

NYC REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

MEETING AGENDA

September 13, 2017, 8:45 a.m.

**New York Genome Center
Manhattan**

PUBLIC SESSION

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|-------------------------|--|
| 8:45 – 8:50 a.m. | Welcome and Introduction
Cheryl Moore, REDC Co-Chair |
| 8:50 – 8:55 a.m. | Preamble and Recusals
Cheryl Moore, REDC Co-Chair |
| 8:55 – 9:00 a.m. | July 18 Meeting Recap
Winston Fisher, REDC Co- Chair |
| 9:00 – 9:05 a.m. | Scoring Committee Report
Kenneth Knuckles, Executive Committee Member and Scoring Committee Chair |
| 9:05 – 9:15 a.m. | 2017 Progress Report and Priority Projects
Kathryn Wylde, Executive Committee Member and Writing Committee Chair |
| 9:15 – 9:20 a.m. | Vote on 2017 on CFA Scores, Draft Progress Report and Proposed Priority Projects
Winston Fisher, REDC Co-Chair |
| 9:20 – 9:25 a.m. | Wrap-up
Winston Fisher, REDC Co-Chair |



**New York City Regional Economic Development Council
Meeting Summary**

Introductory Information:

Date and Time Meeting Commenced: September 13, 2017 8:45 am

Location: New York Genome Center, 101 Avenue of the Americas, Manhattan

Council Members Present:

Wellington Chen, Executive Director, Chinatown Partnership
Marlene Cintron, President, Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation
Carol Conslato, Past President, Queens Chamber of Commerce
Winston Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair and Partner, Fisher Brothers
Cheryl Moore, President and COO, NY Genome Center
Lisa Futterman, Director, Workforce Development Institute
Steve Hindy, Brooklyn Brewery
Kenneth Knuckles, President & CEO, Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone
Douglas Steiner, Chairman, Steiner Studios
Marcel Van Ooyen, Executive Director, GrowNYC
Kathryn Wylde, President & CEO, Partnership for NYC
Stuart Appelbaum, Pres. Wholesale & Retail
Marcia Keizs, York College/CUNY
Kinda Younes, ITAC
Gerry Kassar (representing State Senator Martin Golden)

Ex-Officio Council Members and Representatives:

James Katz (representing NYC Deputy Mayor Alicia Glen)
Matthew Washington (representing Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer)
Ray Sanchez (representing Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz)
Melva Miller (representing Queens Borough President Melinda Katz)
Lashay Young (representing Staten Island Borough President James Oddo)

Council Member Representatives:

Sulma Arzu Brown (representing Nick Lugo, President & CEO, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)
Karen Bunting, Chief of Staff to Cheryl Moore



Bradley Katz, Chief of Staff to Winston Fisher
Earl G. Simons (representing Marcia Keizs)
Merrill Pond (representing Kathryn Wylde)

State Agency Staff

ESD:

Joseph Tazewell, Regional Director
Andrew Fletcher
Alexia Nazarian
Brian Teubner
Francisco Polanco

Public:

Shadawn Smith, Metropolitan Museum
Joe Wiederhorn, Associated Medical Schools of NY
Merrill Pond, Partnership for New York City
Tim Roberts, Global Strategy Group

Time Adjourned: 9:20 am

Welcome and Remarks:

I. **Welcome and Introduction**

Cheryl Moore welcomed REDC members and the public to the New York Genome Center. She then introduced Winston Fisher, the other co-chair of the REDC.

II. **Preamble for the REDC Meeting**

Ms. Moore read the preamble for the REDC meeting, asking council members to consider whether they had a potential conflict of interest regarding any of the items on the agenda listed in the member materials. She then invited council members to make appropriate disclosure and recuse themselves if necessary.

III. **Overview of Agenda and Recap of Regional Council Activity**

Ms. Moore then turned over the meeting to Winston Fisher. Mr. Fisher provided details of Regional Council activities that had taken place since the last meeting on July 18, 2017, which included the following:

- At the July 18 meeting, Kathryn Wylde reported on the council's 2017 REDC Agenda and the progress report.



- The council also held a public forum and heard from 19 individuals representing the various organizations and businesses, who presented priority projects for the council's consideration.

Mr. Fisher mentioned that the council was still awaiting the announcement of the Downtown Revitalization Initiative (DRI) winning neighborhood, but thanked the borough presidents and their staff for their contribution of time and hard work in the initiative. He also thanked the DRI co-chairs, Ken Knuckles and Kinda Younes, for all of their time in reviewing the DRI applications.

IV. Report of Scoring Committee

On behalf of Scoring Committee Chair Ken Knuckles (who was en route to the meeting), Joseph Tazewell, NYC Regional Director of ESD, made the following comments:

- He thanked the scoring committee -- Carol Conslato, Marlene Cintron, Nick Lugo, Marcel Van Ooyen, Marcia Keizs, Stuart Appelbaum, Wellington Chen, Lisa Futterman and Cesar Claro -- for its hard work.
- He explained that the committee's work began on August 14, after the state agencies had determined eligibility for the CFAs. There were a total of 292 applications to score – 35 more than last year. Each scoring member was tasked with scoring an average of 60 applications, with each application being reviewed by two scoring members.
- The committee completed its work during the week of August 28. As each CFA can only have one score, he had follow up communication with each of the committee scoring member to reconcile differences in scoring. The scores were listed in the council materials beginning with the priority projects.
- The review and ranking of CFAs is based on a set of statewide "endorsement standards" which is being used for Round VII of the CFA. For each CFA, the Regional Council scoring members determined the degree to which the application would implement the Regional Council's strategic plan, and then assigned the corresponding number of points as a score:
 - 20 points were given to projects identified as a "priority" by the Regional Council.
 - 15 points were given to projects considered "very strong" and have regional benefits.
 - 10 points were given to projects considered "strong", advance the plan, and have local benefits.
 - 5 points were given to projects considered "moderate", are consistent with the plan and have level benefits.
 - 0 points were given to projects considered "weak", with limited relationship to the plan
- After reviewing the 292 CFAs, the executive committee, in consultation with the scoring committee, developed a list of recommended priority projects. These projects have received a "20" score in line with the endorsement standards.



- The Regional Council endorsement will account for 20% of the total review.
- Following review and scoring by the Regional Council, applications will undergo due diligence and technical review by State agencies administering the grant and tax credit programs included in the 2017 CFA. The agency review will account for 80% of the total review.

V. Report of Writing Committee

Kathryn Wylde, Chair of the Writing Committee made the following comments on the draft progress report:

- The ESD Capital, Excelsior, Market NY (Tourism), Planning Studies, Hot Spots and other State agency projects listed on the sheets in the materials meet both the State priorities for this round and past rounds, as well as advance our council's regional priorities and strategies. 35 priority projects have been identified in total. A few of the ESD capital projects were mentioned.
- For this year, the council has been asked to identify priority projects that align with the Governor's new life sciences initiative. There were four projects which strongly align with the initiative:
 - Cresilon is a biotech firm developing a gel-bandage that stops bleeding in emergency situations, with applications in trauma, surgical use and animal health. Cresilon plans to establish an 80,000 square foot centralized headquarters to accommodate significant growth over the next four years, increasing employment from 48 employees to 159.
 - Celmatix, a biotech company working on products to improve fertility and women's health, is expanding its collaborative workspaces, offices, conference rooms and adding over 3,000 square feet of laboratory space. The project will create 118 new jobs and retain 80 existing jobs.
 - BioLabs New York, an organization that the REDC has assisted in the past, is developing an incubator in Lower Manhattan in partnership with NYU Langone Medical Center. BioLabs is now requesting additional funding of for the build-out of a big data, artificial intelligence and machine learning center at the facility. The project is expected to create 101 new jobs.
 - The LIC Partnership is developing a plan for the creation a Regional Hub for Life Sciences & Innovation.
- In supporting Downtown Revitalization Plans, a project in Downtown Far Rockaway has been identified in which NYC DOT will reconstruct a number of streets to create a community hub with access to businesses, affordable housing and local services in downtown Far Rockaway.
- In the workforce development area, the council is supporting the Commissary for Social Justice project sponsored by Drive Change, a nonprofit organization that



partners with food truck owners to provide paid fellowships for previously incarcerated young adults.

- B.NYC will be the flagship U.S. location of B. Amsterdam, which is the largest startup tech incubator in Europe. B.NYC will provide flexible workspace and business development assistance to the growing number of foreign tech companies that are moving to or opening operations in the U.S.
- The Brooklyn Public Library's Central Library Business and Career Center will be a resource for job seekers and entrepreneurs. The 5,700 square foot facility will feature free computers and online learning platforms, meeting rooms and co-working areas, career workshops, job fairs and business plan classes. The library projects 10,000 users annually with the target of supporting creation of at least 200 new businesses.
- The Brooklyn Navy Yard will upgrade an existing structure on its 300-acre property to meet food manufacturing standards in order to offer a modern facility for rental to small food businesses.

VI. Vote on 2017 CFA Scoring and Priority Projects

Mr. Fisher then covered voting privileges for appointed council members and ex-officio participants. He stated that appointed members can vote on all items that come to the Council. However, ex-officio participants, which includes local and state elected official, can vote to approve the slate of CFA scores submitted as well as the progress report and the priority project list, but are not permitted to score or vote on individual CFA project applications.

Mr. Fisher again referenced the need for council members to provide recusals to Joseph Tazewell.

Mr. Fisher then called for a motion to approve the progress report, the list of priority projects and recommended funding amounts, and the recommended scores of the CFAs. The motion was seconded. There was a voice vote on in favor. There were no votes opposing.

VII. Wrap-up & Closing Remarks

Mr. Fisher made the following announcements prior to adjourning:

- Mr. Fisher thanked all of the members for attending, and for their dedication and commitment of time to this initiative.
- He encouraged a strong REDC member turnout at the upcoming SIAT presentation, suggesting that this was the key to winning the bigger prize.



- This was followed by a brief discussion of members suggesting strategies to tie New York City to the upstate economy (i.e., upstate produce being sold downstate).

Mr. Fisher and Ms. Moore then adjourned the meeting.