

PUBLIC HEARING SCRIPT

Fisher Price, Inc. Project

Public Hearing to be held on May 29, 2014 at 9:00 a.m., at the
Town of Aurora Town Hall, 300 Gleed Avenue (Auditorium), East Aurora, New York 14052

ATTENDANCE

Cole McCarthy - Imaginit Tech
Gregory Wilber - Fisher Price
Bryan Gazda, Administrator, Village of East Aurora
Hon. Allan Kasprzak, Mayor, Village of East Aurora
Hon. James Bach, Supervisor, Town of Aurora
Richard Dean, Assessor Town of Aurora

Second Option: To be followed when Members of the Public are in attendance:

☒ **1. WELCOME:** Call to Order and Identity of Hearing Officer.

Hearing Officer: *Welcome. This public hearing is now open; it is 9:05 a.m. My name is Grant Lesswing, I am the Business Development Officer of the Erie County Industrial Development Agency, and I have been designated by the Agency to be the hearing officer to conduct this public hearing.*

☒ **2. PURPOSE:** Purpose of the Hearing.

Hearing Officer: *We are here to hold the public hearing on the Fisher Price, Inc. project. The transcript of this hearing will be reviewed and considered by the Agency in determination of this project. Notice of this hearing appeared in The Buffalo News on Monday, May 19, 2014.*

☒ **3. PROJECT SUMMARY:** Description of Project and Contemplated Agency Benefits.

Hearing Officer: *The proposed project located at 636 Girard Avenue, Village of East Aurora, Town of Aurora, Erie County, New York (the "Project") consists of: (i) the appointment of the Company as agent of the Agency to undertake the upgrading to parking lots and other site improvements and*

the renovation, upgrading and equipping of company-wide buildings, predominately with buildings associated with the team center (the "Improvements"), and (ii) the acquisition and installation by the Company of certain items of machinery, equipment and other tangible personal property (the "Equipment" and, collectively with the Improvements, the "Facility").

The proposed financial assistance contemplated by the Agency includes sales and use tax exemption benefits (in compliance with Agency's uniform tax exemption policy).

☒ **4. FORMAT OF HEARING:** Review rules and manner in which the hearing will proceed.

Hearing Officer: *All those in attendance are required to register by signing the sign-in sheet at the front of the room; you will not be permitted to speak unless you have registered. If you have a written comment to submit for the record, you may do so. Written comments may also be delivered to the Agency at 95 Perry Street, Suite 403, Buffalo, New York 14203 until the comment period closes on June 17, 2014. There are no limitations on written comments.*

☒ **5. PUBLIC COMMENT:** Hearing Officer gives the Public an opportunity to speak.

Hearing Officer: *If anyone is interested in making a comment, please raise your hand, state your name and address; if you are representing a company, please identify the company. I request that speakers keep comments to 5 minutes, and if possible, 3 minutes.*

The Hearing Officer calls on those who raise their hand.

Greg Wilber, Director of Facilities for Fisher Price. I am here today to tell you a little bit about our application. We submitted the application primarily because we have an older facility that we are looking to update. The building that we are looking to update is our Team Center building, which does a lot of R&D for the company. This building is over 15 years old and a lot has changed in how we conduct business today than we have done 15 years ago. Primarily we need to get more digital and we need to have more collaborative open work stations along with

meeting spaces which will allow us to have our teams meet, design, brainstorm and have the product and space to have open forums for them to review everything and showcase our products. A lot of what we do now is done through video conferencing, so we need to modify some of our rooms so it can accommodate products and larger meeting sizes. So that is what we are doing with this application to support the changes.

To support the changes we are making to the building, there are also some electrical upgrades that need to be made to the facility, so it can support the new equipment. Thank you.

Bryan Gazda, Administrator for the Village of East Aurora - My question basically from what I have just listened to, it says that they are only looking for sales tax exemptions and is there going to be any real property tax exemptions that are being asked for in this application?

Greg Wilber - No we are only asking for sales and use tax exemptions

Bryan Gazda - Oh Ok. Thank you. I would just like to speak in favor of this project. I am glad to see Fisher Price putting the money back into the building and putting the resources in there to keep it a viable business within the Village of East Aurora.

Richard Dean, Assessor, Town of Aurora - In the public notice there is a sentence that says the Agency contemplates that it will provide financial assistance to the Company for qualifying portions of the Project in the form of sales and use tax exemption benefits consistent with the policies of the Agency. So that's non property tax benefits? Just clarify?

Greg Wilber - That is correct

Richard Dean - So are there structural changes being done?

Greg Wilber - No changes to the outside structure. The four walls are staying intact.

Richard Dean - Ok, thank you.

☒ **6. ADJOURNMENT.**

As there were no further comments, the Hearing Officer closed the public hearing at 9:35 a.m.

SIGN IN SHEET

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300 Gleed Avenue (Auditorium), East Aurora, New York 14052
regarding:

Fisher Price, Inc.

Project Location: 636 Girard Avenue, East Aurora, New York

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