



CITY OF ALBANY
COMMON COUNCIL
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April 19, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

We write to express our support for the University at Albany's request for \$20 million in capital funding to advance the University's rehabilitation of the 1912 Schuyler Building in downtown Albany. This rehabilitation will allow the University to continue to grow and flourish as it seeks to expand its College of Engineering and Applied Sciences, while also furthering its impact as an economic driver in the Capital Region.

As an active and vibrant member of our Albany community, we are excited over the University's commitment to preserving and redeveloping a City landmark in a sustainable manner. This building has a rich history as a hub for education, first serving as the City of Albany's high school, later as an elementary school, and eventually becoming an adult learning center. The University's plans to continue this legacy and ensure that midtown Albany remains a beacon for learning and innovation is something the Common Council wholly supports.

The University has long been committed to public engagement and this project is no exception. Having been briefed on the project's initiatives by University personnel, the Council is encouraged by the intentions expressed to create new community partnerships, while also strengthening those already in existence. In addition, the adjacent Pine Hills and Beverwyck neighborhoods are areas within the city that can benefit greatly from a renewed influx of students, faculty, staff and visitors. A reawakening of what is currently a sleepy city block would draw patronage to local businesses, stimulate investment and habitation of local residences and simultaneously increase usage of public transit. Investment by the State in the Schuyler project would have a large and lasting impact on not only the University at Albany, but the City of Albany as a whole.

The renovation and revitalization of the Schuyler Building in midtown Albany is more than just a construction project, it is a step towards furthering the City's efforts to becoming a world class city. The College of Engineering and Applied Sciences brings with it a chance to

showcase New York's capital city as a breeding ground for innovation, technology and economic opportunity. Community development is a top priority of the Common Council and we strongly encourage the State to make every effort to honor the University's request for \$20 million in capital funding towards the Schuyler Building's revitalization. We recognize the great opportunity that lies within the vision for the Schuyler Building and the College of Engineering and Applied Sciences and we hope you do the same.

Thank you for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

CITY OF ALBANY COMMON COUNCIL MEMBERS

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