NYC REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA

Sept. 16, 2015, 2 p.m.

New York Genome Center

Manhattan

2:30 – 2:35 p.m. Welcome and Introduction
Winston Fisher, REDC Chair

2:35 – 2:45 p.m. July 21 Meeting Recap and SIAT Presentation
Winston Fisher, REDC Chair

2:45 – 2:55 p.m. Scoring Committee Report
Kenneth Knuckles, Executive Committee Member and Scoring Committee Chair

2:55 – 3:05 p.m. Draft 2015 Progress Report
Kathy Wylde, Executive Committee Member and Writing Committee Chair

3:05 – 3:10 p.m. Vote on 2015 CFA Scoring and the Draft 2015 Progress Report

3:10 – 3:15 p.m. Wrap-up
Winston Fisher, REDC Chair
Meeting of the New York City Regional Economic Development Council  
Sept. 16, 2015  
New York Genome Center, Manhattan  
Summary of Public Meeting

Attendees

Regional Council Members & Representatives:
Stuart Appelbaum, President, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union with Zayne Abdessalam
Cesar Claro, President & CEO, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation with Alex Porto
Carol Consalato, President, Queens Chamber of Commerce
Winston Fisher, Partner, Fisher Brothers with Joe Ferris & Justin Lapatine
Marcia Keizs, York College/CUNY
Kenneth J. Knuckles, President & CEO, Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone (UMEZ)
Douglas C. Steiner, Steiner Studios
Peter Ward, Hotels & Motels Trade Council rep. by John Tritt
Kathryn Wylde, President and CEO, Partnership for NYC with Brook Jackson

Elected Officials and Representatives (City)
Jason Razefsky & Lashay Young, representing Hon. James Oddo, Staten Island Borough President
Raymond Sanchez, representing Hon. Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President
Diana Reyna, representing Hon. Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President
James Caras, representing Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
Melva Miller representing Hon. Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President
Michael Moynihan representing Hon. Alicia Green, City Hall - NYC Mayor

Elected Officials and Representatives (State)
Jerry Kassar, representing Hon. Martin Golden, New York State Assembly

ESDC
John Gilstrap, ESDC
Maria Michalos, ESDC
Joseph Tazewell, ESDC
Andrew Fletcher, ESDC
Lauren Racusin, ESDC
Ingrid Nathan, ESDC
Jennifer Rivera, ESDC
Ansh Jain, ESDC – Intern
Matthew LoCastro, ESDC – Intern

State Resources
Merrill Hesch, Office of Parks, Rec, HP
I. Welcome and Introduction

Winston Fisher, a partner of Fisher Brothers and chair of the New York Regional Economic Development Council, opened the public meeting at the New York Genome Center.

II. July 21 Meeting Recap and SIAT Presentation

Fisher noted that, at a Sept. 11, 2015 public forum at The City College of New York, representatives of 26 projects vying for priority status made presentations to council members.

He noted that on Aug. 4, 2015 members of the executive committee – Kenneth Knuckles, Carol Conslato, Stuart Appelbaum and Steve Hindy – made a presentation to the Strategic Implementation Assessment Team (SIAT) at the New York Genome Center.

The SIAT members include Secretary of State Cesar Perales; NYS Office of General Services Commissioner Roann Destito; NYS Tax and Finance Commissioner Jerry Boone; U.S. Department of Commerce Director Patrick Kirwan; and NYS Upstate Revitalization Director Rick Tobe.

The SIAT presentation included virtual tours of Shapeways, a 3-D printer with a manufacturing center in Long Island City, Queens; the New York Wheel, a proposed 630-foot-high observation wheel on the North Shore of Staten Island; and Brooklyn Brewery, which wants to build a state-of-the-art brewery on the West Shore of Staten Island.

The SIAT team members also got in-person tours of the New York Genome Center and the Urban Development Center, a partnership involving Per Scholas and Doran Jones, an IT firm, in the South Bronx. A recording of the SIAT presentation will be posted on the council’s website.

III. Scoring Committee Report

Kenneth Knuckles, executive committee member and scoring committee chair, said the committee finished scoring the 270 consolidated funding applications on Aug. 28, 2015. Twenty-six projects
were presented at the July 21, 2015 regional council public forum for consideration as priority projects, which receive the highest score of 20 points. From these, the executive committee, in consultation with the scoring committee, developed a list of priority projects that are in the draft project report. The regional council’s endorsement accounts for 20 percent of the total review; the state agencies administering the grant programs account for 80 percent.

Fisher reminded council members that appropriate member recusals were considered during the scoring process and during the selection of priority projects.

Fisher also noted that public comment on the council’s progress report on priority projects was heard at a public forum on Sept. 11, 2015 at The City College of New York.

IV. Draft 2015 Progress Report

Kathy Wylde, executive committee member and writing committee chair, reported that the region “has done very well,” with 93 percent of previous years’ projects moving forward in construction and development.

She said the new round of priority projects, which range from Steiner Studios’ expansion to Brooklyn Brewery’s plan to build a brewery on Staten Island, “are quite diverse, and we’re excited if we can get the $30 million for them.”

V. Vote on 2015 CFA Scoring and the Draft 2015 Progress Report

Fisher reviewed the voting privileges for appointed members, ex-officio voting members and ex-officio non-voting members and asked for questions regarding recusals.

James Caras, representing the office of the Manhattan borough president, asked to be recused on consolidated funding application No. 56265 by the New-York Historical Society.

Fisher called for a motion to approve the Round V consolidated funding application scores, which passed unanimously.

He then asked for a motion to approve a list of priority projects and the 2015 progress report, which passed unanimously.

He then adjourned the meeting.