Resolution adopting a determination and finding under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act

A regular meeting of the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") was convened in public session at the Theodore Roosevelt Executive & Legislative Building, Ceremonial Chambers, 1550 Franklin Avenue, Mineola, Nassau County, New York on May 26, 2022 at 6:48 p.m., local time.

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, upon roll being called, the following members of the Agency were:

PRESENT:

Richard Kessel Chairman
John Coumatos Asst. Treasurer
Chris Fusco Asst. Secretary
Reginald A. Spinello Member
William H. Rockensies Member

THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL PERSONS WERE PRESENT:

Anne LaMorte Chief Financial Officer
Carlene Wynter Compliance Assistant
Nicole Gil Administrative Assistant
Andrew Komaromi Bond/Transaction Counsel

EXCUSED:

Timothy Williams Member

Catherine Fee Director of Business Development/Chief Marketing Officer

The attached resolution no. 2022-37 was offered by William Rockensies, seconded by Chris Fusco.

Resolution No. 2022 - 37

RESOLUTION FINDING THAT AN ACTION TO UNDERTAKE THE ACQUISITION AND STRAIGHT LEASING OF A CERTAIN PROJECT FOR ORNSTEIN FETNER DEVELOPMENT LLC and 249 DREXEL ASSOCIATES LLC WILL NOT HAVE A SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Project Name: ORNSTEIN FETNER DEVELOPMENT LLC and 249 DREXEL

ASSOCIATES LLC 2022

Location: 249 Drexel Avenue, Village of Westbury, Town of North Hempstead,

Nassau County, New York (Section: 10; Block: 187; Lot: 919)

SEQRA Status: Unlisted

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency") is authorized and empowered by the provisions of Chapter 1030 of the 1969 Laws of New York, constituting Title I of Article 18-A of the General Municipal Law, Chapter 24 of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended (the "Enabling Act"), and Chapter 674 of the 1975 Laws of New York, as amended, constituting Section 922 of said General Municipal Law (said Chapter and the Enabling Act being hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Act") to promote, develop, encourage and assist in the acquiring, constructing, reconstructing, improving, maintaining, equipping and furnishing of manufacturing, industrial and commercial facilities, among others, for the purpose of promoting, attracting and developing economically sound commerce and industry to advance the job opportunities, health, general prosperity and economic welfare of the people of the State of New York, to improve their prosperity and standard of living, and to prevent unemployment and economic deterioration; and

WHEREAS, to accomplish its stated purposes, the Agency is authorized and empowered under the Act to acquire, construct, reconstruct and install one or more "projects" (as defined in the Act) or to cause said projects to be acquired, constructed, reconstructed and installed and to convey said projects or to lease said projects with the obligation to purchase; and

WHEREAS, ORNSTEIN FETNER DEVELOPMENT LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, and 249 DREXEL ASSOCIATES LLC, a limited liability company organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, together with entities formed or to be formed on its behalf (collectively, the "Applicant") has presented an application for financial assistance (the "Application") to the Agency, which Application requests that the Agency consider undertaking a project (the "Project") consisting of the following: (A)(1) the acquisition of a 0.35 acre parcel of land located at 249 Drexel Avenue, Village of Westbury, Town of North Hempstead, Nassau County, New York (Section: 10; Block: 187; Lot: 919) (the "Land"), (2) the construction of an approximately 23,025 square foot, mixed use building (collectively, the "Building"), on the Land, together with related improvements to the Land, (3) the acquisition of certain furniture, fixtures, machinery and equipment (the "Equipment") necessary for the completion thereof (collectively, the "Project Facility"), all of the foregoing for use by the Applicant as an eighteen (18) unit residential rental housing facility, including three (3) affordable residential rental apartments and one (1) retail unit on the ground floor; (B) the granting of certain "financial assistance" (within the meaning of Section 854(14) of the General Municipal Law) with respect to the foregoing in the form of potential exemptions or partial exemptions from real property taxes, mortgage recording taxes and sales and use taxes (collectively, the "Financial Assistance"); and (C) the lease (with an obligation to purchase), license or sale of the Project Facility to the Applicant or such other entity as may be designated by the Applicant and agreed upon by the Agency; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 8 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law, Chapter 43-B of the Consolidated Laws of New York, as amended and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto by the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York, being 6 N.Y.C.R.R. Part 617.1, et. seq., as amended (the "Regulations" and collectively "SEQRA"), the Agency must satisfy the requirements contained in SEQRA prior to making a final determination whether to undertake the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SEQRA, to aid the Agency in determining whether the Project may have a significant adverse impact upon the environment, the Agency has completed, received and/or reviewed (1) Part 1 of a Short Environmental Assessment Form ("EAF"), dated January 19, 2022, and attachment thereto; (2) NYSDEC's Environmental Resource Mapper; (3) New York State Historic Preservation Office's Cultural Resources Mapper; and (4) other relevant environmental information (collectively, 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall be referred to as the "Environmental Information"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to SEQRA, the Agency is an involved agency in the SEQRA review of the Project, and as an involved agency is required to analyze the Project to determine whether it has the potential to have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE NASSAU COUNTY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1</u>. Based upon a thorough review and examination of the Environmental Information and upon the Agency's knowledge of the area surrounding the Land and such further investigation of the Project and its environmental effects as the Agency has deemed appropriate, the Agency makes the following findings with respect to the Project:

- 1. <u>Impact on Land</u>. The Project is not anticipated to create any potentially significant adverse impacts to land resources or land use. The Project Facility is consistent with its surrounding use in downtown Westbury, and the Village Board of Trustees granted approvals to permit the Project Facility. The zoning and land use classification will not change as a result of the Project. Accordingly, the Project is not anticipated to create any potentially significant adverse impacts to land resources or land use.
- 2. <u>Impact on Water</u>. No wetlands in the area of the Land are anticipated to be impacted as renovation will be undertaken on property which previously housed similar uses. In addition, the Project is not located in a designated 100 year floodplain. The property has been previously disturbed and the renovation will not physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody. Although the Project site is located over the Nassau-Suffolk sole source aquifer, no activities proposed for the Project are anticipated to impact groundwater or the aquifer, nor is renovation or operation of such project anticipated to expose such aquifer to the undue threat of contamination.
- 3. <u>Impact on Air.</u> The Project will not be a significant source of air emissions. The Project does not entail the types of activities or operations that require the Applicant to acquire an Air Facility Permit or that are associated with a significant potential for air emissions. In addition, any increase in traffic including vehicle trips associated with the Project is not anticipated to materially impact air quality as more specifically discussed in the Transportation section below, including based on various analyses completed regarding traffic. Any potential impact on air as a result of construction activities will be minor, and temporary in nature.

- 4. <u>Impact on Health or Safety</u>. As provided in EAF, the Land is not subject of remediation, nor was the same historically performed at the Land. The Project also does not entail the types of activities or operations that are associated with a significant potential for affecting public health. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impact to public health, air, land or water resources.
- 5. <u>Impact on Plants and Animals Including to Threatened or Endangered Species</u>. The Land does not appear to contain any habitats of significance as it is fully developed and located in a well-developed residential and commercial area. The Proposed Action does not present the potential for removal or destruction of large quantities of vegetation or fauna; substantial interference with the movement of any resident or migratory fish or wildlife species; impacts on a significant habitat area; substantial adverse impacts on a threatened or endangered species of animal or plant, or the habitat of such a species; or other significant adverse impacts to natural resources.
- 6. <u>Impact on Agricultural Land Resources</u>. The Project is located in an area currently devoted to commercial / residential uses. As a result it will not involve the conversion or loss of agricultural land resources. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to agricultural land resources.
- 7. <u>Impact on Aesthetic Resources</u>. The Project will not be within 500 feet from any officially designated federal, state or local scenic or aesthetic resource. The property is situated in a developed commercial and residential area, as indicated with is zoned for uses consistent with the Project with is also consistent with surrounding uses. As the Village of Westbury concluded that the Project Facility is consistent with its surroundings, it is not anticipated to create any significant adverse impacts to aesthetic resources.
- 8. <u>Impact on Historic and Archeological Resources.</u> The Land is not adjacent to any historic building or an archeological area deemed sensitive by the State Historic Preservation Office. The Westbury Theater, located across Post Avenue, has been deemed eligible for inclusion in the National Register, however, it has not been so listed to date. The Land, itself, is improved with structures and contains no visible historical, archeological, architectural or aesthetic resources that will be impaired by the development of the Project Facility. The Project would redevelop an underutilized office and fish market as the existing buildings on the site are currently degraded, detracting from the overall character of the site and surrounding area and the scale of existing development, thereby improving the overall character of the site and surrounding area. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to historical or archaeological resources.
- 9. <u>Impact on Open Space and Recreation</u>. The Land on which the Project is to be located and adjacent areas around it do not comprise public open space as it was devoted to commercial uses. Further, the density of the Project Facility is not anticipated to create an adverse impact of local parkland. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to open space or recreational resources.
- 10. <u>Impact on Critical Environmental Areas</u>. The Land on which the Project is to be developed is not located in or substantially contiguous to any Critical Environmental Area ("CEA") based on a review of the EAF. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to any CEA.

- Impact on Transportation. Based on the EAF, the Project will not result in a substantial increase in traffic above capacity of current traffic infrastructure, nor is it expected to generate substantial new demand for transportation facilities or services/infrastructure. Any impacts to transportation from construction activities associated with the Project will be minor and temporary in nature. Accordingly, it is not anticipated that that Project will create any significant adverse impacts to transportation.
- 12. <u>Impact on Energy</u>. The Project may result in an increase in energy usage, however, existing utilities serve the area where the Project will be developed and are anticipated to have adequate capacity to serve it. As a result, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to energy.
- 13. <u>Impact on Noise and Odor and Impacts from Light</u>. The Project is not expected to materially increase ambient noise levels or to create odors of consequence particularly in light of such project setting including the Project site location. As a result, it is not anticipated that operation of the Project will result in undue noise impacts. Further, any impacts to noise and/or odor from construction activities will be minor, and temporary in nature. In addition, any such noise from construction will be undertaken during work hours and as such is not anticipated to be significant. Accordingly, the Project will not create any significant adverse impacts to noise or odors.
- 14. <u>Impact on Growth and Character of the Community and Neighborhood</u>. The Project is not anticipated to result in significant growth out of character or beyond the capacity of the area to accommodate same in light of the zoning of the site of said project and surrounding uses. In sum, the Project is similar and is in character with surrounding uses. Accordingly, the Project is not anticipated to create any significant adverse impacts to the growth or character of the community.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

Section 2. Based on the foregoing, the Agency finds that the Project will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment in accordance with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act, Article 8 of the New York Environmental Conservation Law and, in particular, pursuant to the criteria set forth at 6 NYCRR §617.7(b)-(c) of the SEQRA regulations and as such, no environmental impact statement shall be prepared. This determination constitutes a negative declaration for the purposes of SEQRA.

<u>Section 3</u>. The Chairman, the Vice Chairman, the Executive Director and the Administrative Director of the Agency are hereby further authorized on behalf of the Agency, or acting together or individually, to distribute copies of this Resolution to the Applicant and to do such further things or perform such acts as may be necessary or convenient to implement the provisions of this Resolution.

<u>Section 4</u>. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows:

Richard Kessel	VOTING	AYE
Chris Fusco	VOTING	AYE
John Coumatos	VOTING	AYE
Timothy Williams	VOTING	ABSENT
Reginald A. Spinello	VOTING	AYE
William H. Rockensies	VOTING	AYE

The foregoing Resolution was thereupon declared duly adopted.

COUNTY OF NASSAU

We, the undersigned [Vice] Chairman and [Assistant] Secretary of the Nassau County Industrial Development Agency (the "Agency"), do hereby certify that we have compared the foregoing extract of the minutes of the meeting of the members of the Agency, including the Resolution contained therein, held on May 26, 2022 with the original thereof on file in our office, and that the same is a true and correct copy of said original and of such Resolution set forth therein and of the whole of said original so far as the same relates to the subject matters therein referred to.

WE FURTHER CERTIFY that (A) all members of the Agency had due notice of said meeting; (B) said meeting was in all respects duly held; (C) pursuant to Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (the "Open Meetings Law"), said meeting was open to the general public, and due notice of the time and place of said meeting was duly given in accordance with such Open Meetings Law; and (D) there was a quorum of the members of the Agency present throughout said meeting.

WE FURTHER CERTIFY that, as of the date hereof, the attached Resolution is in full force and effect and has not been amended, repealed or rescinded.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our respective hands and affixed the seal of the Agency this 26th day of May 2022.

Assistant] Secretary

[Vice] Chairman

(SEAL)