

Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The City Of Kingston To Implement Shared Tourism Services – Department Of Tourism

Referred to: The Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit Committee (Chairman Briggs and Legislators Allen, Archer, Bartels, Litts, Maio, and Maloney), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gerentine and Legislators Allen, Belfiglio, Briggs, Gregorius, Maio, Maloney, and Richard Parete)

Chairman of the Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning, and Transit Committee, Thomas J. Briggs, and Deputy Chairman James F. Maloney offer the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been offered by the County Executive on behalf of the Department of Tourism; and

WHEREAS, Ulster County (the “County”) and the City of Kingston (the “City”) both operate separate departments of tourism; and

WHEREAS, the County’s Department of Tourism is responsible for promoting all of Ulster County’s tourism sites, attractions and events, while the City promotes its own tourism sites, attractions, and events; and

WHEREAS, the County and the City both maintain tourism offices within the City of Kingston; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to leverage its limited tourism resources by having the County operate, staff, and provide volunteer coordination services at the City’s Heritage Area Visitors’ Center located at 20 Broadway, Kingston, New York 12401 (the “Center”); and

WHEREAS, the County and the City have previously entered into an Agreement (County Contract No. C12-00051) for a tourism shared services initiative in which the City paid the County \$30,000.00 per year and provided office space at the Center for an initial term of twelve months with an automatic annual renewal in exchange for the County providing advertising and promotional services to the City; and

WHEREAS, the County and the City have decided to terminate the prior Agreement (County Contract No. C12-00051), and enter into a new Agreement in which the County will operate, staff, and provide volunteer coordination services at the Center in exchange for the City providing and permitting the County to use office space at the Center; and

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WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the new Agreement will allow the County to continue to interact with the public at a prime location, as it is located near one of the busiest City of Kingston waterfront locations, the site of many fairs, festivals, and tourist activities every year; and

WHEREAS, said continued interaction and visitor traffic at the County's office location at the Center will permit the distribution, to visitors from both inside and outside the County, of County-wide tourism information, such as the County's travel guide, hiking guide, golf guide, calendar of events and other brochures; and

WHEREAS, entry into a shared services agreement would result in a more coordinated and streamlined effort to attract tourists to both the County as well as the City of Kingston; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature is hereby authorized to sign an agreement with the City of Kingston, and any amendments thereto, for a shared services agreement in which the County operates, staffs, and provides volunteer coordination services at the Center, in exchange for the City providing office space at the Center, for an initial term of twelve months with two separate one year automatic renewals, in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney, a copy of which is annexed hereto,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Economic Development, Tourism, Planning and Transit on July 7, 2015

Passed Committee: Ways & Means on _____.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE