



Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council Meeting  
September 28, 2011  
Cornell University

**Council Members Present:** David Skorton, Tom Tranter, Martin Dietrich, Dan Spoor, Steve Craig, Barbara Schindler, Thomas Santulli, Martha Robertson, Patrick Brennan, Ernest Hartman, Doug Barton, Tim O’Hearne, Lou Santoni, Keith Baumann, John Bernardo, John Tonello, James Eisel, George Miner, Michael Stamm, Peg Ellsworth, Diane Lantz, Patricia Cummings, David Patak, Kathryn Boor, Terry Kane for Peter McGrath, Linda Shumaker, Doug Barton for Dale Weston, Philly DeSarno for Carolyn Peterson, Joe Hauryski, Kelsey Jones for Scott Welliver, Uttara Prasad, Candace Vanko, Bob Duffy

**State Agency/Local Government Staff Present:** Steve Johnson, Cornell; Gary Stewart, Cornell; Tom Livigne, Cornell; Christian Harris, DOL; Frank Surdey, DOL; Laura Magee, ESD; Julie Sweet, DOS; Kevin McLaughlin, ESD; Kevin McCabe, Governor’s Regional Representative; Paul D’Amato, DEC; Robert Furlani, DOH; Robin Alpaugh, ESD; Tim Grippen, DOL; Tom Kowalik, SUNY Binghamton; Susan Payne, Barbara Lifton, Assemblywoman; Pete Ellis for Tom O’Mara, Senator; Chris Friend, Assemblyman; Kyle Wilber, DOS; Linda Hardie, NYSEDA; JC Smith, NYSEFC; Tim Joseph, OPRHP; Shawn Hart, LG’s office; Phil Giltner, Ag and Mkts, Zack McKenna for Jack Williams, DOT

Reports/Discussions

Lt. Governor Duffy welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the Statewide Regional Council conference held in Albany earlier this week.

D. Skorton and T. Tranter opened the meeting and thanked members for the work they have invested in the work of the Council. Council members introduced themselves and indicated their affiliation.

T. Tranter reviewed the meeting agenda indicating that the first hour would be open to the public with 15 minutes available for public comment and the later portion of the meeting would be a private working session. He then asked for approval of the September 7 meeting notes. The notes were approved.

T. Kowalik presented the Council’s vision statement and an overview of public input received to date as part of the Council’s Public Engagement Plan.

S. Payne presented a summary of 18 projects identified by Work Groups and recommended to the Council.

L. Santoni highlighted the current situation within the region and the effect recent flooding has had on small businesses. He asked the Lt. Governor to assist with small business grants to assist with flood relief. The Lt. Governor indicated that the Governor was searching for funds to help with disaster relief and he would draw the Governor’s attention to also specifically address the needs for small business relief.

K. McLaughlin presented a status report on the CFA process.

T. Tranter invited members of the public attending this Council meeting to comment on Council activities thus far. Three individuals stepped forward to comment. Michael Dineen, who works at Cornell University and moved to the region from Colorado eight years, talked about the beauty and unique assets of the area that should be left alone. He also stated that we don’t need to be “transformational”. Lee Dillon, representing Tompkins Community Action, discussed the role of community action agencies like hers and asked Council members to please remember them. She also noted that she didn’t see housing options presented. Reed Steberger, co-president of Cornell’s KyotoNOW student group, stated that he supports clean energy proposals. Finally, John Graves, president of the South Hill Civic Association, discussed redevelopment of the Emerson site into an eco-industrial park and the benefits of such in moving the community towards sustainable community development.

Following this comment period, T. Tranter indicated that the Council was to move to private work session.

D. Skorton requested that Council members review and approve the statement regarding fracking and Marcellous Shale.

S. Payne led a work session to review recommended projects and reach a decision which to include in the Council’s strategic plan. Eighteen proposals (with original rankings) were considered as show below. Several were eliminated, others combined and strategies were discussed.

	<u>Point Totals</u>
1. Energy Workforce Training	(2081)
2. Southern Tier Downtown Revitalization Project	(2056)
3. Transportation Hub Initiative	(2021)
4. Energy Development Alliance for New York	(1987)
5. Rural Initiative Venture Fund	(1983)
6. Southern Tier Regional Broadband Communications Project	(1963)
7. Investing in Shovel Ready Sites	(1931)
8. Southern Tier Healthcare 2020	(1900)
9. Renewable Energy Initiative	(1889)
10. Solar Thin Flexible Devices Development	(1794)

11. Putting the Southern Tier "Back on Track"	(1755)
12. Southern Tier Neighborhood Revitalization Program	(1697)
13. Virtual Incubation and Entrepreneur Development	(1681)
14. Expansion of Ceramics Corridor Incubator	(1665)
15. Smart Corridor Tourism Marketing Project	(1656)
16. ST Senior Living Proposal	(1639)
17. Inter-county Tourism Wayfinding Project	(1541)
18. Hospitality Workforce Development	(1339)

Decisions/Actions

The notes from the September 7<sup>th</sup> Council meeting were approved.

The fracking statement was approved.

The final list of strategies and projects were as follows:

**Strategy #1.**

***The Southern Tier ... New York's Leader in Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Technology***

Action Item A. Southern Tier Renewable Energy and Efficiency Initiative

Action Item B. Energy Development Alliance for New York (includes Solar Thin Flexible Device)

Action Item C. Energy Workforce Development Program

**Strategy #2.**

***Connecting the Southern Tier to the World***

Action Item A. Regional Broadband Communications Project

**Strategy #3.**

***The Southern Tier ... Hub of Next Generation Transportation Technology and Manufacturing***

Action Item A. Transportation Research/Development/Manufacturing Hub Initiative

**Strategy #4.**

***Healthcare 2020 ... Integrating Health Care Providers, Higher education and Cutting-edge technology***

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

Action Item B. Expanded Rural Healthcare (telemedicine, mobile health care, non-clinical professionals in remote settings)

Action Item C. Senior Living Communities

Action Item D. Healthcare Workforce Development

**Strategy #5. *Revitalizing the Rural Farm- and Forest-based Economy of the Southern Tier***

Action Item A. Rural Initiative Venture Fund

**Strategy #6. Strengthening the Southern Tier's Economic Development Backbone**

Action Item A. Southern Tier Downtown and Community Revitalization Project

Action Item B. Southern Tier Neighborhood Revitalization Project

Action Item C. Shovel-ready Site Development Project

***The following proposals were eliminated:***

Putting the Southern Tier Back on Track

Smart Tourism Corridor Project

Hospitality Workforce Development

Inter-county Experiential Wayfinding

Virtual Incubator Network Initiative

Ceramics Corridor Expansion Project

PowerPoint from this meeting will be posted on the Council's website.

Next meeting:

- Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2011
- Time: 3:00 – 6:00
- Location: Cornell University