

Resolution No. 98 April 21, 2017  
By Supervisor Fedler

TITLE: Dissolving the Washington County Planning Board and Designating the Washington County Planning Agency to Carry Out Certain Local Land Use Review Duties as Directed by New York State General Municipal Law

WHEREAS, the Washington County Planning Board was created via Resolution No. 89 of 1967 pursuant to Article 12-B of the General Municipal Law of New York to conduct the review of certain proposed planning and zoning actions as prescribed by General Municipal Law §239-l and §239-m, and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the County Planning Board's review of such proposed actions was to consider impacts on adjacent communities and potential inter-municipal or county-wide impacts of proposed actions, and

WHEREAS, it is the sentiment of the Board of Supervisors and municipalities within the County that this purpose has not been adequately addressed by the Washington County Planning Board, and

WHEREAS, there is a desire to create a County Planning Agency to fulfill the review requirements set forth in GML §239-(l)(m) in a more timely and effective manner than is presently possible for the County Planning Board to do, and

WHEREAS, Article 12-B of the General Municipal Law, and §220 of County Law provide authority for the County to create and empower such agency as it sees fit to undertake the review of these certain proposed land use actions, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors feels it is in the best interest of the County and its member municipalities to have these reviews be conducted by professional staff to increase the salience, effectiveness and timeliness of such reviews; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, Resolution No. 89 of 1967, establishing the Washington County Planning Board is hereby rescinded; and be it further

RESOLVED, the members of the Washington County Planning Board, both past and present, are hereby acknowledged and thanked for their service to the County and its communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Washington County Planning Agency (the Agency) is hereby created and bestowed with the authority and responsibility of reviewing proposed land use actions as specified and enumerated in General Municipal Law §239-(l)(m); and be it further

RESOLVED, the aforementioned Agency' membership shall consist of: the Superintendent of Public Works, the County Administrator, and the Chairperson of the Agriculture, Planning, Tourism and Community Development Committee, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors may fill any vacancy when one of the three standing members of the Agency is unable to attend a meeting; and

be it further

RESOLVED, the Agency shall meet when required to carry out the review of local land use approvals and shall receive staff assistance and input from the Planning Department and the County Attorney's Office; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors is hereby authorized to execute agreements with local municipalities exempting certain actions from review that are mutually agreed upon to be of local, rather than inter-municipal or county-wide concern pursuant to the authority granted to do so in sub-section 3(c) of GML §239-(m); and be it further

RESOLVED, any and all exemption agreements developed pursuant to sub-section 3(c) of GML §239-(m) currently existing between the Washington County Planning Board and any municipality within Washington County shall be transferred to and remain in effect with the newly created County Planning Agency until the end of their existing specified term; and be it further

RESOLVED, all municipalities within the County, and all current County Planning Board members shall be notified of this change as soon as possible; and be it further

RESOLVED, this resolution shall take effect immediately.

BUDGET IMPACT STATEMENT: There will be considerable savings to the County and all referring municipalities through reduction in copying, postage, and reimbursement for mileage and training classes.