

Mid-Hudson Regional Economic Development Council Meeting
Wednesday, September 9, 2015
Public Session: 3:30 PM
Regeneron Pharmaceuticals

Attendees: Co-Chair Dennis Murray, Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer, Jason Baker (Spano Rep), Lydia Biskup (Serino Rep), Martin Brand (DEC), Barbara Clifford (Bonacic Rep), Leslie Cooke, Vinnie Cozzolino, Jonathan Drapkin, Freda Eisenberg (Samuelson Rep), Ale Frederico, Carol Fitzgerald, March Gallagher (Pattern for Progress), Assemblymember Sandy Galef, Marsha Gordon, Maureen Halahan, Peter Harckham (HCR), Ron Hicks (Molinaro Rep), Suzanne Holt (Hein Rep), Hugo Jule (NYSERDA), Erica Kane (Barrett Rep), Thom Kleiner, Ken Kleinpeter, Monique Le Gendre, Jacquie Leventoff, Dana Levenberg (Galef Rep), Erin Loosen, Assemblymember Shelly Mayer, Ryan McLeod, Harry Porr (Neuhaus Rep), Charles Radier, Lucy Redzeposki (Day Rep), Paul Ryan, Alex Roithmayr (Buchwald Rep), Emily Saland, Al Samuels, Sullivan County Legislative Chairman Scott Samuelson, Elhe Schacter (Ag & Markets), Supervisor Chris St. Lawrence, Ned Sullivan, Jim Taylor, Meghan Taylor, Cliff Wood

I. WELCOME

At 3:32 Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer called meeting to order, and reported that this was going to be a busy meeting, as the Council had a lot of business to accomplish: voting on the Priority Projects, and approving the Progress Report to send to the state.

Leonard turned the meeting over to Co-Chair Dennis Murray, who thanked the Council members, Executive Director Meghan Taylor and the regional office staff for the great work done on the Progress Report, and Pattern for Progress for the work and outreach done for the URI. Dennis turned the meeting over to MHREDC Executive Director Meghan Taylor, who went over the agenda:

Progress Report Update
Upstate Revitalization Initiative Update
Priority Project Funding Recommendations

II. PRIORITY PROJECT UPDATE

The CFA opened on May 1, 2015. It closed on July 31st at 4 PM. The Regional Councils were tasked with submitting the Progress Report on September 21st, and the URI Plan is due on October 5th. Sometime in the late fall the Awards Ceremony for Round 5 of the CFA will be held.

Meghan briefly went over the 2015 Competition Criteria. Each of the REDC's were asked to do the following:

- Develop a Regional Industry Cluster Plan
- Update the Global NY Plan and identify projects
- Update ongoing regional initiatives in the Progress Report
- Build on and expand the Regional Project Pipeline
- Continue the Strategic Plan Implementation
- Refine Workforce Develop Strategies
- Update Performance Measures

Meghan briefly described the Ongoing Core Strategies for the Mid-Hudson:

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- Red Circle: Investing in Technology (Biotech, Biomedical & Healthcare, IT and Advanced Manufacturing)
- Purple Circle: Attracting & Retaining Mature Industries (Financial & Professional Services, Food and Beverage and Distribution)
- Green Circle: Grow Natural Resources (Agriculture, Waterfront Development, Tourism and Arts & Culture)
- Blue Circle: Revitalize the Region's Infrastructure (Infrastructure, Housing and Urban Centers)

She then compared the Ongoing Core Strategies to the URI Strategies:

- Work Strategy – This is a combination of the Red Circle and the Purple Circle, as the food and beverage manufacturing slides into this strategy.
- Play Strategy – This is a continuation of the Green Circle.
- Live Strategy – This is a combination of the Blue Circle and the Purple Circle, as the development strategies pursued by developers and industries cluster in the urban areas, so too, must the financial & professional services and distribution sectors.

III. UPSTATE REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE UPDATE

Co-chair Leonard Schleifer thanked Pattern for Progress for their hard work on the URI Plan, and turned it over to March Gallagher of Pattern to lay out the URI Plan for the Council and the public.

March commented that it was a tremendous honor to work on the URI for the Council.

March explained that the central premise of the plan is that the Mid-Hudson is the best region for the state to invest \$500M before explaining that the theme of Live, Work and Play was chosen as they all capture everything we have to offer the state.

LIVE

Encourages smart growth and transit oriented development, spurs downtown revitalization and infrastructure improvements to stimulate job creation. March stressed that urban centers are from Yonkers to Monticello; villages and hamlets are classified as urban centers in this plan. All of this includes waterfront development, renewable energy improvements, and urban farming.

WORK

Leverage our education systems to improve all levels of our workforce, fosters an innovative culture and increases private sector investment, and develop a paid internship program for underrepresented students for grantees. The Mid-Hudson has the most patents than any other

upstate region, so it makes sense to continue investing in our already existing bio-tech, advanced and high-tech manufacturing, IT and food and beverage manufacturing sectors.

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PLAY

Seeks to position the region as a scenic tourist destination based on the region's scenic beauty, local agriculture, food and beverage industry, its arts, culture, history and recreational assets, as well our proximity to NYC, the world's biggest tourist destination. We plan to build the Hudson Valley as a brand of its own. March stated that even capturing 1% of the NYC market will create 6400 jobs and \$400+ M in revenue annually.

March tied it all together when she discussed the Projects & Partnerships that the URI envisions for each strategy:

LIVE

Enhance urban centers to reduce pressure on greenspace
Replicate the Greyston Bakery Open Hiring Model
Urban farming and renewable energy projects

WORK

Develop next generation cyber security expertise
Regional biotech expansion
Live-work innovation entrepreneurship spaces

PLAY

Several resort and tourism projects
Expand and cultivate food and beverage industry
Create and facilitate regional transportation planning

Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer thanked March and Pattern for their work on the URI, and congratulated March on her new job with the Community Foundations of the Hudson Valley.

Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer moved to approve the URI plan consistent with the presentation, subject to final approval. Council Members Ned Sullivan, Ken Kleinpeter, Carol Fitzgerald and Paul Ryan seconded the motion.

All voting members approved unanimously by voice vote.

IV. PRIORITY PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

Please note that the following Council members recused themselves from the projects listed below:

Vincent Cozzolino

ESD 53796 The Solar Energy Consortium, Inc. SMARTT Labs & SMARTT Pods

Dennis Murray

ESD 57574 Marist College Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship at 51 Fulton Technology CrossRoad

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Ned Sullivan

DOS 56208 City of Poughkeepsie Waterfront Connectivity Project
Parks 57249 French American School of New York Greens to Green Conservancy
Parks 56401 City of Yonkers Untermyer Park Water Canals Restoration
Parks 55437 The Trust for Public Land Marydell on Hudson
Parks 53132 Town of Lloyd The Right Connections Mountainside Woods Accessibility Project
Parks 52483 Teatown Lake Reservation Teatown Lake Dam Repair

Cliff Wood

ESD 56981 SUNY Rockland Community College The NY Technology Incubator
ESD 54448 SUNY Rockland Community College Pilot Project for a Regional Model for Data Driven Workforce Development and Education

Jonathan Drapkin – recused from scoring on all projects
Dennis Murray – recused from scoring on all projects
Leonard Schleifer – recused from scoring on all projects

Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer turned it over to MHREDC Executive Director Meghan Taylor for the PP Recommendations.

Meghan informed the Council that they had to submit 3 different scenarios - URI, \$30M and \$15M, but that the list being shown to the public is only for the ESD Capital Grant Funds under the \$30M and \$15M pots.

Red Circle – Vassar Brothers Medical Center Patient Pavilion, Advanced Manufacturing SMARTT Labs and SMARTT Pods, Gillinder Glass and Marist College Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (4)

Green Circle – Wildberry Lodge, Bellefield at Hyde Park, Walkway over the Hudson Visitor Facility Improvement and Accessibility Project, Legoland New York (4)

Purple - Black Dirt Distillery, Roscoe Brewery Expansion, Greyston Bakery, Efco Products Capacity Increase, Sullivan County Stave Mill and Cooperage, Clemson Distribution and Bottling Plant, Orange County Amy Kitchen WWTP, Food and Beverage Manufacturing and Agritourism Center in Kingston (8)

Blue Circle – Queen City Lofts Project in Poughkeepsie, SoYo Mixed-Use TOD Project in Yonkers, Middletown Community Campus, Yonkers TOD Riverwalk, Yonkers Carpet Mill, Stewart Airport Infrastructure Improvement Project, Re-Purposing New Hope Farms in Deerpark, Iron Workers Local 417 Training Center (8)

Co-Chair Leonard Schleifer moved to authorize submission of 2015 progress report, including the list of Priority Projects, consistent with what has been seen, and subject to final approval.

Council members Al Samuels, Maureen Halahan, and Ale Frederico seconded the motion.

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All voting members approved unanimously with none opposed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Blacklock- what a great job the Council has done, and stated that she is looking forward to seeing how it all turns out.

Allison Madison, President, Approach That Works - here b/c of her work on the State Workforce Investment Board's Apprenticeship Workgroup; pleased to hear that food and beverage is something the Council is pushing, as she is working to build apprenticeships in that sector.

MHREDC Executive Director Meghan Taylor commented that she wants to invite Ms. Madison to be part of the Food and Beverage workgroup.

Peter Feinman; writes about NY History; stated that he is very pleased to see Tourism is being brought back here to where it began. Co-Chair Dennis Murray stated that we should put you on a workgroup as well.

Council member Ken Kleinpeter quipped that putting folks on workgroups is a great way to discourage public comment!

MHREDC Executive Director Meghan Taylor informed the Council that the Regional Office will submit Progress Report on Sept 21; and that announcements from the state will occur sometime in late fall; historically it has been early December, but announcements will be forthcoming as soon as we have a date.

All progress reports will be available to the public once it has been submitted.

Co-Chair Dennis Murray made a motion to adjourn, Paul Ryan seconded at 4:02 PM.