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Comptroller

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: March 1, 2017

County Comptroller Robert E. Antonacci Releases Audit Report on the Onondaga County Film Commission

Syracuse, NY – Onondaga County Comptroller Robert E. Antonacci released his audit report on the Onondaga County Film Commission today. “The Film Commission and Film Hub are being touted as economic development engines for our community, yet their operations are shrouded in secret,” said Antonacci. “The Film Commission is a creation of the County Executive without input or approval by the Legislature. It has no budget. It has no metrics by which to measure its success. In short, the Film Commission is unaccountable,” continued Antonacci.

The Onondaga County Film Commission is seemingly a part of the Office of Economic Development, yet it maintains its own office space in the Film Hub to house its sole employee, the “Film Commissioner”. The 2017 budget, or any recent budget, does not have a position of “Film Commissioner”. The individual who fulfills the role is employed by the Office of Economic Development as a Senior Economic Development Specialist.

“As with so many of our economic development projects, there is little oversight to see if they deliver on their promises,” said Antonacci. “Without a clear mission or even budget, it is near impossible for the Legislature, much less the public at large, to hold the Film Commission accountable. I recommend the Legislature review our report and investigate the Film Commission so it may determine the policy of Onondaga County in this area of economic development,” concluded Antonacci.

You can view the audit at <http://www.ongov.net/comptroller/documents/FilmCommissionFinalRpt.pdf>.

For further information regarding this audit, contact Robert Antonacci II, CPA at (315) 435-2130.