in concert with other communities in the Roundtable, to foster needed urban economic development in the region and thereby to become more competitive for state funding for economic development projects. This document takes the form of a legislative resolution, but can be adapted easily as a mayoral executive order.

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Resource

LAND USE LAW CENTER

PACE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW

WHITE PLAINS  NEW YORK

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

January 2015

This draft document is to assist the cities and villages participating in the Mayors' Redevelopment Roundtable regarding the initiation of a strategic sustainable economic development planning effort. This resolution identifies the objectives of the economic development policies to be considered by Roundtable communities and outlines the process to be followed at the local level. Its purposes are to set the stage for each community to create and adopt an economic development policy as a supplement to its comprehensive plan and, by acting in concert with other communities in the Roundtable, to foster needed urban economic development in the region and thereby to become more competitive for state funding for economic development projects. This document takes the form of a legislative resolution, but can be adapted easily as a mayoral executive order.

RESOLUTION NO. ____ - 2015

Resolution Establishing an Economic Development Policy and Process for the City/Village of _____

WHEREAS, economic development planning is a priority for the City/Village of _____ in order to promote jobs, further market realistic building projects, provide housing for workers and others in need of residences, increase tax ratables, achieve energy conservation and other sustainability objectives, and create a livable community;

WHEREAS, economic markets and available public and private sources of finance have changed dramatically in recent years;

WHEREAS, the extent to which market-ready development can occur in a community is dependent on the existence of policies in the local comprehensive plan that support zoning and land use regulation for such development;

WHEREAS, an economic development policy may be adopted as a supplement to an existing comprehensive plan to guide the local legislature and its land use boards and staffs in adopting effective strategies for successful economic development;

WHEREAS, for economic development to be feasible, an economic development plan must be adopted that accounts for market changes and existing financial resources in order to guide the legislative body and planning board concerning their decisions regarding land use regulation and project review and approval;

WHEREAS, state policy has recently changed to emphasize the conformance of local plans and policies with adopted regional economic development and sustainability plans, as well as inter-municipal cooperation in planning, in awarding funds under a large number of state funding programs;

WHEREAS, those policies emphasize policies, programs, and projects that create compact, mixed use developments in areas served by existing infrastructure, including transit and that enhance developed urban communities as the economic engines of the Mid-Hudson Region, create affordable places to live, work, and recreate, enhance tourism, and conserve energy, natural resources, building materials, while reducing harmful Greenhouse Gas emissions and water pollution;

WHEREAS, the city/village participates in the Mayors' Redevelopment Roundtable directed by the Land Use Law Center at Pace Law School, which is preparing a variety of best practices that accomplish these policy objectives based on current market and financial conditions;

WHEREAS, there is a need to reexamine whether our comprehensive plan contains goals, objectives, strategies, and implementation techniques that are consistent with our local needs and values, current market and finance conditions, and regional strategies;

WHEREAS, there is a need to establish a process whereby our community can examine these new circumstances, policies and practices as well as local conditions and needs;

WHEREAS, this process and its favorable results will create an opportunity for the cities and villages participating in the Mayors' Redevelopment Roundtable to lead the State in demonstrating how economic development components of local comprehensive plans can be drafted and adopted to create a collaborative vision for the urban communities in a region that builds on the unique assets and needs of each community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL/VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CITY/VILLAGE OF _____ that it shall be the legislative policy of the City/Village to create and adopt an economic development policy supplement to its comprehensive plan to accomplish the objectives listed in the Whereas clauses above;

RESOLVED, that the City Council/Board of Trustees directs the staff of the relevant departments of the City/Village, their administrators and executives, to create a step-by-

step process of involving all key stakeholders, civic and neighborhood leaders, consultants, and economic development partners, and the members of the planning board to participate in creating an economic development policy as a supplement to the comprehensive plan.

RESOLVED, that, in view of the urgency of stimulating economic development, this effort is intended to be integrated into the recent and existing planning efforts of the City/Village, informed by current data and reports regarding private sector market needs and financing and available public funding resources, and be completed as soon as possible.

RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect immediately.

ADOPTED: _____

ATTEST:

City/Village Clerk