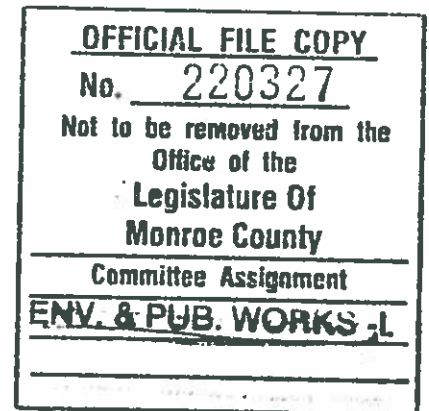


Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

September 20, 2022



To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Classification of Action and Determination of Significance Pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act for the Volunteers of America of Western New York, Inc.'s Hydroponic Farm

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body determine whether the Volunteers of America of Western New York, Inc.'s ("VOA") Hydroponic Farm may have a significant adverse impact on the environment pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA").

The VOA Hydroponic Farm will be built at VOA's facility at 214 Lake Avenue in the City Rochester to provide healthy food for homeless, formerly homeless, and impoverished households. The farm, which will be built as a replicable model for future hydroponic farms throughout the city and county, will provide fresh produce for people in the Northwest Quadrant of Rochester and for vulnerable populations throughout the county, including frail seniors and families experiencing homelessness. The farm will generate more than 300,000 units of fresh produce annually.

The VOA's Hydroponic Farm has been preliminarily classified as an Unlisted action. The SEQRA regulations found at 6 NYCRR Part 617 requires that no agency shall carry out or approve an Action until it has complied with the requirements of SEQRA.

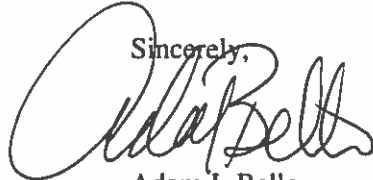
The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Determine that the VOA's Hydroponic Farm is an Unlisted action.
2. Make a determination of significance regarding the VOA's Hydroponic Farm pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.7.
3. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to take such actions to comply with the requirements of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, including without limitation, the execution of documents and the filing, distribution and publication of the documents required under the State Environmental Quality Review Act, and any other actions to implement the intent of this resolution.

This designation will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Bello". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "A".

Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive

Short Environmental Assessment Form

Part 1 - Project Information

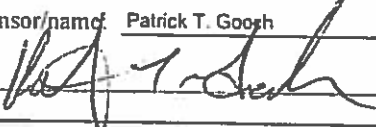
Instructions for Completing

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.

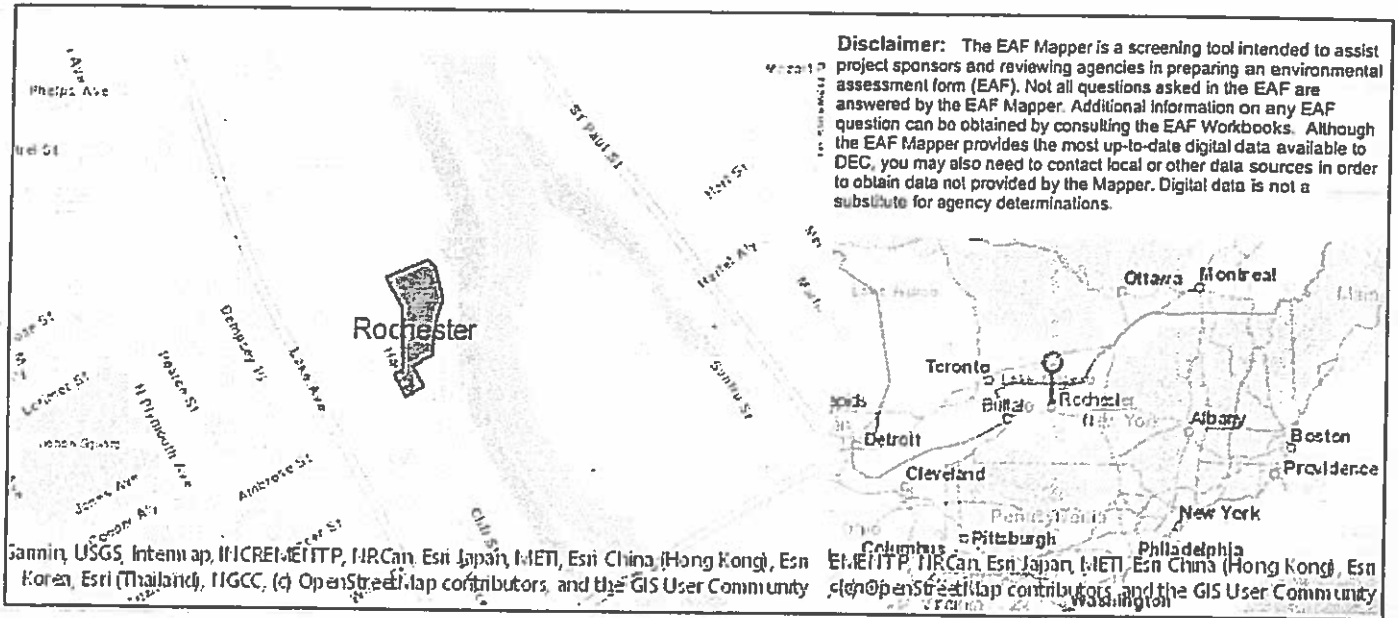
Complete all items in Part 1. You may also provide any additional information which you believe will be needed by or useful to the lead agency; attach additional pages as necessary to supplement any item.

Part 1 - Project and Sponsor Information			
Name of Action or Project: ARPA Funds for Volunteer's of America of Western New York, Inc.'s Hydroponic Farm			
Project Location (describe, and attach a location map): 214 Lake Avenue, Rochester			
Brief Description of Proposed Action: Monroe County is providing ARPA Funds to Volunteers of America (VOA) to build a Hydroponic Farm facility at 214 Lake Avenue in the City Rochester to provide healthy food for homeless, formerly homeless, and impoverished households. The farm, which will be built as a model for future hydroponic farms throughout the city and county, will provide fresh produce for people in the Northwest Quadrant of Rochester. The facility will occupy the rear portion of 214 Lake Avenue and be approximately .5 acres or approximately 21,000 square feet. The site is previously disturbed and remediated brownfield between Lake Avenue and the Genesee River.			
Name of Applicant or Sponsor: Volunteers of America		Telephone: 585-402-7211 E-Mail: pdrake@voaupny.org	
Address: 214 Lake Ave.			
City/PO: Rochester		State: NY	Zip Code: 14608
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.			NO <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: City of Rochester Planning Board (site plan) and Zoning Board of Appeals (variance). Monroe County Legislative approval of funding			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. a. Total acreage of the site of the proposed action? _____ .5 acres b. Total acreage to be physically disturbed? _____ .5 acres c. Total acreage (project site and any contiguous properties) owned or controlled by the applicant or project sponsor? _____ 8 acres			
4. Check all land uses that occur on, are adjoining or near the proposed action:			
5. <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			

5. Is the proposed action,	NO	YES	N/A
a. A permitted use under the zoning regulations?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Consistent with the adopted comprehensive plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Is the proposed action consistent with the predominant character of the existing built or natural landscape?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
7. Is the site of the proposed action located in, or does it adjoin, a state listed Critical Environmental Area? If Name: Not named, Reason: Environmentally sensitive, Agency: Rochester, City of, Date: 3-14-86 Yes, identify: The site is near, but is not located in nor adjoining, a portion of the Genesee River that is designated as a Critical Environmental Area.	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
8. a. Will the proposed action result in a substantial increase in traffic above present levels?	NO	YES	
b. Are public transportation services available at or near the site of the proposed action?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
c. Are any pedestrian accommodations or bicycle routes available on or near the site of the proposed action?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
9. Does the proposed action meet or exceed the state energy code requirements? If the proposed action will exceed requirements, describe design features and technologies:	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
10. Will the proposed action connect to an existing public/private water supply? If No, describe method for providing potable water:	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
11. Will the proposed action connect to existing wastewater utilities? If No, describe method for providing wastewater treatment:	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
12. a. Does the project site contain, or is it substantially contiguous to, a building, archaeological site, or district which is listed on the National or State Register of Historic Places, or that has been determined by the Commissioner of the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to be eligible for listing on the State Register of Historic Places?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b. Is the project site, or any portion of it, located in or adjacent to an area designated as sensitive for archaeological sites on the NY State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) archaeological site inventory?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
13. a. Does any portion of the site of the proposed action, or lands adjoining the proposed action, contain wetlands or other waterbodies regulated by a federal, state or local agency?	NO	YES	
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
b. Would the proposed action physically alter, or encroach into, any existing wetland or waterbody?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
If Yes, identify the wetland or waterbody and extent of alterations in square feet or acres:			

14. Identify the typical habitat types that occur on, or are likely to be found on the project site. Check all that apply:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Shoreline <input type="checkbox"/> Forest <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/grasslands <input type="checkbox"/> Early mid-successional <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban <input type="checkbox"/> Suburban		
15. Does the site of the proposed action contain any species of animal, or associated habitats, listed by the State or Federal government as threatened or endangered?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. Is the project site located in the 100-year flood plan?	NO	YES
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
17. Will the proposed action create storm water discharge, either from point or non-point sources?	NO	YES
If Yes,	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
a. Will storm water discharges flow to adjacent properties?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Will storm water discharges be directed to established conveyance systems (runoff and storm drains)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, briefly describe:		
Any storm water discharge that is generated will be appropriately intercepted and held on site or conveyed to existing storm/sanitary sewers that serve the current site.		
18. Does the proposed action include construction or other activities that would result in the impoundment of water or other liquids (e.g., retention pond, waste lagoon, dam)?	NO	YES
If Yes, explain the purpose and size of the impoundment:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
19. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the location of an active or closed solid waste management facility?	NO	YES
If Yes, describe:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
20. Has the site of the proposed action or an adjoining property been the subject of remediation (ongoing or completed) for hazardous waste?	NO	YES
If Yes, describe:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
The site is previously disturbed and remediated brownfield between Lake Avenue and the Genesee River (DEC Site # C828126).		
I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE IS TRUE AND ACCURATE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE		
Applicant/sponsor name: <u>Patrick T. Googh</u> Date: <u>09/07/2022</u>		
Signature:  Title: <u>Senior Planner</u>		

PRINT FORM



Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 7 [Critical Environmental Area - Identify]	Name:Not named, Reason:Environmentally sensitive, Agency:Rochester, City of, Date:3-14-86
Part 1 / Question 12a [National or State Register of Historic Places or State Eligible Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 12b [Archeological Sites]	Yes
Part 1 / Question 13a [Wetlands or Other Regulated Waterbodies]	Yes - Digital mapping information on local and federal wetlands and waterbodies is known to be incomplete. Refer to EAF Workbook.
Part 1 / Question 15 [Threatened or Endangered Animal]	No
Part 1 / Question 16 [100 Year Flood Plain]	No
Part 1 / Question 20 [Remediation Site]	Yes

Project: VOA Hydroponic Garden
 Date: September 7, 2022

*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 (c.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

Project: VOA hydro. garden

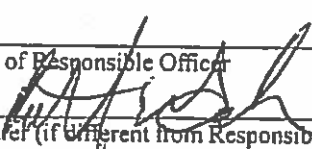
Date: Sept. 7, 2022

**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.

Monroe County is providing ARPA Funds to Volunteers of America, Inc. to construct an approximately 21,000 square feet hydroponics facility on a remediated brownfield at 214 Lake Avenue, Rochester, NY. The facility will be used to grow fresh produce. The facility will be a maximum of .5 acres and will be located at the rear of the parcel, with no frontage along Lake Ave. The brownfield site has been previously disturbed at the time a prior building was constructed and again when the parcel was remediated. The eastern edge of the property is more than 200 feet from the Genesee River and separated from the river by other developed parcels. It is not on, or adjacent to, a NYS Critical Environmental Area designated by the City of Rochester along the Genesee River, floodplain, wetland or archaeological site. The site is not adjacent to any properties on, or eligible for, the state or federal register of historic sites. This site, and neighboring parcels are a mix of former industrial and commercial properties and is now zoned for light industrial, commercial, retail, and regional/community amenities. All construction and development will need to be in accordance with City of Rochester zoning and building codes.

Accordingly, the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse environmental impacts.

<input type="checkbox"/>	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.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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.
<u>Monroe County</u>	<u>09/08/2022</u>
Name of Lead Agency	Date
<u>Adam J. Bello</u>	<u>County Executive</u>
Print or Type Name of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Title of Responsible Officer
<u>Patrick T. Gooch</u>	
Signature of Responsible Officer in Lead Agency	Signature of Preparer (if different from Responsible Officer)

PRINT FORM