

Environmental Assessment

Part I.

The following questions help determine whether the project is "significant" from an environmental standpoint.

1.1	If this application involves establishment, will it involve more than a change of name or ownership only, or a transfer of stock or partnership or membership interests only, or the conversion of existing beds to the same or lesser number of a different level of care beds? <i>This project does not involve establishment.</i>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Does this plan involve construction and change land use or density?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.3	Does this plan involve construction and have a permanent effect on the environment if temporary land use is involved? <i>The plan involves the construction of a new hospital facility and attendant features in a previously developed and disturbed urban area.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Does this plan involve construction and require work related to the disposition of asbestos?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Part II.

If any question in Part I is answered "yes" the project may be significant and Part II must be completed. If all questions in Part II are answered "no" it is likely that the project is not significant.

2.1	Does the project involve physical alteration of ten acres or more?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.2	If an expansion of an existing facility, is the area physically altered by the facility expanding by more than 50% and is the total existing and proposed altered area ten acres or more? <i>This is not an expansion project</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.3	Will the project involve use of ground or surface water or discharge of wastewater to ground or surface water in excess of 2,000,000 gallons per day?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.4	If an expansion of an existing facility, will use of ground or surface water or discharge of wastewater by the facility increase by more than 50% and exceed 2,000,000 gallons per day?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.5	Will the project involve parking for 1,000 vehicles or more?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.6	If an expansion of an existing facility, will the project involve a 50% or greater increase in parking spaces and will total parking exceed 1000 vehicles? <i>This is not an expansion project</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.7	In a city, town, or village of 150,000 population or fewer, will the project entail more than 100,000 square feet of gross floor area?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.8	If an expansion of an existing facility in a city, town, or village of 150,000 population or fewer, will the project expand existing floor space by more than 50% so that gross floor area exceeds 100,000 square feet? <i>This is not an expansion project</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.9	In a city, town or village of more than 150,000 population, will the project entail more than 240,000 square feet of gross floor area? <i>Utica population 62,235 (2010 Census)</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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2.10	If an expansion of an existing facility in a city, town, or village of more than 150,000 population, will the project expand existing floor space by more than 50% so that gross floor area exceeds 240,000 square feet? <i>This is not an expansion project</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.11	In a locality without any zoning regulation about height, will the project contain any structure exceeding 100 feet above the original ground area? <i>There is no restriction in the Code. The Historic Canal Gateway District overlay has guidelines of 7 stories and 70 feet. Approx. height of new facility is 165 feet.</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.12	Is the project wholly or partially within an agricultural district certified pursuant to Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25, Section 303?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.13	Will the project significantly affect drainage flow on adjacent sites? <i>Drainage will be directed to new/existing storm sewers or to new green infrastructure constructed as part of the project</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.14	Will the project affect any threatened or endangered plants or animal species?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.15	Will the project result in a major adverse effect on air quality? <i>This question will be examined as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.16	Will the project have a major effect on visual character of the community or scenic views or vistas known to be important to the community? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.17	Will the project result in major traffic problems or have a major effect on existing transportation systems? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.18	Will the project regularly cause objectionable odors, noise, glare, vibration, or electrical disturbance as a result of the project's operation? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.19	Will the project have any adverse impact on health or safety? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.20	Will the project affect the existing community by directly causing a growth in permanent population of more than five percent over a one-year period or have a major negative effect on the character of the community or neighborhood? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.21	Is the project wholly or partially within, or is it contiguous to any facility or site listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or any historic building, structure, or site, or prehistoric site, that has been proposed by the Committee on the Registers for consideration by the New York State Board on Historic Preservation for recommendation to the State Historic Officer for nomination for inclusion in said National Register?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.22	Will the project cause a beneficial or adverse effect on property listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places or on property which is determined to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places by the Commissioner of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation? <i>This question will be examined as part of the EIS.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.23	Is this project within the Coastal Zone as defined in Executive Law, Article 42? If Yes, please complete Part IV.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Part III.

Must be completed if any question on Part II was answered "Yes".

3.1	Are there any other state or local agencies involved in approval of the project? If so, fill in Contact Information to Question 3.1 below .	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.2	Has any other agency made an environmental review of this project? If so, give name.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Is there a public controversy concerning environmental aspects of this project? If yes, briefly describe the controversy in the space below.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<p><i>A group No Hospital Downtown was formed. Some of the concerns expressed by this group are related to public costs for parking garage, fate of police and courthouse buildings, demolition of historical buildings, loss of tax dollars, proximity to CSX rail lines, and consistency with Master Plan and Gateway Historic Canal District planning.</i></p>			

Contact Information to Question 3.1

Agency Name:	City of Utica
Contact Name:	Brian Thomas, Commissioner UED; J. Michael Mahoney, Deputy Eng
Address:	1 Kennedy Plaza, Utica
State and Zip Code:	NY, 13502
E-Mail Address:	bthomas@cityofutica.com; mmahoney@cityofutica.com
Phone Number:	315-792-0181 UED; 315-792-0152 Engineering
Agency Name:	NYSDEC
Contact Name:	Thomas M. Vigneault, P.E., Regional Water Engineer
Address:	207 Genesee Street, Utica
State and Zip Code:	NY, 13501
E-Mail Address:	thomas.vigneault@dec.ny.gov
Phone Number:	315-793-2796
Agency Name:	NYS DOT
Contact Name:	Brian Hoffmann, Regional Design Engineer
Address:	207 Genesee Street, Utica
State and Zip Code:	NY, 13501
E-Mail Address:	brian.hoffmann@dot.ny.gov
Phone Number:	315-793-2429
Agency Name:	State Historic Preservation Office
Contact Name:	Anthony Opalka, Historic Preservation Program Analyst
Address:	Peebles Island State Park, P.O. Box 189, Waterford
State and Zip Code:	NY, 12188-0189
E-Mail Address:	Anthony.Opalka@parks.ny.gov
Phone Number:	518-268-2177
Agency Name:	Mohawk Valley Water Authority
Contact Name:	Dick Goodney P.E., Director of Engineering
Address:	1 Kennedy Plaza, Utica
State and Zip Code:	NY, 13502
E-Mail Address:	rgoodney@mvwa.us
Phone Number:	315-792-0336

Agency Name:	Oneida County Department of Health
Contact Name:	Daniel W. Gilmore, Ph.D, Environmental Health Director
Address:	185 Genesee Street, 4 th Floor
State and Zip Code:	NY, 13501
E-Mail Address:	environmentalhealth@ocgov.net

Part IV. Storm and Flood Mitigation

Please use the FEMA Flood Designations scale below as a guide to answering Part IV. Refer to Attachment A on page 5.

1.	Are you in a flood plain? If so, what classification? a. Moderate to Low Risk Area _____ b. High Risk Area _____ c. High Risk Coastal Area _____ d. Undetermined Risk Area _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.	Are you in a designated evacuation zone? If so, which zone _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.	Does this project reflect the post Hurricane Lee, and or Irene, and Superstorm Sandy mitigation standards? 100-Year Floodplain _____ 500-Year Floodplain _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Elevation Certificate provides a way for a community to document compliance with the community's floodplain management ordinance.

http://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/20130726-1437-20490-3457/f_053_elevationcertificate_jan13.pdf

Attachment A - FEMA Flood Designations

Definitions of FEMA Flood Zone Designations

Flood zones are geographic areas that the FEMA has defined according to varying levels of flood risk. These zones are depicted on a community's Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) or Flood Hazard Boundary Map. Each zone reflects the severity or type of flooding in the area.

Moderate to Low Risk Areas

In communities that participate in the NFIP, flood insurance is available to all property owners and renters in these zones:

ZONE	DESCRIPTION
B and X	Area of moderate flood hazard, usually the area between the limits of the 100-year and 500-year floods. Are also used to designate base floodplains of lesser hazards, such as areas protected by levees from 100-year flood, or shallow flooding areas with average depths of less than one foot or drainage areas less than 1 square mile.
C and X	Area of minimal flood hazard, usually depicted on FIRMs as above the 500-year flood level.

High Risk Areas

In communities that participate in the NFIP, mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements apply to all of these zones:

ZONE	DESCRIPTION
A	Areas with a 1% annual chance of flooding and a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Because detailed analyses are not performed for such areas; no depths or base flood elevations are shown within these zones.
AE	The base floodplain where base flood elevations are provided. AE Zones are now used on new format FIRMs instead of A1-A30.
A1-30	These are known as numbered A Zones (e.g., A7 or A14). This is the base floodplain where the FIRM shows a BFE (old format).
AH	Areas with a 1% annual chance of shallow flooding, usually in the form of a pond, with an average depth ranging from 1 to 3 feet. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Base flood elevations derived from detailed analyses are shown at selected intervals within these zones.
AO	River or stream flood hazard areas, and areas with a 1% or greater chance of shallow flooding each year, usually in the form of sheet flow, with an average depth ranging from 1 to 3 feet. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Average flood depths derived from detailed analyses are shown within these zones.
AR	Areas with a temporarily increased flood risk due to the building or restoration of a flood control system (such as a levee or a dam). Mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements will apply, but rates will not exceed the rates for unnumbered A zones if the structure is built or restored in compliance with Zone AR floodplain management regulations.
A99	Areas with a 1% annual chance of flooding that will be protected by a Federal flood control system where construction has reached specified legal requirements. No depths or base flood elevations are shown within these zones.

High Risk - Coastal Areas

In communities that participate in the NFIP, mandatory flood insurance purchase requirements apply to all of these zones:

ZONE	DESCRIPTION
V	Coastal areas with a 1% or greater chance of flooding and an additional hazard associated with storm waves. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. No base flood elevations are shown within these zones.
VE, V1 - 30	Coastal areas with a 1% or greater chance of flooding and an additional hazard associated with storm waves. These areas have a 26% chance of flooding over the life of a 30-year mortgage. Base flood elevations derived from detailed analyses are shown at selected intervals within these zones.

Undetermined Risk Areas

ZONE	DESCRIPTION
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