

MVREDC | MEETING 09.10.2015

September 10, 2015
McLaughlin College Center Room 282,
Herkimer College
10:30 am - 11:00 am: Executive Session
(REDC Members & Workgroups)
11:00 am - 11:45 am: Public Session



**Mohawk Valley
Regional Economic
Development Council**

Welcome & Remarks

11:02 AM – Co-Chair Dr. Robert Geer of SUNY Poly called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone in attendance and thanked them for their support and interest.

Co-Chair Larry Gilroy of Gilroy, Kernan, and Gilroy announced the agenda of the meeting

- 1) MVREDC vote on approving the scores of submitted CFAs, including proposed list of Priority Projects
- 2) Update on the 2015 MVREDC Progress Report
- 3) Update on the MVREDC's URI submission – MV500

2015 Progress Report & Implementation Plan

Gilroy announced that project names and scores would not be revealed to the public until the 2015 Progress Report is submitted to New York State on September 24th.

- ***Motion: That the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council approves and adopts the proposed list of Consolidated Funding application projects and scores as presented to the Council and agreed upon in Executive Session prior to this session.***

A motion to approve the MVREDC's 2015 list of proposed Priority Projects and the scores of each submitted CFA was made by D. Swanger and seconded by T. Hutton. Motion passed unanimously.

A progress update of the MVREDC 2015 Progress Report was given by J. Waters. Among the highlights of this year's plan:

- The document's theme this year is Connections/ Targeting Drivers of Economic Growth
- The region's strategic pillars remain: GROW, BUILD, CREATE, REVIVE, and MODERNIZE
- This year's document takes a different focus, as it is more of a "progress report" than an "action plan". The region's proposed actions will be elicited in its URI submission
- This year's document provides more, and more specific performance metrics of regional economic health than previous submissions
- Not all text has been placed into the document template yet, but it would be sent to Council members for review in the following days
- Public participation this year was much more robust, due in large part to the MV500 initiative
- The document's required cluster plan focuses on the region's cybersecurity industry
- Information on Global/exporting growth has a more prominent place in this year's document
- The writing deadline of the document is Monday, September 14, with feedback due from Council members by Tuesday, September 15.

FULTON | HERKIMER | MONTGOMERY | ONEIDA | OTSEGO | SCHOHARIE

MVREDC MEETING NOTES – 09.10.2015

- ***Motion: That the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council approves and adopts the 2015 Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council Progress Report (also known as the “Action Plan”) as presented and delegates its authority to the Council’s Executive Committee to complete the editing and submission of the plan to New York State.***

A motion to approve and adopt the 2015 MVREDC Progress Report, and allow the Council’s Executive Committee to edit as needed was made by R.S. Shevat, and seconded by C. Lewis. Motion passed unanimously.

MV500 Update & Upstate Revitalization Discussion

A progress update of the MV500 plan, to be submitted as the region’s URI proposal, was given by A. Dicks. Dr. Geer thanked the leadership from each county for bringing everyone together and creating unity around this proposal.

Among the highlights of the plan:

- This has been a data-driven approach that overlays data with opportunity.
- The actions and investments made by the MVREDC over the past four years have provided the foundations for the MV500 plan.
- This plan evaluates ways to connect populations with job opportunities.
- The plan will address poverty by creating job opportunities to those that need it most.
- The goal of the plan is to expand local concentrations and allow the entire region to participate.
- Key investment strategies will be:
 - STEM-intensive industries (nanotechnology, cybersecurity, Unmanned Aerial Systems)
 - Agriculture and food systems – a strategy that currently cuts across all counties of the region
 - Tourism – as the region’s tourism economy is already well positioned within New York State
 - Creating vibrant communities
 - Modernizing governance structures
- The MV500 promotional video was shown to the Council and audience

- ***Motion: That the Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council approves and adopts the MV500 Upstate Revitalization Initiative Competition Plan as presented, inclusive of its strategies and signature initiatives and delegates its authority to the Council’s Executive Committee to oversee the editing and submission of the plan to New York State.***

A motion to approve and adopt the MV500 investment strategies and signature projects, and delegate the Council’s Executive Committee to oversee completion and submission of the plan was made by M. Reese, and seconded by W. Hart. Motion passed unanimously. Dr. Geer once again thanked the public for its support in this process and in the MV500 initiative.

L. Gilroy stated that the submission deadline for the MVREDC Progress Report was Thursday, September 24, and the submission deadline for the URI proposal was Monday, October 5. He also stated that following these submissions, the MVREDC co-chairs will present and defend to the State judging team on both the Progress Report and the URI proposal.

L. Gilroy echoed Dr. Geer’s praise of the MVREDC and MV500 teams, and of the leadership from each county. He also acknowledged those members of the MVREDC that served as CFA scorers for their contribution. Mr. Gilroy stated that the Council will reconvene after award announcements are made.

Meeting adjourned at 11:44 AM.