A LOOK AT UTICA’S FISCAL STRESS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL SOLUTIONS

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Loom Boom to Rust Bust

Source: www.photographium.com
A City of Refugees

- Mohawk Valley Resource Center for Refugees opened in 1979
- Over 13,000 refugees
- 31 different countries
- 17.6% of Utica's population is foreign born

Source: Starting Over, Utica, NY www.startingoverutica.com
Fiscal History

- 1996 – Sold water assets
- 2000s – Used Water Trust Fund and reserve funds to balance budget
- 2012 – NYS Comptroller threatened control board
- 2012 – Overrode tax cap and balanced budget

Source: wktv.com
State Approach – Economic Development
Municipal Approach – Seeking Other Revenue Sources

Municipal initiatives:

1. Fiscally responsible
2. Attempt to raise sales tax revenue
Neighborhood Approach – Community development
Neighborhood Approach – Community development

Source: (1) buffaloeats.org, (2) Mark DiOrio via uticaod.com, (4) Rust 2 Green (rust2green.org)