# Jemal's Seneca, LLC \$45,000,000 INDUCEMENT RESOLUTION

#### ELIGIBILITY

NAICS Section - 531110

### COMPANY INCENTIVES

 Approximately \$337,500 in mortgage tax exemption

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

- Projected New Jobs 5 FTE
- Estimated Construction Jobs 294
- Annual payroll: \$325,000
- Estimated salary of jobs to be created: \$65,000

#### PROJECT HISTORY

- 03/02/2020 Public hearing held. Transcript attached.
- 03/25/2020 Inducement
  Resolution presented to Board of
  Directors adopting a Negative
  Declaration in accordance with
  SEQRA.
- 03/25/2020 Lease/Leaseback Inducement Resolution presented to the Board of Directors
- 03/25/2020 Board Resolution to authorize ECIDA to enter into Payment in Lieu of Taxes Increment Financing ("PIF") for a period of 25 years to fund Accelerator Fund projects as well as other infrastructure improvements

Project Title: Jemal's Seneca, LLC

Project Address: 1 Seneca Street

Buffalo, New York 14203 (Buffalo School District)

### **Agency Request**

A mortgage recording tax exemption in connection with the redevelopment of the former HSBC building.

<b>Building Renovation</b>	\$25,000,000
Infrastructure	\$15,225,000
Equipment	\$ 4,000,000
Soft Costs	\$ 275,000
Total Project Cost	\$45,000,000
85%	\$38,250,000

# **Company Description**

Jemal's Seneca, LLC is in the process of the redevelopment and re-occupancy of the vacant 1.2 million square foot Seneca One complex which consists of a vacant 38-story tower, two 4-story annex buildings to the south and west of the tower and a plaza area surrounding these buildings. The LLC is 99% owned by Douglas Jemal and 1% owned by Paul Millstein.

### **Project Description**

The redevelopment plan will serve to provide needed commercial Class A office space to Buffalo's growing IT hub and stabilize an iconic Buffalo commercial complex. Approximately \$15,000,000 in infrastructure improvements are planned which includes elevator work, fire protection work, internet and technology improvements, plumbing and storm/sanitary systems.

ECIDA's involvement is limited to providing a mortgage recording tax exemption on the property.

The ECIDA, at the request of the City of Buffalo, will enter into a PILOT Agreement with the developer for a 25-year term. The PILOT Agreement will provide for full tax payments to both the County and City. All City of Buffalo PILOT payments will be directed to be paid to the ECIDA. The ECIDA will create a separate fund for the Accelerator Fund projects as well as other critical downtown streetscape improvements and will reimburse the City for these infrastructure improvements. The City of Buffalo estimates the dollar amount of revenue generated through the PIF over the 25-year term to be approximately \$40,000,000.

## **Retail Determination**

Project Use	Sq. Ft.	Cost	% of Project
			Costs
Vacant/Commercial	1,200,000	\$45,000,000	100%

Should the Board determine that the project is a retail project as it was located in a highly distressed area in the compliance with Section 862 of the NY General Municipal Law, the chief executive officer of Erie County will provide written confirmation confirming the financial assistance.

# **Draft Recapture Material Terms**

Condition	Term	Recapture Provision
Total Investment	At project completion	Investment amount equal to or greater than 85% of project amount.  Total project amount = \$45,000,000  85% = \$38,250,000
Employment	Same as recapture period	Create 85% of Projected Projected =5 FTE 85% = 4.5 Recapture Employment = 4.5
Local Labor	Construction period	Adherence to policy including quarterly reporting
Pay Equity	Same as recapture period	Adherence to Policy
Unpaid Tax	Same as recapture period	Adherence to Policy
Recapture Period	2 years after mortgage closing	Mortgage Tax

Recapture applies to: Mortgage Recording Tax

## Recapture

Pursuant to New York State General Municipal Law, the agency shall modify, recover, recapture or terminate any financial assistance taken by the company that is in violation of the GML.

At completion of the project company must certify i) total investment amount is equal to or greater than 85% of the anticipated project amount; ii) Company has created 5 FTE jobs, iii) confirm adherence to local labor policy during construction and iv) its adherence to unpaid tax/pay equity policies for recapture term.