



Tompkins County Legislature

Governor Daniel D. Tompkins Building
Ithaca, NY 14850

Meeting: 04/17/18 05:30 PM
Department: Department of Emergency Response
Category: Public Safety
Functional Category:

SCHEDULED

RESOLUTION NO. DOC ID: 7728

1 **Enhancing Safety of County Facilities through Provision of Naloxone**

2 WHEREAS, provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control estimated that over 66,000 lives would be
3 lost to overdoses in 2017, and the National Center for Health Statistics determined that over 2/3 of these fatalities
4 involve opioids, and

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6 WHEREAS, the National Institute on Drug Abuse identifies the drug Naloxone as one that can immediately
7 reverse the effects of opioid drugs, restoring normal respiration, and reports at least 26,500 opioid overdoses in the
8 U.S. were reversed by laypersons using naloxone between 1996-2014, and

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10 WHEREAS, the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) writes that “prompt action by a non-
11 professional who observes an individual experiencing early stages of opioid overdose and who administers naloxone
12 before professional first responders are on the scene, greatly increases the probability of survival,” and

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14 WHEREAS, ASAM further states that “revival of an opioid overdose victim- often referred to as a ‘rescue’ via
15 naloxone use ‘in the field’ - is important to achieve as it can be life-saving and the first step in helping an individual
16 connect with ongoing helpful medical services (including addiction treatment if indicated) after the treatment of the
17 overdose emergency,” and

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19 WHEREAS, Tompkins County is similarly experiencing the effects of a nationwide opioid epidemic and
20 desires to enhance survival of victims and promote both pre-emptive and follow-up services to those at risk for
21 overdose, and

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23 WHEREAS, Tompkins County employs nearly 700 workers and others at 19 buildings and various work sites,
24 and hosts hundreds of citizens and visitors daily, and

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26 WHEREAS, with comprehensive placement and training, naloxone will in many cases ensure response and
27 intervention within an immediate time frame, thereby dramatically improving the chance of survival should someone
28 in our facilities suffer an opioid overdose, and

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30 WHEREAS, in keeping with its leadership role in community health and safety, the ready availability of
31 naloxone will improve safety of our workforce and promote and help make naloxone a life-saving fixture throughout
32 the County, and

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34 WHEREAS, the Departments of Probation, Mental Health, and Human Services, in addition to the Sheriff’s
35 Office have acquired naloxone and established protocols for its use in instances of suspected opioid overdose in
36 County workplaces and public interactions, and the County desires to expand these capabilities to other departments
37 and facilities, and

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39 WHEREAS, by Resolution 2014-201, the County established an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and
40 Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) program within its facilities and operations to enhance the safety and health of
41 workers, citizens, and visitors and delegated program functions to the Department of Emergency Response and the
42 County Health and Safety Committee, and

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44 WHEREAS, the “Good Samaritan” rules as governed by State Public Health Law apply to naloxone
45 administration in addition to the operation of AEDs and provision of CPR, and

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WHEREAS, the Department of Emergency Response has developed a framework within which a naloxone initiative can be incorporated into the AED/CPR program for access, storage, inventorying, and maintaining of naloxone supplies and for training of County employees in naloxone administration, in concert with existing AED, CPR, and first-aid offerings, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, on recommendation of the Public Safety Committee, That the Department of Emergency Response is hereby authorized to partner with other agencies, departments, and community partners, in the establishment and maintenance of a naloxone distribution and training program within County workplaces,

RESOLVED, further, That the Department of Emergency Response has identified existing resources to begin the initiative in 2018 and incorporate naloxone training into existing safety training programs.

SEQR ACTION: TYPE II-20