



Common Council

Legislative Staff

City of Buffalo, NY

Chief of Staff
Rasheed N.C. Wyatt

Deputy Chief of Staff
Nikita M. Fortune

July 3, 2014

Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin St
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature:

At the Common Council Community Development Committee meeting held on Tuesday, July 1, 2014, the following item was referred to the members of the Erie County Legislature that represent the City of Buffalo for a response:

“Franczyk – Prevent HUB Methadone Clinic on Virginia Street”

Please review the enclosed item and file and address your comments and/or recommendations with the Common Council, 1308 City Hall at your nearest convenience. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact me at 851-4186.

Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jim Montour
Legislative Assistant
City of Buffalo Common Council

Enclosure

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE
CITY HALL
BUFFALO
June 27, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby Certify, That at a Session of the Common Council of the City of Buffalo, held in the City Hall, on The 24th day of June 2014, The following Resolution was Adopted which the following is a true copy.

NO. 1410

BY: MR. FRANCYK

PREVENT HUB METHADONE CLINIC ON VIRGINIA STREET

WHEREAS: Hispanics United of Buffalo (HUB) has recently proposed the location of a Methadone Clinic adjacent to its property at 254 Virginia Street; and,

WHEREAS: This information has caused great consternation in the residential communities located next or near the announced HUB methadone clinic; and,

WHEREAS: At a community meeting held at HUB on June 18, 2014, including representatives of the VETTE Block club (which called for the meeting), Allentown Association, West Village Association and other block clubs, community residents and business people, it became clear that the methadone clinic was presented as a "fair accompli," and that the community was never notified about the proposed methadone clinic, which may be in violation of federal and state statutes regarding community engagement requirements concerning the placement of methadone clinics in communities, as well as other possible violations; and,

WHEREAS: Community residents stated they were not generally opposed to programs helping people free themselves of their drug addictions, but do not believe such facilities should be located in residential neighborhoods, but rather in clinical/hospital settings better suited for those purposes; and,

WHEREAS: The communities next to and adjacent to HUB have effectively "turned their neighborhoods around" by fighting drug dealers, slumlords and criminals (such as the 10th Street gang and others) and have greatly strengthened the City of Buffalo and are rightly concerned about what impact the methadone clinic would have on their quality of life, safety and property values, which have been increasing thanks to their efforts; and,

WHEREAS: The Common Council applauds the good work of Hispanics United of Buffalo, including its work with seniors, youth and its advocacy, however HUB should heed the community's concern about the location of a methadone clinic at its headquarters on Virginia Street;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Common Council is not in support of the location of a HUB methadone clinic on Virginia Street;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Common Council requests that HUB does not put a methadone clinic on Virginia Street, and that HUB fully communicate with the City of Buffalo, Common Council, and the above mentioned block clubs, community associations and concerned citizens should they propose to move the methadone clinic to a more appropriate hospital/clinical setting or area outside of the residential neighborhood;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Buffalo Police Department opine on how they believe the location of a methadone clinic on Virginia Street will impact on their ability to keep the neighborhood safe from crime;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED:

That the City Law Department advise the Common Council on any applicable city, state or federal laws, regulations or statutes which govern the placement of methadone clinics in Buffalo, and opine if the Common Council approve a Local Law regulating the opening of Methadone Clinics in the City of Buffalo.

ADOPT 1ST AND 2ND RESOLVES AS AMENDED, REFER REMAINDER TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

ATTEST


City Clerk

⑦
Comm. 15M-4

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EIR

Sent
To

Ryan
Kennedy

HUB
Berenda
01410

LEG

JUN 24 2014

BY: MR. FRANCIZYK

RE: PREVENT HUB METHADONE CLINIC ON VIRGINIA STREET

WHEREAS: Hispanics United of Buffalo (HUB) has recently proposed the location of a Methadone Clinic adjacent to its property at 254 Virginia Street; and,

WHEREAS: This information has caused great consternation in the residential communities located next or near the announced HUB methadone clinic; and,

WHEREAS: At a community meeting held at HUB on June 18, 2014, including representatives of the VETTE Block club (which called for the meeting), Allentown Association, West Village Association and other block clubs, community residents and business people, it became clear that the methadone clinic was presented as a "fait accompli," and that the community was never notified about the proposed methadone clinic, which may be in violation of federal and state statutes regarding community engagement requirements concerning the placement of methadone clinics in communities, as well as other possible violations; and,

WHEREAS: Community residents stated they were not generally opposed to programs helping people free themselves of their drug addictions, but do not believe such facilities should be located in residential neighborhoods, but rather in clinical/hospital settings better suited for those purposes; and,

WHEREAS: The communities next to and adjacent to HUB have effectively "turned their neighborhoods around" by fighting drug dealers, slumlords and criminals (such as the 10th Street gang and others) and have greatly strengthened the City of Buffalo and are rightly concerned about what impact the methadone clinic would have on their quality of life, safety and property values, which have been increasing thanks to their efforts; and,

WHEREAS: The Common Council applauds the good work of Hispanics United of Buffalo, including its work with seniors, youth and its advocacy, however HUB should heed the community's concern about the location of a methadone clinic at its headquarters on Virginia Street;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Common Council is not in support of the location of a HUB methadone clinic on Virginia Street;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

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Comm 5M-4
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JUN 24 2014

DOES NOT PUT

502

RESOLVES ADOPTED
REFER REMAINDER TO LEG

That the Common Council requests that HUB ~~put a moratorium on the plan for~~ a methadone clinic on Virginia Street, and that HUB fully communicate with the City of Buffalo, Common Council, and the above mentioned block clubs, community associations and concerned citizens should they propose to move the methadone clinic to a more appropriate hospital/clinical setting or area outside of the residential neighborhood;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Buffalo Police Department opine on how they believe the location of a methadone clinic on Virginia Street will impact on their ability to keep the neighborhood safe from crime;

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED;

That the City Law Department advise the Common Council on any applicable city, state or federal laws, regulations or statutes which govern the placement of methadone clinics in Buffalo, and opine if the Common Council Approve a

David A. Franczyk
DAVID A. FRANCYK

LOCAL LAW REGULATING THE
OPENING OF METHADONE
CLINICS IN THE CITY OF
BUFFALO.

~~RESOLVED~~

ADOPT 1+2 RESOLVES

ADOPT 1st and 2nd RESOLVES AS AMENDED. REFER REMAINDER TO THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION