

RESOLUTION NO. 245

AUTHORIZING ALBANY COUNTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOCAL REGIONAL LAND BANK TO ENHANCE THE REVITALIZATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES IN ALBANY COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Introduced: 7/8/13

By Messrs. Commisso, Morse, Ward, Mss. McKnight, Chapman, Maffia-Tobler, Kinsch, Messrs. Domalewicz, Clenahan, Joyce, Beston, Reilly, Mackey, Corcoran, Feeney, Cotrofeld, Jacobson, O'Brien, Mayo, Rahm, Clay, Bullock, Higgins, Nichols and Simpson:

WHEREAS, Since 2006, Albany County has participated in an effort to develop and preserve a variety of affordable housing options throughout the County through loans in support of programs and projects assisting low-income homeowners, tenants and the homeless, giving priority to projects that preserve housing affordability, and

WHEREAS, This Honorable Body has been an active participant regarding community revitalization and has authorized the expenditure of funds and approval of projects via Resolution No's. 462 for 2006; 371 for 2007 and 296 for 2008, and

WHEREAS, The Albany County Legislature recognizes that there is a pressing need for affordable housing and the stabilization of neighborhoods through building revitalization, and

WHEREAS, It has been announced that NYS Attorney General Eric Schneiderman will direct up to \$20 million in settlement money to fund land banks around the state, hoping it will help deal with vacant properties, and

WHEREAS, It was further indicated that the money will be disbursed competitively among the state's existing land banks, one of which operates in Amsterdam and Schenectady, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That by Resolution No. 7 for 2013, this Honorable Body established as a priority of Albany County government that all necessary steps be taken by the administration to develop and preserve a variety of affordable housing options throughout the County and take immediate steps to develop a local land bank to stabilize neighborhoods, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 7 for 2013 also directed the County Executive to prioritize the development and preservation of affordable housing options and the development of a local land bank to stabilize neighborhoods

throughout the County by building on the foundation established by this Honorable Body, and, be it further

RESOLVED, In order to qualify to receive the settlement money being released by the Attorney General, the County Executive is authorized to take any and all appropriate steps to have Albany County participate in the Schenectady/Amsterdam local regional land bank which is already in existence, and, be it further

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that this Honorable Body supports the development of a local land bank to stabilize neighborhoods while still giving priority to projects that preserve housing affordability, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.

Adopted by voice vote. 7/8/13