

OGDENSBURG CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK

DATE: December 4, 2023

Determining that Purchase of 5952 State Highway 812 for District Purposes and Proposed Capital Improvement Activities at the John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Grant C. Madill Elementary School, Ogdensburg Free Academy, Golden Dome and 5952 State Highway 812 and Will Not Result in Any Significant Adverse Environmental Impact

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the Ogdensburg City School District (the “Board”) is the sponsor of proposed capital improvement activities involving the repair, replacement, renovation, rehabilitation, furnishing, alteration, reconstruction and/or construction at the existing John F. Kennedy Elementary School, Grant C. Madill Elementary School, Ogdensburg Free Academy and Golden Dome, and the purchase of approximately 28.06 acres of land for purposes of the construction and equipping of a new transportation facility at 5952 State Highway 812, Oswegatchie, New York (collectively, the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to comply with the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”), as set forth in Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law, and the requirements of the implementing regulations set forth at 6 NYCRR Part 617 (the “Regulations”), with respect to the Project and to determine whether undertaking the Project may have a significant adverse environmental impact and, therefore, require the preparation of an environmental impact statement; and

WHEREAS, in furtherance of this objective, the Board caused its consultants to prepare Part 1 of a Full Environmental Assessment Form (“EAF”) describing the Project and circulated copies of Part 1 to all involved agencies for the purposes of establishing the Board as lead agency in accordance with Section 617.6(b) of the Regulations; and

WHEREAS, a copy of Part 1 of the EAF is attached hereto as Exhibit “A” and describes the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Regulations, the Board has considered the Project in light of the actions included on the Type I list specified in Section 617.4 of the Regulations and in light of the actions included on the Type II list specified in Section 617.5 of the Regulations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Regulations, the Board caused a letter and Part 1 of the EAF to be sent for review and comment to each “involved agency” indicating the Board’s intention to

serve as “lead agency” (as those terms are defined in the Regulations) and to complete the coordinated review of the Project in accordance with Section 617.6 of the Regulations; and

WHEREAS, responses from the involved agencies were requested and each of the involved agencies has agreed to, or raised no objection to, the Board serving as lead agency for the Project; and

WHEREAS, none of the involved agencies have indicated that they are aware of any significant adverse environmental impacts with respect to the Project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Regulations, the Board has considered the significance of the potential environmental impacts of the Project by (a) using the criteria specified in Section 617.7 of the Regulations, and (b) examining the EAF for the Project together with other available supporting information to identify the relevant areas of environmental concern, and (c) thoroughly analyzing the identified areas of relevant environmental concern.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT:

Based upon an examination of the EAF and other available supporting information, and considering both the magnitude and importance of each relevant area of environmental concern, and based further upon the Board’s knowledge of the area surrounding the Project and such further investigation of the Project and the potential environmental impacts as the Board has deemed appropriate, the Board makes the following findings and determinations:

1. The Project is described above and in the EAF.
2. The Project is a Type I action under SEQRA and the Board is established as the SEQRA lead agency with regard to the Project.
3. In making its determination of significance, the Board examined all the criteria set forth in Section 617.7 of the Regulations, and evaluated the Project in light of the standards set forth in 617.7.
4. The Board hereby accepts, approves, and adopts Parts 1, 2 and 3 of the EAF as set forth in Exhibit “A” hereto.
5. The reasoning supporting the Board’s findings and determination of significance for the Project is more fully set forth in Exhibit “A” to this Resolution, which Exhibit “A” contains the completed EAF Part 1, Part 2, and Part 3 with the written reasoned elaboration of the reasons supporting its determination of significance.
6. The information available concerning the Project was sufficient for the Board to make its determination. No potentially significant effect on the environment is noted in the EAF, and none are known to the Board. Therefore, for the reasons identified in Exhibit “A,” the Board hereby determines that the Project will not have a significant adverse environmental impact and issues a Negative Declaration, and the Board will not require preparation of an environmental impact statement with respect to the Project.

7. As a consequence of the foregoing, the District Superintendent, or his designee, is directed to execute Part 3 of the EAF, and arrange for execution by its preparer, setting forth the Negative Declaration for the Project and to make any filing(s) and publication required by law of the Negative Declaration, including publishing notice of the Negative Declaration in the Environmental Notice Bulletin.

8. The Board hereby directs that all SEQRA documents and notices, including but not limited to the EAF and Negative Declaration, are to be maintained in files that are readily accessible to the public and made available upon request, subject only to the limitations established by the Freedom of Information Law.

9. The Board hereby directs that a certified copy of this resolution, the EAF, the Negative Declaration, and any other required documents be filed with the New York State Education Department ("SED"), as required by law.

10. The District Superintendent is authorized to take whatever steps are necessary to carry out this resolution.

11. The Ogdensburg City School District will continue to comply with the SED Guidelines for School District Implementation of the State Environmental Quality Review and Associated Changes in the SED Building Permit Process, which requires consultation with the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

12. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

APPROVED FOR PRESENTATION TO THE BOARD:



Superintendent

Exhibit A

Full Environmental Assessment Form

[Attached]

KK/rb