

**Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee
Meeting Minutes & Transcript**

DATE & TIME: July 13, 2021 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Brian Cahill
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn Tantillo
PRESENT: Legislators Lynn Archer (4:28), Thomas Corcoran, James Delaune (4:33), Herbert Litts, III (4:12), Abe Uchitelle and Legislative Chairman David Donaldson
ABSENT: Legislator Mary Beth Maio
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator John Parete; Deputy County Executives Evelyn Wright, Marc Rider and John Milgram; Alan Macaluso, Director of Information Services; Timothy Weidemann, Director of Office of Economic Development; Sajaa Ahmad, Director of UCAT; Dennis Doyle, Director of Planning

Chairman Cahill called the meeting to order at approximately 4:08 PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion No. 1: Motion to Approve the Minutes of June 1, 2021

Motion Made By: Chairman Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Minutes Approved**

Resolution No. 304 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Grant Application To The NYS Office Of Community Renewal For A New York Main Streets Grant – Department Of Economic Development

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to sign an application for funds from NYS Office of Community Renewal for a NYMS Grant.

Motion No. 2 Motion to approve Resolution No. 304
Motion By: Chairman Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 305 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$44,870.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Complete Building Solutions, Inc. – Ulster County Area Transit

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a contract amendment with the Complete Building Solutions to extend the term for \$44,870 using 100% Federal funds.

Motion No. 3: **Motion to approve Resolution No. 305**

Motion By: Chairman Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 306 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$109,823.00 Entered Into By The County – GZA Geoenvironmental Of New York – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a contract for a resilience study of the trahnsporation system in the Ulster County Transportations Council’s Planning Area that will be 95% Federally funded and 5% County funded.

Motion No. 4: Motion to approve Resolution No. 306

Motion By: Chairman Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 307 - Adopting The Inclusion Of Additional Lands In Agricultural Districts Within Ulster County As Recommended By The Ulster County Agricultural And Farmland Protection Board – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution adopts the recommendations of the AFPB and a Negative Declaration for the inclusion of those lands within the ag district and directs the Clerk of the Legislature to file appropriate materials with the Commissioner of Agriculture.

Motion No. 5: **Motion to approve Resolution 307**
Motion By: Chairman Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 308 - Appointing Alternate Member To The Ulster County Planning Board – Town Of Olive

Resolution Summary: This resolution appoints Heidi Emrich of West Shokan, NY as an alternated to the Ulster County Planning Board, representing the Town of Olive for a term that coincides the incumbent board member Andrew Boggess from the present thru December 31, 2024.

Motion No. 6: **Motion to approve Resolution 307**
Motion By: Chairman Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 309 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-municipal Agreement To Purchase Internet And Network Services Through BOCES – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute an inter-municipal agreement for the purchase of internet and network services.

Motion No. 7: **Motion to approve Resolution 309**
Motion By: Chairman Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 325 - Establishing “The Ulster County Land Bank Development Corporation”, A New York State Landbank

Resolution Summary: This resolution would create a Land Bank; appoint members to the Board of Directors of the Land Bank; and approve other provisions.

Motion No.8: **Motion to Postpone Resolution 325**
Motion By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: Chairman Cahill announced that the sponsor, Legislator Bartels, requested the resolution be postponed.

The committee discussed coordinating this effort with the existing City of Kingston Land Bank and other issues and concerns about how such a land bank might function.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Corcoran, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Postponed**

LATE Resolution No. 327 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$63,000.00 Entered Into By The County – United Way Of Ulster County Inc. – Department Of Employment And Training

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a contract amendment for the extension by the County with the United Way of Ulster County Inc, to fund summer youth employment programs.

Motion No. 9: **Motion to approve Resolution 327**
Motion By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Corcoran

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Corcoran, Delaune, Litts, Uchitelle and Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Presentation – Timothy Weideman, Director of Economic Development make a presentation on “Realigning the Economic Development Toolbox” (attached)

Old Business:

New Business:

Chairman Cahill asked if there was any other business, hearing none;

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Time: 4:48 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Fawn Tantillo
Minutes Approved: August 3, 2021

Realigning the Economic Development Toolbox

Economic Development, Tourism, Housing,
Planning & Transit Committee

July 13, 2021

We're Building a People-Centered Economy

Our Economic Development Vision >>

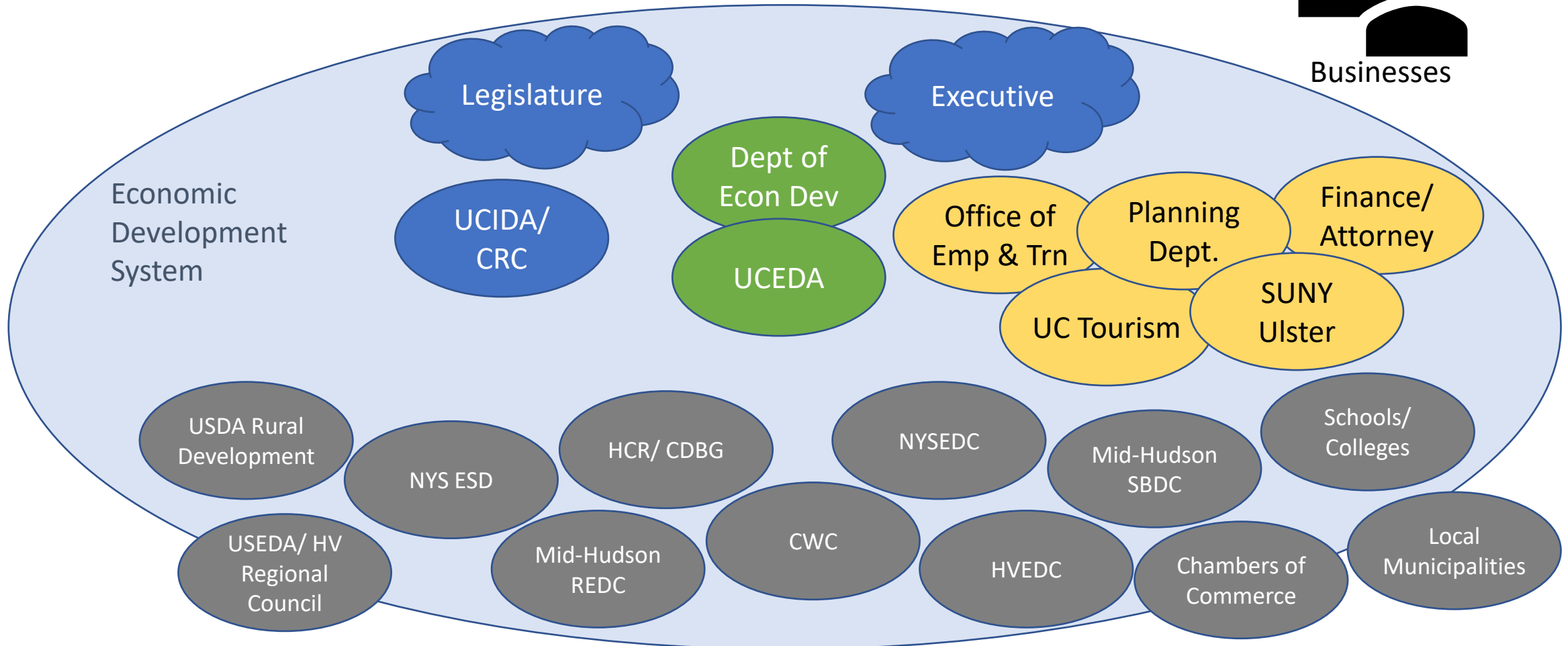
We will co-create
a **people-centered**
local economy

Our Economic Development Mission >>

We will seek
equitable gains in
opportunity and
prosperity for all
residents

- To accomplish the vision we need a **more effective economic development system**
- It will require **coordination and collaboration** across many partners
- We've learned a lot over the past decade, and now **we need to take the next steps**

The Current System

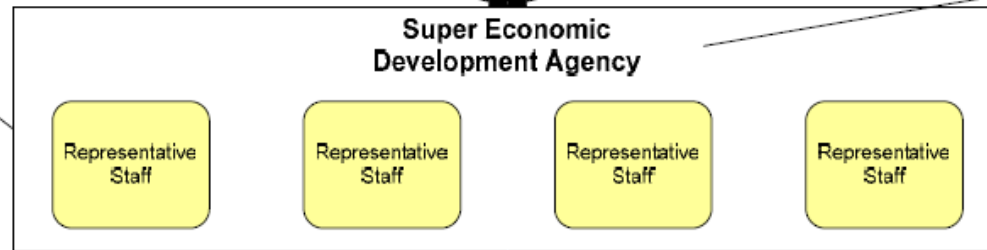


The Solution Has Been Elusive

Service Providers

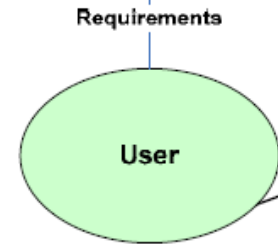


Operational Questions:
 - How would this "Agency" be funded?
 - How would this "Agency" be staffed?



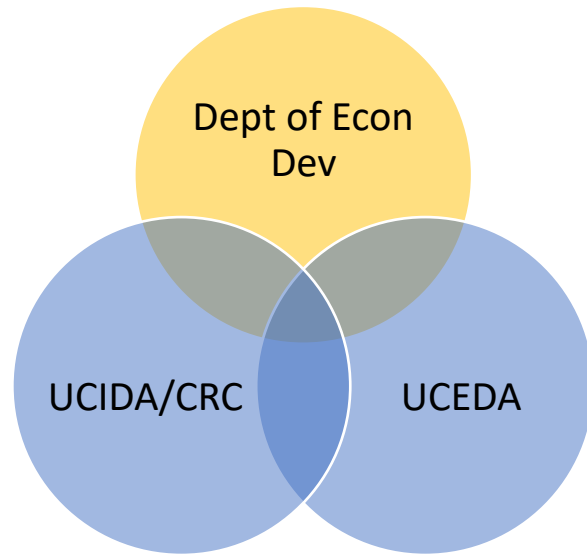
Other Possible Names:
 - Super Chamber
 - Super UCDC
 - Super Empire Zone

Possible Menu of Features and Services:
 - Economic Development One-Stop-Shopping
 - 24/7 Information and Referral Services
 - "211" Referral Services
 - Clearinghouse
 - Portal to Economic Development and Business Services
 - Contain Council of Governments
 - Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation (GBIC) Model
 - Technical Education on Economic Development
 - Leadership Education and Development



A "user" may be defined as a:
 - Developer
 - Entrepreneur
 - Facility Planner
 - Financial Investor
 - Individual
 - Large Business
 - Non-Profit Organization
 - Real Estate Broker
 - Real Estate Investor
 - Small Business
 - Other

Let's Take the First Steps

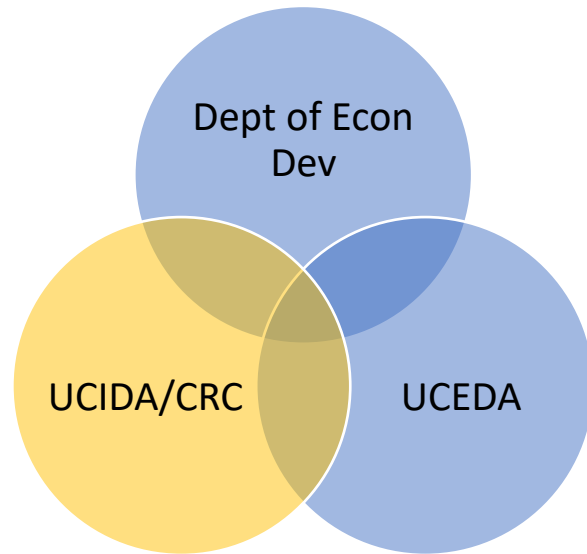


A tool for accountability to ensure we're achieving our goals

Department of Economic Development

- Ultimately responsible for economic development outcomes
- Ombudsperson/buck stopping for businesses whose problems are not getting solved
- Provides overall strategic leadership towards implementation of 2040 goals
- Coordinate with others to ensure programs and policies are consistent with 2040 strategy
- Liaison to state/regional programs; ensure all other economic development tools are up to speed on current state/federal resource opportunities
- Review and advise on UCIDA projects
- Direct and supervise UCEDA programs and staff
- Report to and advise Leg on economic development strategy, including implementation of all tools and resource allocation

Let's Take the First Steps

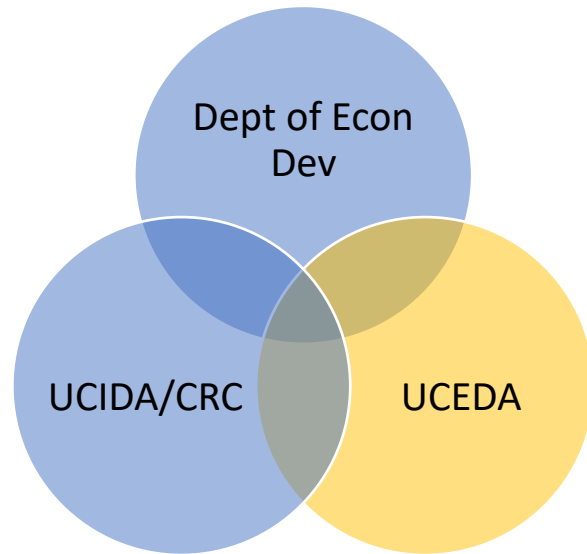


*A powerful tool to enhance
our County's competitiveness*

Ulster County Industrial Development Agency and Capital Resource Corp.

- Provides property, mortgage and sales tax exemptions for qualified businesses
- Provides taxable/tax-exempt financing for qualified businesses/organizations
- Through its work, generates revenues to contribute to other economic development activities
- Maintains and updates UTEP/policies to ensure consistency with Ulster 2040 goals

Let's Take the First Steps



*An agile tool that responds
at the speed of business*

Ulster County Economic Development Alliance

- Administers programs to assist businesses, such as RLF, grant and site assistance, etc.
- Partners with other agencies to respond to emergent needs, such as workforce development, transportation, technical assistance, etc.
- Cultivates community economic development partnerships with local municipalities, chambers, etc.
- Seeks out and develops new funding to support economic development system, e.g. donations, grants, sponsorships, bond financing, etc.
- Accepts surplus public assets and converts them into productive assets for economic development purposes
- Serves as a pass-through for federal funds to reduce regulatory overhead
- UCEDA is able to move at the speed of business, unlike OED. Often businesses can't wait for government process to crank through

Working Together Requires a Framework

State Agencies

UCIDA

Dept of Econ Dev

Legislature and Executive

Local Munis

UCEDA

Other Depts.

Solvejg's Song
Peer Gynt Suite
Edvard Grieg 1843 - 1907

Piano

© SilverTonalties 2010

Proposed Action Steps for 2021

- By 9/15/21
 - **Internal alignment** – Hold a series of leadership meetings to establish priorities/working relationships between UC Dept of Econ Dev, UCEDA, UCIDA/CRC
 - **External communications** – All parties commit to working together to accomplish their shared economic development priorities
- By 12/31/21
 - **Operational implementation** – Establish detailed operating procedures to streamline and coordinate day-to-day work
 - **Financial commitment** – Budgets and financial plans updated/adjusted to reflect strategic priorities and commitments
- Ongoing
 - **Evaluate and refine** – Monitor ongoing work to identify and resolve challenges, evaluate results and improve performance