



**Mid-Hudson REDC Meeting
March 12, 2015
Culinary Institute of America
1946 Campus Drive (Route 9)
Hyde Park, New York**

Attendees: Dennis Murray; Meghan Taylor; Vincent Cozzolino; Jonathan Drapkin; Mike Finnegan; Carol Fitzgerald; Aleida Frederico; Marsha Gordon; Maureen Halahan; Ken Kleinpeter; Marcus Molinaro; Paul Ryan; Al Samuels; Scott Samuelson; Christopher St. Lawrence; Ned Sullivan; James Taylor; Cliff Wood; Jacquie Leventoff; Bruce Walker; Ron Hicks; Suzanne Holt; Mynria Bass-Hagrove; Jason Baker; Freda Eisenberg; Dana Levenberg; Harry Porr; Kimberly Usewicz; Nick Joseph; Martin Brand; Dwight Brown; Sally Drake; Jamie Ethier; Bill Gorton; Sharon Griffith; Thom Kleiner; Andrew Lynn; Pat Courtney-Strong; Richard Tobe; Ryan Silva; Lilian Pascone; Brendan Hughes; Jeff Domanski; Lorie Heithoff; Aimee Vargas; Thomas Scaglione; Monique LeGendre; Ryan McLeod; Eric Warren; Emily Saland; Erin Loosen

Public Session

Dennis Murray welcomed the public to the REDC meeting.

Lt. Governor Kathy Hochul offered welcoming remarks and acknowledgements. She provided an overview of the Governor's accomplishments and goals of the 2015 Opportunity Agenda:

- Unemployment has fallen from 8.9% to 5.9% from 2010-2015
- The state has the highest credit rating in 40 years by all three agencies
- Upstate is rebuilding
- Taxes and spending cut to lowest rate in 50 years
- Property taxes capped at 2%, then frozen
- The state has maintained fiscal discipline, spending below 2% for four years
- Lowest middle class tax rate since 1953, lowest corporate tax rate since 1968, lowest manufacturer's tax rates since 1917
- Invested in infrastructure, including high speed broad-band and we will invest \$1 billion to bring to every corner of state by 2018
- Apply best practices of buffalo billion and launch upstate revitalization of \$1.5 billion
- Increase EPF to \$1.7 and propose farmland protection fund
- Tourism—continue challenges highlighting the state's recreational and agricultural assets and \$25 million in tourism campaign
- Raise the minimum wage to \$10.50

Meghan Taylor provided the summary of the 2014 Regional Council awards.

Ryan Silva provided the overview of the CFA Round 5 funding cycle

Rich Toby provided the overview of the Upstate Revitalization Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cora Edwards, Sullivan County Legislator

To what extent is this set in stone or will it be tweaked before the budget is passed?

Lt. Governor Hochul responded that the budget is being negotiated but that she is optimistic believes the Upstate Revitalization fund will be funded at the proposed \$1.5 billion.

Harv Hillowitz, Business and Writing Services

Will the upstate revitalization program start before CFA or are they simultaneous? Ryan Silva responded that the processes will be concurrent, and launch date is dependent on budget approval.

Aileen Roran, Supervisor, Town of Hyde Park

Hyde Park was successful in obtaining a NYSERDA grant last year but municipalities have difficulty coming up with a match for grants, making it difficult to compete with the private sector. Lt. Governor Hochul responded that she understands this difficulty and noted that the Mid-Hudson Region has been successful in this regard, achieving a 7:1 private-public dollar match, demonstrating the region's creativity. She noted that she will continue to listen to municipalities about their challenges and opportunities to ensure success in this process.