New York City Regional Economic Development Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 23, 2016  
New York Genome Center (“NYGC”),  
Manhattan  

Agenda and Summary of Public Meeting  

Agenda  

9:00 – 9:05 a.m.  
**Welcome and Introduction**  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  

9:05 – 9:15 a.m.  
**Introduction of New Members**  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  

9:15 – 9:35 a.m.  
**Introduction of Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and Remarks**  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  
Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul  
Howard Zemsky, Commissioner, President and CEO of ESD  

9:35 – 9:45 a.m.  
**Agenda and Recap**  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  

9:45 – 10:05 a.m.  
**Priority Project Presentations**  
Sayar Lonial, Senior Director, Marketing and Communications, NYU Tandon School of Engineering  
Jennifer Pautz, Director of Government Affairs, NYU  
Rebecca Birmingham, Creative Director, General Counsel, Macro Sea  

10:05 – 10:20 a.m.  
**Round VI Preview**  
Ryan Silva, VP Regional Economic Development, Governor’s Office  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  

10:20 – 10:25 a.m.  
**Announcements**  
Winston C. Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers  

Summary of Public Meeting  

Regional Council Members and Representatives:  
Stuart Appelbaum, President, RWDS, was represented by Zayne Abdessalem  
Wellington Chen, Executive Director, Chinatown Partnership Local Dev. Corp  
Mariene Cintron, President, Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation with Alfredo Angueira  
Cesar J. Claro, President/CEO, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation  
Carol Consalato, President, Queens Chamber of Commerce  
Winston Fisher, NYC REDC Co-Chair; Partner, Fisher Brothers with Brad Katz, Tim
Roberts, and Joseph Ferris
Lisa Futterman, NYC Consultant, Workforce Development institute
Marcia Keizs, President, York College/CUNY
Kenneth Knuckles, President and CEO, Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone
Nick Lugo, President, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce with Sulma Arzu-Brown
Carlos Scissura, President/CEO, Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce with Varun Samyal
Douglas Steiner, Chairman, Steiner Studios
Marcel Van Ooyen, Executive Director, GrowNYC
Kathryn Wylde, President/CEO, Partnership for NYC
Kinda Younes, Executive Director, ITAC

Elected Officials and Representatives (City):
Diana Reyna, representing Hon. Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President
Raymond Sanchez, representing Hon. Ruben Diaz Jr., Bronx Borough President
Sander Dolder, representing Alicia Glen, NYC Deputy Mayor
Shurn Anderson, representing Melinda Katz, Queens Borough President

Elected Officials and Representatives (State):
Karim Arab, representing Hon. Latoya Joyner, NYS Assembly
Derrick Lewis, representing Hon. Michael Blake, NYS Assembly
Jerry Kassar, representing Hon. Martin Golden, NYS Senate

ESD:
Lindsey Boylan, ESD
Jonah Bruno, ESD
Breanna Collins, ESD
Andrew Fletcher, ESD
Wilfredo Florentino, ESD
Edwin Lee, ESD
Matthew LoCastro, ESD
Ashley McCloskey, ESD
Ingrid Nathan, ESD
Marion Phillips, ESD
Lauren Racusin, ESD
Ryan Silva, ESD
Joseph Tazewell, ESD
Howard Zemsky, ESD

Executive Chamber Representatives:
Jelani Deshong, Lieutenant Governor's Office
Jeffery Lewis, Lieutenant Governor's Office

State Resource:
Dwight Brown, NYS EFC
Sandra Dixon, NYNJPA
Merrill Hesch, Office of Parks, Rec, HP
Fred Landa, DOS
Meeting

I. Welcome and Introduction

Winston Fisher welcomed the public, Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and ESD Commissioner Howard Zemsky. Mr. Fisher thanked Dr. Robert Darnell of NYGC for hosting the current meeting and past events. He mentioned NYGC being a past priority project and receiving $57 million in ESD.

II. Introduction of New Members

Mr. Fisher welcomed and introduced three new council members: Carlo A. Scissura, President and CEO of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce; Kinda Younes, Executive Director of ITAC; and Lisa Futterman, Regional Consultant for the Workforce Development Institute. Mr. Fisher read brief bios, and referred the Council and attendees to their full bios in the packet. The new Council members each expressed thanks and shared brief remarks to the Council.

III. Introduction of Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul and Remarks

Mr. Fisher introduced and welcomed Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul. Mr. Fisher turned over the floor to the Lieutenant Governor.

Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul provided opening remarks saying that she had recently visited several REDC workforce development projects including Opportunities for a Better Tomorrow, Per Scholas and Nontradition Employment for Women. She then made a presentation using a Power Point outlining...
Governor Cuomo’s State of the State Address. The presentation acknowledged plans and successful starts to improve infrastructure, emphasized new investment in public education, and highlighted proposed efforts to help underserved New Yorkers. These efforts include raising the minimum wage, implementing a comprehensive initiative to aid re-entry from our criminal justice system and improving public housing availability and conditions throughout the state. She also discussed the goal to continue the successful fiscal responsibility of the State.

ESD Commissioner Howard Zemsky then shared remarks, and commended the Council on its dedication and hard work.

IV. Agenda and Recap

Mr. Fisher said that the rest of the meeting would include a recap of Council activity, followed by two presentations of Round 5 priority projects and a preview of Round 6 activities.

Mr. Fisher recapped Council activity since the last meeting on September 16th. He stated the Council’s progress report was submitted to Commissioner Zemsky on September 21st and presented by Ken Knuckles, Carol Consalo and myself to the Strategic Implementation Assessment Team, led by Secretary of State Perales, on October 22nd. On December 10th, the CFA awards were announced by Governor Cuomo and the NYC Region received $84.1 million for 92 projects in Round 5. Mr. Fisher referred the Council members to a list of the project awards in the member materials.

V. Priority Project Presentations

Mr. Fisher introduced Sayar Lonial, Senior Director, Marketing and Communications at the NYU Tandon School of Engineering, and Jennifer Pautz, Director of Government Affairs at New York University, round 5 priority project sponsors. Mr. Lonial and Ms. Pautz discussed progress of the NYU Veteran’s Community Incubator project, which received an ESD grant of $1 million to create jobs in New York City. Their presented is listed below:

NYU is the largest private university in the U.S. with over 57,000 students and is one of the largest employers in NYC with over 19,000 employees. In 2014 NYU officially merged with Polytech University creating the NYU Tandon School of Engineering in 2015 in Downtown Brooklyn. The current NYU incubator network includes locations in Downtown Brooklyn, Dumbo, and Tribeca and has nurtured over 51 businesses with an economic impact of $720 million in NYC. In 2013, through the REDC, the NYU incubators were named NYS Certified Business Incubators. The current Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Program (VET) aims to expand this network. VET will provide free training for veterans targeting a transition into the technology industry with hands on experimental learning, mentorship from business leaders, and capstone projects. VET has partnered with Assemblymember Joe Lentol and the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to ensure the project’s success. NYU is also working on the Urban Technology Growth Hub Project which will create an accelerator, incubator, “step-out” space, prototyping facilities and event/
demonstration space in Industry City in Sunset Park, Brooklyn to assist businesses from cradle to maturity. The Urban Technology Growth Hub will host the VET program to encourage an entrepreneurial ecosystem. The construction of The Urban Technology Growth Hub should begin in 2016 and NYU has partnered with the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to assist in the process.

Ken Knuckles asked Mr. Sonial to highlight a few of the companies in the incubator. Mr. Sonial did not have that information handy, but said he would get back to Mr. Knuckles.

Cesar Claro asked Mr. Sonial about the project’s budget, which Mr. Sonial addressed.

Kathy Wylde suggested Blackstone LaunchPad funding for the project, as the program is currently based at NYU.

Mr. Fisher then introduced Rebecca Birmingham, Creative Director and General Counsel at Macro Sea, a round 5 priority project sponsor. He reminded the Council that support for this project was a key component to the 2015 progress report’s proposal for a Global Smart Cities Industry Hub. Ms. Birmingham discussed plans for A Smart Cities Innovation Center at New Lab in the Brooklyn Navy Yard, which received an ESD grant of $750,000:

New Lab is a hardware-centric platform in the Brooklyn Navy Yard that fosters innovation in design & new manufacturing. This project aims to create 46,600sf of studios and coworking space, 20,800sf of community space, a 5,000sf fabrication shop, a 6,000sf events space, a 2,400sf meetings space, and a 1,200sf café. The Urban Tech Program specifically works with businesses developing hardware focused solutions to critical urban challenges in energy, waste, water and air quality, urban agriculture, and the built environment. The New Lab space will help to support an ecosystem of collaboration between industries to create innovative solutions to our city’s problems. The shop facilities, which offer 24-7 access and training, will facilitate expedient traditional and advanced manufacturing production thus promoting the innovation process. The New Lab’s event space will also help to facilitate the sharing of ideas and collaboration through events, demonstrations, and displays. Currently there are two members of the Urban Tech community who can be highlighted to help represent the work that will be done in this space. StrongArm Technologies engineers machinery to assist industrial workers performing manual labor to increase productivity and reduce injury. Honeybee Robotics develops advanced robotics and electromechanical systems that operate in challenging environments to solve customer’s unmet needs by extending and enhancing human capabilities. This space will help to further the development of innovation within New York City and develop the city’s technology and manufacturing community.
VI. Round VI Preview

Mr. Fisher introduced Ryan Silva Vice President of Regional Economic Development Councils in the Governor’s Office. Mr. Silva provided a very brief overview of the priorities of Round VI and mentioned that more information would available soon regarding the Downstate Revitalization Initiative, $100 million in statewide funding and $10 million for each region.

Looking to Round VI, Mr. Fisher emphasized that the goal for the council in 2016 was for the REDC to be named top performing region, and he suggested that the best way to be a top performing region was to increase the number of quality applications for this year. He then mentioned that he had spent the last few months spreading the work about the REDC with elected officials, community leaders and representatives at local private colleges and universities.

VII. Announcements

Mr. Fisher announced that the next Council meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 27th at 9 am, the location is TBD. He also announced that he and ESD staff have been invited by Brooklyn Borough President Eric Adams to present on the Regional Council initiative and the CFA to members of the public on March 9th at 8:30 am at Brooklyn Borough Hall. He asked interested Council members to contact Joe Tazewell, the NYC REDC Executive Director, to answer any questions.

VIII. Closing Remarks and Adjournment

Mr. Fisher invited Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul to make some closing remarks. The Lieutenant Governor made very brief closing remarks.

Mr. Fisher thanked the Council and public for attending and adjourned the meeting.