

CITY OF UTICA
NOTICE OF DECLARATION OF LEAD AGENCY,
NOTICE OF POSITIVE DECLARATION and
ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING

TO: Involved Agencies and Interested Parties. Please see included distribution list.

FROM: City of Utica, Common Council

DATE: September 22, 2014

RE: City of Utica Implementation of City of Utica Harbor Point Master Plan, State Environmental Quality Act (SEQRA) Notice Declaration of Lead Agency, Notice of Positive Declaration and Announcement of Scoping Meeting

The City of Utica began a planning and design process aimed at redeveloping the city's inner harbor. Led by the Utica Harbor Point Local Development Corporation (UHLDC), in collaboration with city staff, private property owners, state agencies, and city residents, two alternative Harbor Point Redevelopment Concept Plans have been prepared to create a mixed-use destination attraction for Utica that enhances the existing waters' edge with public and private investments. The resulting conceptual master plans help realize the goals defined in the City's Master Plan (2011), as well as those identified in the Brownfield Opportunity Area (BOA) Study (2014) and the Local Waterfront Access Plan (2011).

In order to implement the action that might have significant environmental impacts, an environmental review in accordance with 6 NYCRR Part 617 of New York's State's Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) is required.

Projects that have the potential to result in at least one significant adverse impact require the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

On September 17, 2014, after the culmination of a 30-day Lead Agency Coordination process, the City of Utica Common Council passed the attached resolution. This resolution declares its Lead Agency status, the issuance of an SEQRA Positive Declaration, and its intent to initiate an agency and public scoping process with the objective of finalizing a scoping document.

To determine what elements need to be focused upon in the EIS, the attached "Scoping Document" was created.

The City is seeking your input and invites you to a Public Scoping Session:

Date: October 21, 2014

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Location: North Utica Senior Citizens Community Center
50 Riverside Drive, Utica NY 13502**

The purpose of the public scoping meeting is to allow involved agencies and interested parties, as well as the public, an opportunity to comment on the scope of a *Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (DGEIS)*. Written comments on the attached Draft Scoping Document may be sent to Brian Thomas, Department of Urban and Economic Development, at the address below, and will be accepted for a period of seven calendar days (October 28, 2014) following the close of the Public Scoping Meeting. Enclosed is a copy of the Distribution List of Involved Agencies and Interested Parties to whom this letter has been sent.

Copies of the Draft Scoping Document are available on line at www.HarborPoint.org. Hard copies of the documents are available for review at the Department of Urban and Economic Development at Utica City Hall, 1 Kennedy Plaza, Utica NY 13502 and the Utica Public Library at 303 Genesee Street, Utica, NY 13501.

Please send written comments to: Department of Urban and Economic Development
Attn: Mr. Brian Thomas, AICP, and Commissioner
Utica City Hall
1 Kennedy Plaza
Utica, New York 13502

Attachments:

1. SEQR Positive Declaration Resolution
2. Draft Scoping Document
3. LEAF Parts 1, 2 and 3
4. Involved Agency and Interested Parties List
5. Project Description
6. Component Map