

Albany County
Office of Natural Resource Conservation
112 State Street, Room 1310
Albany, NY 12207-2021
Telephone: (518) 447-5670
<http://www.albanycounty.com>

MEMORANDUM

TO: Michael Lalli
CC:
FROM: Laura DeGaetano, Sr. Natural Resource Planner
DATE: July 12, 2024
RE: Purchase of 52 Howard St. Garage
SUBJECT: SEQR compliance

I have reviewed the proposed project provided by the County Executive's Office as it relates to State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR). According to the material provided, the project includes purchasing a garage located at 52 Howard St. in the City of Albany. An engineering report commissioned by the county determined that due to structural deficiencies, the existing structure must be demolished. Current plans include demolition of the structure and grading and paving the lot to provide surface parking.

As described above, this project meets the criteria established for SEQR Unlisted Actions. Accordingly, a short environmental assessment form (see attached) was completed and it has been determined that there will be no significant negative impact to the environment.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please feel free to call me at your convenience.

Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

Instructions for Completing

Part 1 – Project Information. The applicant or project sponsor is responsible for the completion of Part 1. Responses become part of the application for approval or funding, are subject to public review, and may be subject to further verification. Complete Part 1 based on information currently available. If additional research or investigation would be needed to fully respond to any item, please answer as thoroughly as possible based on current information.

Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 – Project and Sponsor Information							
Name of Action or Project: Purchase and demolition of Howard St. Garage							
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): 52 Howard St. City of Albany, ny							
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Albany County proposes to purchase a property located at 52 Howard St. (parcel 76.42-1-12.1) in the City of Albany, NY. An engineering report commissioned by the county in July of 2024 found that the garage structure located on the property is deemed to be unsafe and is recommended to be demolished as soon as possible. The county plans to demolish the structure and regrade and pave the lot to use as surface parking. This project is 100% county funded.							
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Albany County Executive's Office		Telephone: 518-447-5642 E-Mail:					
Address: 112 State St. Room 1200							
City/PO: Albany		State: NY	Zip Code: 12207				
1. Does the proposed action only involve the legislative adoption of a plan, local law, ordinance, administrative rule, or regulation? If Yes, attach a narrative description of the intent of the proposed action and the environmental resources that may be affected in the municipality and proceed to Part 2. If no, continue to question 2.			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">NO</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	NO	YES	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO	YES						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
2. Does the proposed action require a permit, approval or funding from any other government Agency? If Yes, list agency(s) name and permit or approval:			<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">NO</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;">YES</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 2px;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	NO	YES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NO	YES						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ .14 acres b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ 0 acres c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ .14 acres							
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Rural (non-agriculture) <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Residential (suburban) <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> Aquatic <input type="checkbox"/> Other(Specify): <input type="checkbox"/> Parkland							

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Agency Use Only [If applicable]

Project:

Date:

Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 2 - Impact Assessment

Part 2 is to be completed by the Lead Agency.

Answer all of the following questions in Part 2 using the information contained in Part 1 and other materials submitted by the project sponsor or otherwise available to the reviewer. When answering the questions the reviewer should be guided by the concept "Have my responses been reasonable considering the scale and context of the proposed action?"

	No, or small impact may occur	Moderate to large impact may occur
1. Will the proposed action create a material conflict with an adopted land use plan or zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Will the proposed action result in a change in the use or intensity of use of land?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of the existing community?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Will the proposed action have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area (CEA)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change in the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking or walkway?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Will the proposed action cause an increase in the use of energy and it fails to incorporate reasonably available energy conservation or renewable energy opportunities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Will the proposed action impact existing:		
a. public / private water supplies?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. public / private wastewater treatment utilities?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Will the proposed action impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Will the proposed action result in an adverse change to natural resources (e.g., wetlands, waterbodies, groundwater, air quality, flora and fauna)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Will the proposed action result in an increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Will the proposed action create a hazard to environmental resources or human health?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

PRINT FORM

Agency Use Only [If applicable]

Project:

Date:

Short Environmental Assessment Form Part 3 Determination of Significance

For every question in Part 2 that was answered "moderate to large impact may occur", or if there is a need to explain why a particular element of the proposed action may or will not result in a significant adverse environmental impact, please complete Part 3. Part 3 should, in sufficient detail, identify the impact, including any measures or design elements that have been included by the project sponsor to avoid or reduce impacts. Part 3 should also explain how the lead agency determined that the impact may or will not be significant. Each potential impact should be assessed considering its setting, probability of occurring, duration, irreversibility, geographic scope and magnitude. Also consider the potential for short-term, long-term and cumulative impacts.

- ☐ Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action may result in one or more potentially large or significant adverse impacts and an environmental impact statement is required.
- ☒ Check this box if you have determined, based on the information and analysis above, and any supporting documentation, that the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

Albany County Legislature

Name of Lead Agency

Hon. Joanne Cunningham

Date

Chairwoman

Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Title of Responsible Officer

Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency

Laura DeBartano
Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT FORM

52 Howard St.

52

Times Union
Rental Garage

Times
Union
Garage

South Mall Arterial

Market St
Dunn Memorial Bldg

Philip St

Hamilton St

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT-P, NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community