

WHITE PLAINS URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

RESOLUTION 08-2015

I. RESOLUTION OF THE WHITE PLAINS URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY APPROVING THE 2014-15 MISSION STATEMENT AND PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND THE 2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT

WHEREAS:

- A. Chapter 506 of the Laws of 2009, known as the 2009 Public Authorities Reform Act or “PARA,” requires that State and local public authorities subject to PARA develop and adopt a mission statement. The Act further requires that such authorities and agencies develop performance measures to assist the Authorities Budget Office (“ABO”) in determining how well such authorities and agencies are doing in carrying out their missions (together “Mission Statement and Performance Measures”).
- B. PARA also requires such State and local public authorities to prepare and make publicly available an Annual Report which documents the extent to which the agency is furthering its mission and meeting its performance measures.
- C. The White Plains Urban Renewal Agency (“Agency”), established under General Municipal Law (“GML”) Article 15-B Section 583, is a local public authority subject to the requirements of PARA.
- D. In response to ABO Policy Guidance and in compliance with PARA, the Agency originally adopted the “Mission Statement and Performance Measures,” attached hereto as Exhibit A.
- E. Agency staff has prepared an Annual Report for fiscal year 2014-15, attached hereto as Exhibit B, which includes responses to all of the annual reporting requirements of PARA.
- F. All members of the Agency have received, reviewed and executed the “Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duties and Responsibilities” statement provided by the NYS Authorities Budget Office pursuant to Public Authorities Law Section 2824(1)(h), attached hereto as Exhibit C.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. All Agency Board members present at this Agency meeting hereby acknowledge that they have read and understand the “Mission Statement and Performance Measures,” the 2014-15 Annual Report, and this Resolution 08-2015.
- 2. Based on the foregoing, the Agency Board, hereby finds the “Mission Statement and Performance Measures,” originally adopted on March 31, 2010 continues to be an accurate statement of the mission of the Agency and an accurate description of the measures available to the Agency to assess and evaluate its performance in the implementation of its mission.

3. The Agency Board further finds that the 2014-15 Annual Report is an accurate description of the Agency as required under PARA.
4. The Agency finds that each member of the Board has provided a signed “Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duties and Responsibilities”.
5. Based on the above findings, the Agency hereby adopts Resolution 08-2015 and its attachments, reaffirming the (1) “Mission Statement and Performance Measures,” and (2) approving the 2014-15 Annual Report.

Dated: December 7, 2015

Adopted: December 10, 2015

EXHIBIT A

White Plains Urban Renewal Agency **Mission Statement** **and** **Performance Measurements**

Name of Public Authority: White Plains Urban Renewal Agency

A. Public Authority's Mission Statement:

Section I. Legal Authority and Purpose of the Agency

The purpose of the White Plains Urban Renewal Agency ("Agency") is to exercise its powers under General Municipal Law ("GML") Article 15-A Section 554 to carry out urban renewal projects approved by the Common Council of the City of White Plains ("Common Council of the City" or "City") which projects and the plans therefor conform to and promote the effectuation of the goals and objectives of the Comprehensive Plan of the City of White Plains, as the same may from time to time be amended. Pursuant to GML Section 502(6) a plan for an urban renewal project must conform to the "comprehensive community plan." This term is interchangeable with "master plan" or "general plan." In White Plains, an active urban renewal plan must be in conformance with the City's 1997 Comprehensive Plan, as amended to date ("White Plains Comprehensive Plan").

Pursuant to GML Section 554 and Section 583, the Agency was created and is authorized to "plan and undertake one or more urban renewal projects and shall have the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate such project or projects and the purposes and provisions of this article fifteen of this chapter." The purpose of providing an urban renewal agency, and specifically here the Agency with such powers is to enable such agency to carry out, within the City of White Plains an urban renewal program which is defined in Article 15 Section 502(3) as "a program established, conducted and planned by a municipality for the redevelopment, through clearance, re-planning, reconstruction, rehabilitation, and concentrated code enforcement, or a combination of these and other methods, of substandard and insanitary areas of such municipalities, and for recreational and other facilities incidental or appurtenant thereto, pursuant to and in accordance with article eighteen of the constitution and this article. The terms "clearance, re-planning, reconstruction and rehabilitation" shall include renewal, redevelopment, conservation, restoration or improvement or any combination thereof as well as relocation activities and the testing and reporting of methods and techniques for the arrest, prevention and elimination of slums and blight; the term "program" may mean or include and be interchangeable with the term "project."

Section II. Agency Stakeholders

The stakeholders of the Agency are the citizens and businesses of the City of White Plains. Within each designated urban renewal project area the direct stakeholders are those affected by and the beneficiaries of the particular urban renewal project in that designated area, and those outside the designated project area who are most directly impacted by the implementation of an urban renewal project plan within the designated project area, including any and all residents of the City of White Plains.

Section III. Goals of the Agency

The goals of the Agency are to work with the City to:

- (1) eliminate substandard and insanitary conditions and areas, and revitalize municipally designated distressed areas;
- (2) promote redevelopment of these areas with safe, sanitary and economically viable residential, non-residential, commercial, and industrial properties and uses; and
- (3) enable in these areas the redevelopment of, conservation, restoration or improvements of private and public facilities and infrastructure.

(Substandard or insanitary areas include under General Municipal Law Section 502(4) “a slum, blighted, deteriorated or deteriorating area, or an area which has a blighting influence on the surrounding area. . .”)

Section IV: Mission of the Agency

It is the mission of the Agency to accomplish its goals of eliminating substandard and insanitary conditions and areas, and revitalizing municipally designated distressed areas; promoting redevelopment of these areas with safe, sanitary and economically viable residential, non-residential, commercial, and industrial properties and uses; and enabling in these areas the redevelopment of, conservation, restoration or improvements of private and public facilities and infrastructure in a manner benefitting the citizens, residents, businesses, government and community objectives of the City of White Plains as expressed in the White Plains Comprehensive Plan.

Originally Adopted: March 31, 2010 (Agency Resolution 01-2010)

Reaffirmed: September 30, 2011 (Agency Resolution 08-2011)
September 24, 2012 (Agency Resolution 04-2012)
April 14, 2014 (Agency Resolution 02-2014)
November 24, 2014 (Agency Resolution 10-2014)

B. List of Performance Goals:

Performance Goals:

To accomplish the goals of the Agency as expressed in its Mission Statement, the Agency works with the City to exercise its powers under GML Section 554 for the benefit of the community of White Plains, to establish for each area designated by the Common Council of the City as a substandard or insanitary area, as defined in General Municipal Law Section 502(4), a planned program of urban renewal including:

- (1) the formal designation of an urban renewal project area by the Agency and Common Council of the City, pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 504.
- (2) the adoption, or amendment of an existing urban renewal plan for the redevelopment of the designated area, such plan being subject to the review and report of the White Plains Planning Board and approval of the Common Council of the City pursuant to GML Section 505. The approval of the urban renewal plan shall include how it conforms to the White Plains Comprehensive Plan.
- (3) specification in the urban renewal plan, or amendments thereto, of the powers of the Agency to be exercised in the implementation of the approved plan.
- (4) implementation of the urban renewal plan, which may include but is not limited to:
 - a. acquisition of public or private property within the designated project area as specifically identified in the adopted urban renewal plan for the designated area as approved by the City,
 - b. designation of private or public entities for the redevelopment, as defined under GML Section 503(3), of public or private property within the designated project area as specifically provided for in the adopted urban renewal plan,
 - c. disposition of acquired property within the designated project area for redevelopment, as specifically identified in the adopted urban renewal plan for the designated project area, and
 - d. authorizing a redevelopment program as defined under GML 502(3) for public or private infrastructure specifically identified in the adopted urban renewal plan for the designated project area,
 - e. redevelopment as defined under GML 502(3) of the disposed property within the designated project area as specifically identified in the adopted urban renewal plan.

Assessment of Implementation of Goals

All goals, objectives and strategies for the redevelopment of a particular designated urban renewal project area are specified in the adopted urban renewal plan which is subject to the approval of the Common Council of the City after review and report from the Planning Board and after a public hearing before both the Planning Board and the Common Council of the City. Any amendments to such plans or project area boundaries are also subject to public hearings. The urban renewal plans are public documents. The notice of all meetings, all urban renewal agency resolutions and the urban renewal plans are available for public review and are posted on the Agency's website. Any member of the public can monitor and assess the implementation of each urban renewal plan and the effect of each urban renewal project by visiting the project sites, reviewing the enabling legislation for each project and project modification, reviewing the urban renewal plans, and reviewing all project documents, including site plans and building plans which are available for public review during regular office hours at the offices of the Agency located in the City Hall Annex.

As a small public benefit corporation, the Agency is not involved in projects spread out over multiple jurisdictions or involving substantial financial resources, as is the case with many public authorities. As such, the monitoring of its performance by the Agency can be and is performed on a level very close to the projects in which it is involved. The following are performance measures for the Agency in assessing its implementation of its mission goals and objectives.

1. Is the urban renewal plan for a designated urban renewal project area moving forward consistent with the time frame established in the urban renewal plan?
2. Is the urban renewal plan for a designated urban renewal project area being implemented as specified in the urban renewal plan? Are the powers designated in the adopted urban renewal plan to be used by the Agency being used and are the results of using such powers achieving the objectives specified in the urban renewal plan?
3. Have there been any changes to the White Plains Comprehensive Plan since the adoption of the urban renewal plan which affect the plans conformance with the Comprehensive Plan or necessitate adjustments to the urban renewal plan?
4. Have there been any changes within the designated project area which necessitate a reevaluation of the area designated, either necessitating the inclusion of more or fewer properties?
5. Each redevelopment, reconstruction, rehabilitation or other plan for the redevelopment of a component of the urban renewal project is reviewed by the Agency management and by the Agency members ("Agency Board") to assess its conformance to the adopted urban renewal plan and the land use requirements of the City of White Plains.

6. The budget for each urban renewal project is reviewed by Agency management on a monthly basis and by the Agency Board at least twice a year to determine if the urban renewal project is on budget and at what rate funds are being expended under the budget.
7. A status report of each open urban renewal project is presented to the Agency Board at Agency meetings as part of the Director's Report.
8. All meetings of the Agency are noticed and open to the public.

EXHIBIT B

2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT

(Provided under separate cover).

EXHIBIT C

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FIDUCIARY DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES EXECUTED STATEMENTS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Authorities Budget Office Policy Guidance



No. 10-01

Date Issued: March 1, 2010
Supersedes: New

Subject: Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duty

Statutory Citation: Public Authorities Law Section 2824(1)(h)

Provisions: Section 6(i) of Public Authorities Law, as amended by Chapter 506 of the Laws of 2009 ("The 2009 Public Authorities Reform Act" or "PARA"), requires the Authorities Budget Office (ABO) to "develop and issue" a written acknowledgement that all board members must execute as part of their duties and responsibilities under Section 2824 of Public Authorities Law. By signing this acknowledgement a board member is stating "that he or she understands his or her role and fiduciary responsibilities" as well as his or her "duty of loyalty and care to the organization and commitment to the authority's mission and the public interest."

Pursuant to PARA, every board member of a Public Authority is required to sign an acknowledgement of fiduciary duty at the time he or she takes the oath of office. The effectiveness of the acknowledgement will be deemed applicable throughout the duration of such board member's term and/or for as long as such director continues to serve in such capacity. Board members appointed to their positions prior to the effectiveness of PARA and the implementation of this new requirement are required to execute an acknowledgement by May 1, 2010.

Authorities Budget Office Policy Guidance: The primary responsibility of a board member is to understand the mission and public purpose of the Authority and to act in the best interests of the Authority, its mission, and the public. The intent of this written acknowledgement is to re-affirm the importance of this duty to board members.

The ABO is directing all state and local public authorities to use the attached acknowledgement form to satisfy this statutory requirement. Public authorities are to maintain signed copies of the acknowledgement throughout the official term of each active board member. State and local authorities will also be expected to certify as part of the Annual Report submission that these statements were executed in accordance with Section 2824 of Public Authorities Law. The failure to execute this acknowledgment will be considered a failure to comply with the requirements of Public Authorities Law. The failure to act in accordance with the principles stated in this acknowledgment can be considered a breach of fiduciary duty and could result in a recommendation that the board member be sanctioned.

A board member is to sign a new acknowledgement document at the start of each new term to which the board member is appointed.



Acknowledgement of Fiduciary Duties and Responsibilities

As a member of the Authority's board of directors, I understand that I have a fiduciary obligation to perform my duties and responsibilities to the best of my abilities, in good faith and with proper diligence and care consistent with the enabling statute, mission, and by-laws of the Authority and the laws of New York State. The requirements set forth in this acknowledgement are based on the provisions of New York State Law, including but not limited to the Public Authorities Reform Act of 2009, Public Officers Law, and General Municipal Law. As a member of the board of directors:

I. Mission Statement

I have read and understand the mission of the Authority; and the mission is designed to achieve a public purpose on behalf of the State of New York. I further understand that my fiduciary duty to this Authority is derived from and governed by its mission.

I agree that I have an obligation to become knowledgeable about the mission, purpose, functions, responsibilities, and statutory duties of the Authority and, when I believe it necessary, to make reasonable inquiry of management and others with knowledge and expertise so as to inform my decisions.

II. Deliberation

I understand that my obligation is to act in the best interests of the Authority and the People of the State of New York whom the Authority serves.

I agree that I will exercise independent judgment on all matters before the board.

I understand that any interested party may comment on any matter or proposed resolution that comes before the board of directors consistent with the laws governing procurement policy and practice, be it the general public, an affected party, a party potentially impacted by such matter or an elected or appointed public official. However, I understand that the ultimate decision is mine and will be consistent with the mission of the Authority and my fiduciary duties as a member of the Authority's board of directors.

I will participate in training sessions, attend board and committee meetings, and engage fully in the board and committee's decision-making process.

III. Confidentiality

I agree that I will not divulge confidential discussions and confidential matters that come before the board for consideration or action.

IV. Conflict of Interest

I agree to disclose to the board any conflicts, or the appearance of a conflict, of a personal, financial, ethical, or professional nature that could inhibit me from performing my duties in good faith and with diligence and care.

I do not have any interest, financial or otherwise, direct or indirect, or engage in any business or transaction or professional activity or incur any obligation of any nature, which is in substantial conflict with the proper discharge of my duties in the public interest.

Signature: _____
Print Name: _____
Authority Name: _____
Date: _____