



## **Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting**

**August 7, 2013**

**Council Members Present:** Linda Shumaker, Patricia Cummings, Rose Sotak, Diane Lantz, Barbara Schindler, Debbie Preston, Donna Lupardo, Barbara Lifton, Terry Kane, Harvey Stenger, Tom Tranter, Kevin McLaughlin, James Johnson, Tom Santulli, George Miner, Martin Dietrich, Tim O'Hearn, Lee Ann Tinney, Keith Bauman, Peg Ellsworth, Ernie Hartman, Uttara Prasad, Martha Robinson, Lou Santoni, Tom Schryver, Susan Skidmore, Scott Welliver

**State Agency/Local Government Staff/Guests Present:** S. Payne, T. Kowalik, R. Alpaugh, Barbara Furch, Jim Thomas, Bijoy Datta, Frank Surdey, Kevin McCabe, Linda Hardie, Pam Eshbaugh, Paul D'Amato, Robert Furlani, Kevin McManus, Julie Sweet, Paul D'Amato, Joe Roman, James Cronwell, Louis Roma, Tamara Dews, Per Stromhaug, Paul Nelson, Joe Moody, Jason Conwell, Brian Quiara, Mary Beth Curtin, Nancy Kirby, Ken Lynch, James Smith, Margaret Tobin

### Reports/Discussions

H. Stenger opened the meeting and welcomed all Council members, agency representatives and introduced elected officials. He asked substitutes attending for members to introduce themselves.

H. Stenger asked for approval of the previous meeting notes. The notes were approved. He then presented an overview of the meeting's agenda.

M. Tobin presented an overview of the NY Works Task Force. (See PowerPoint)

K. McLaughlin provided a staff report describing progress on Round 2 (2012) projects. T. Tranter, H. Stenger, P. Ellsworth, and T. O'Hearn gave short presentations describing status of projects in their areas of the region. S. Payne provided an update on Round 3 activities and highlighted activities to engage local government.

K. McLaughlin described the allocation of Round 2 funds and Community Revitalization Project Funding. CFA project amendments and allocation of funding were presented and Council approval was requested as follows:

- Round 1 CFA Award: B&H Rail Rehabilitation Project Amendment
- Round 2 CFA Award: Re-allocate \$197,500 from Endicott Interconnect Equipment Award to Broome Community College, Radiologic Technology Equipment Upgrade (original award = \$75,000)
- Community Revitalization Fund: Approve an additional \$25,000 for the Redner Project loan (\$100,000 to \$125,000)

S. Payne reviewed proposed amendments to the Strategic Plan and Council Action Plan as follows. All amendments were approved as presented, with the exception of Strategy 4 which was modified before acceptance. (See Actions/Decisions)

**Recommended Action: Amend Strategy 1. NY's Leader in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology**

Delete the following action items:

- Action Item 1A. Residential and Small Scale Commercial Retrofit.
- Action Item 1B. Large Scale Institutional and Commercial Project Loan Fund.
- Action Item 1C. Energy Development Alliance for New York – EDANY. \*

Add the following action items:

- Action Item 1A. Implement rapid product development in the quickly growing global market for advanced energy products through an organized and intensely driven university-industry partnership focused on emerging growth areas.
- Action Item 1B. Utilize the priority projects and initiatives named in the Southern Tier Cleaner Greener Sustainability Plan as action items in support of the overall strategy to position the Southern Tier as a leader in energy efficiency and renewable energy technology.

**Recommended Action: Amend Strategy 2. Transportation Industry ... Building Next Generation Technology and Advanced Manufacturing**

Delete the following action items:

- Action Item 2A. Next Generation Transportation Development Initiative.
- Action Item 2B. Southern Tier Transportation Industry Cluster.

Add the following action items:

- Action Item 2A. Grow the Southern Tier Region's transportation industry through next generation engineering, design and production.
- Action Item 2B. Commercialize the best solutions for energy efficient environmental technologies and systems.
- Action Item 2C. Develop university-industry collaboration to drive an innovation culture leading to more efficient manufacturing through technology development and productization.

**Recommended Action: Amend Strategy 3. Healthcare 2020 ... Integrating Health Care Providers, Higher Education and Cutting-edge Technology**

Delete the following action item because it has been achieved via an inter-regional consortium.

- Action Item 3A. Regional Health Information Exchange and Electronic Medical Record System.

***Recommended Action: Amend Strategy 4. Revitalize the Rural Farm and Forest-based Economy***

Add the following action item:

- Action Item 4C. Grow the yogurt and wine industries.

***Recommended Action: Add Strategic Objective 6***

- Strategy 6. Technology Development and Transfer ... A Job Generator
- Including a Regional Incubator Plan

***Recommended Action: Add Strategic Objective 7***

- Strategy 7. Opportunity Agenda Regional Strategy and Implementation Plan

S. Payne reviewed the full Opportunity Agenda Strategy and M.B. Curtin, T. Schryver, and N. Kirby presented an overview of the Regional Incubator Plan.

A time for public comment was held and one member of the community, **Jessica Chiavara**, asked for clarification on the Cleaner Greener Initiative.

T. Tranter acknowledged K. McLaughlin's work and contributions what will be leaving his current post at the end of the week. He also announced that K. McLaughlin will be returning to the REDC as a member representing Broome County IDA.

T. O'Hearn requested the Council review planned closures of State facilities in the region and prepare a position and communication to the Governor requesting the REDC be involved in the decision making, the action not be taken if empirical evidence supports this stance, and/or allowing the REDC to involved in re-purposing the facilities if they are closed.

Decisions/Actions

**The notes from the June 27, 2013 Council meeting were approved.**

Council approved CFA project amendments and allocation of funding as presented:

- Round 1 CFA Award: B&H Rail Rehabilitation Project Amendment

- Round 2 CFA Award: Re-allocate \$197,500 from Endicott Interconnect Equipment Award to Broome Community College, Radiologic Technology Equipment Upgrade (original award = \$75,000)
- Community Revitalization Fund: Approve an additional \$25,000 for the Redner Project loan (\$100,000 to \$125,000)

Council approved proposed amendments to the Strategic Plan and Council Action Plan.

- Approved to amend Strategy 1. NY's Leader in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology
- Approve to amend Strategy 2. Transportation Industry ... Building Next Generation Technology and Advanced Manufacturing
- Approved to amend Strategy 3. Healthcare 2020 ... Integrating Health Care Providers, Higher Education and Cutting-edge Technology
- Approved to amend Strategy 4. Revitalize the Rural Farm and Forest-based Economy with the following modification:
  - Action Item 4C. Increase the production valued added agricultural products such as yogurt, cheese, wine, beer, and spirits
- Approved to add Strategic Objective 6
- Approved to add Strategic Objective 7

Council agreed to review a request to gather more data, discuss findings, and prepare a recommendation to the Governor addressing proposed State facilities closure at its next meeting.

Next Council meeting:

- Date: September 10, 2013
- Time: 10:30 a.m.
- Location: To be determined
- Agenda:
  - To be determined