



## **Southern Tier Regional Council Meeting**

**September 10, 2015**

Council Members Present: Tom Tranter, Harvey Stenger, Kathy Connerton, Rich David, Marty Dietrich, Mike Lane, Diane Lantz, Judy McKinney-Cherry, Kevin McLaughlin, George Miner, Svante Myrick, Debbie Preston, Lou Santoni, Tom Santulli, Susan Skidmore, Rose Sotak, Candace Vancko

Council Members Substitutes: Steve Craig (for Lawrence Wilcox), Lou Callea (for Mike Field), Jamie Johnson (for Joe Hauryski), Jan Nyrop (for Kathryn Boor), Tom Schryver (for Mary Opperman), Tim O'Hearn (for Dennis Fagan), Lee Ann Tinney (for Martha Sauerbrey)

Special Guest: Richard Tobe, Director of Upstate Revitalization, Erin Cole, Global NY

State Agency/Local Government/ESD Staff: Paul D'Amato (DEC), Christian Harris (DOL), Julie Sweet (DOS), Janet Roach (DOH), Michael Straight (NYSERDA), JC Smith (EFC), Jack Williams (DOT), Bonnie Palmer, Robin Alpaugh, Barbara Furch, Tom Kowalik, Susan Payne, Joe Roman, Jason Conwell

### **Reports/Discussions**

- T. Tranter called meeting to order. He welcomed Council members and introduced R. Tobe who said a few words about the URI process and stated that he expected very good plans from all regions throughout the State.
- H. Stenger asked members/designee's to introduce themselves and their affiliation.
- T. Tranter called for approval of minutes of September 1, 2015 Council meeting. T. Santulli made the motion. J. Cherry seconded. Council approved.
- T. Tranter reviewed agenda for the meeting.
- S. Payne presented URI plan review. (See PowerPoint) She utilized PowerPoint to display plan highlights and remind Council members of the plan content the full plan was previously emailed to Council members.
- D. Preston moved to approve the URI plan. J. Cherry seconded. Council approved.
- B. Palmer presented recommendations for amended changes in CFA Round 5 Priority Projects. She recommended removing CFA #54342 and transferring funds to CFA #52429. T. Santulli made a motion to approve the amendment. S. Skidmore seconded. The Council approved.
- R. Alpaugh presented the following Empire State Development staff report.
  - Since the June 26<sup>th</sup> Council meeting, highlights of council projects include: In July, Hilliard Capital was approved for their R3 award of \$145k for their m&e acquisition to improve manufacturing capabilities in Elmira, creating 10 new jobs.

- In August, the ESD Board approved Alfred Tech's \$300k R4 award for their incubator project in the former Schweizer facility at the Elmira airport, as well as Emerson Complex Redev R2 award of \$344,000 for planning and soft costs to create mixed use in over 800k sq ft of space in Tompkins County. Cornell's R2 Greenhouse award of \$350k was also approved for construction and renovation of their greenhouse facilities as well as TC3's Farm to Bistro R3 award of \$1M to establish a working farm in Dryden and culinary education center/restaurant in downtown Ithaca (Coltivare). We held one of our CFA workshops at Coltivare and it's very impressive. This month we will be taking R2 Cornell University's Food Processing project award of \$500k to the board for approval.
- The Ithaca Commons Capital project was completed and a ribbon cutting was held on August 28<sup>th</sup>, an R2 award of \$1.8M – this project will now be prepared for board approval and payment in early 2016.
- Several project payments have been made - In July, R2 Community Revitalization disbursement was made and R2 Bates Troy was paid \$304k for reaching a 90 job threshold. In Aug, R2 Buckingham Manufacturing closed out its \$50k grant and R3 Chenango Place mixed-use project along the river in downtown Binghamton was fully disbursed at \$250k.
- Achieve R3 has been completed and a payment request has been sent to NYC for full disbursement of \$304k for facility improvements resulting in 10 new jobs.
- E. Cole presented an overview of Global NY, describing the program, introducing staff, and explaining how Global NY can help NYS businesses.
- There were no public comments at this meeting.
- No date was set for the next Council meeting.
- T. Tranter adjourned the meeting.

### Decisions/Actions

- Minutes from STREDC May 26, 2015 meeting were approved.
- Industry Cluster recommendation was approved. “Advanced Transportation Products, Components and System Controls”
- URI initiatives were approved:
  - Advanced Industries Initiative ... Nexus of Transportation Products, Components and Control Systems
  - Southern Tier Food and Agriculture Initiative
  - Promoting the Southern Tier’s Innovative Culture Initiative ... A Magnet to Attract Entrepreneurs, Talent, and Investment
  - Greater Binghamton Innovation Ecosystem Initiative
- Community survey will be created and placed on the Governor’s REDC website in early July. Comments will be collected until July 20.