



# NYC REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## MEETING AGENDA

June 26, 2012  
9:30 a.m.

Borough of Manhattan Community College  
Manhattan

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- 9:30-9:40 a.m.**                      **Welcome and Introduction**  
Lieutenant Governor Robert Duffy  
CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein
- 9:40-9:55 a.m.**                      **Jobs for New York's Future**  
Dr. Suri Duitch, CUNY  
Shayne Spaulding, CUNY
- 9:55-10:00 a.m.**                      **Report of Last Meeting/Announcements/Work Agenda**  
CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein
- 10:00-10:15 a.m.**                      **Implementation Agenda**  
Kathy Wylde, Chair, Plan Writing Committee
- 10:15-10:30 a.m.**                      **Discussion of Scoring Process**  
Kenneth Knuckles, Chair, Scoring Committee
- 10:30-10:40 a.m.**                      **Discussion of Priority Project Criteria**  
CUNY Chancellor Matthew Goldstein
- Public Forum**

**OPEN FOR BUSINESS:  
A NEW STATE GOVERNMENT APPROACH TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Meeting of the New York City Regional Economic Development Council  
Tuesday, June 26, 2012  
Borough of Manhattan Community College/CUNY, Manhattan**

**Meeting Summary**

**Attendees:**

Hon. Robert Duffy, Lieutenant Governor

Regional Council Members and Representatives

Matthew Goldstein, Chancellor, The City University of New York (co-chair), w/ Jay Hershenson  
Steve Lemson, representing Kenneth Chenault, chairman and CEO of American Express (co-chair)  
Zayne Abdessalam, representing Stuart Appelbaum, President, Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union,  
Wellington Chen, Executive Director, Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation  
Cesar J. Claro, President & CEO, Staten Island Economic Development Corporation  
Carol Conslato, President, Queens Chamber of Commerce  
Amy Sugimori, representing Mike Fishman, Executive Vice President SEIU  
Monique Greenwood, Owner, Akwaaba Mansion Bed & Breakfast  
Kenneth J. Knuckles, President and CEO, Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone  
Gary LaBarbera, President, NYC Buildings and Construction Trades, w/ Heather Beaudoin  
Nick Lugo, President, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, w/ Peter Spinella  
Marcia V. Keizs, President, York College, CUNY  
Steve Spinola, President, Real Estate Board of New York  
Douglas C. Steiner, Steiner Studios, w/ Andrew Kimball, President and CEO, Brooklyn Navy Yard  
Marcel Van Ooyen, Executive Director, Grow NYC  
Kathryn Wyld, President & CEO, Partnership for New York City

Elected Officials & Representatives (City)

Raymond Sanchez, representing Hon. Ruben Diaz, Jr., Bronx Borough President  
Shira Gans, representing Hon. Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President  
Thomas B. Donaldson and Katie Codey, representing Hon. Christine Quinn, Speaker, NYC City Council

Elected Officials & Representatives (State)

Hon. Sheldon Silver, Speaker, New York State Assembly, w/ Judy Rapfogel  
Gerry Kassar, representing Hon. Martin Golden, New York State Assembly  
Brad Usher, representing Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senate

New York City Mayor's Office

Hon. Robert Steel, New York City Deputy Mayor, w/ Tim Sullivan

Regional Council Staff & ESD

Joseph Tazewell, NYC Regional Director, ESD  
Marion Phillips, Facilitator, ESD  
John Moye, DOL  
Andrew Fletcher, ESD  
Ingrid Nathan, ESD  
Jim Brown, DOL  
Willard Younger, representing Justin Ginsburg, ESD  
Ahsan Sayed, ESDC Intern  
Abass Bayo-Awoyemi, ESDC Intern

### Executive Chamber Representatives

Robert Duffy, Lieutenant Governor  
Irene Baker, Executive Vice President, Director of Regional Councils  
Zach Greenky, Governor's Office  
Erik Bottcher, Governor's Office

### State Resource Team

Phil Giltner, AGMKT  
Joseph Palozzola, NYS NCR  
Joe Chan, ESDC  
Sobeida Cruz, NYS Power Authority  
Merrill Hesch, NYS OPRHP  
Karen Phillips, NYS OPRHP  
Thomas Matthews, NYS EFC  
Ellen Poliski, DOH  
Gregory Watson, NYSHCS  
Joe Brown, NYS DOT  
Sandra Dixon, PANYNJ  
Venetia Lannon, NYS DEC  
Sharon Griffith, NYSERDA

### CUNY

Jay Hershenson, Senior Vice Chancellor for University Relations & Board Secretary  
Dr. Antonio Pérez, President, Borough of Manhattan Community College  
Dr. Suri Duitch, University Associate Dean for Continuing Education  
Shayne Spaulding, Director of Workforce Development

## **I. Welcome and Introductions**

Lieutenant Governor Duffy welcomed everyone, introduced the new legislative members, Speaker Sheldon Silver and NYS Senator Martin Golden (represented by Gerry Kassar), both voting members of the council, and invited them to say a few words. Speaker Silver affirmed that New York is indeed open for business and saluted the lieutenant governor for leading this effort. He noted that the state's future depends on its ability to generate jobs and keep college graduates in the state in a new, high-tech economy.

Chancellor Goldstein welcomed Speaker Silver and Gerry Kassar, and introduced two new council members: Monique Greenwood (former editor-in-chief of Essence magazine and owner of Akwaaba Mansion Bed & Breakfast) and Wellington Chen (executive director of the Chinatown Partnership Local Development Corporation).

Chancellor Goldstein thanked President Antonio Pérez of Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC) for hosting today's meeting. BMCC is one of CUNY's seven community colleges.

## **II. Jobs for New York's Future**

Chancellor Goldstein noted that in 2011 CUNY assembled a Jobs Task Force to address questions about the jobs of tomorrow and what skills will be required of employees. Dr. Suri Duitch, CUNY's associate dean of continuing education, and Shayne Spaulding, CUNY's director of workforce development, made a brief presentation on the CUNY Jobs Task Force final report ([www.cuny.edu/jobstaskforce](http://www.cuny.edu/jobstaskforce)).

Suri Duitch said that the task force offered an opportunity for the university to look at selected industries—finance, health care, higher education, media and advertising, and information technology—and find out what industry needs are. Staff conducted a combination of statistical analyses and interviews with major employers in these industries.

They addressed the question of how well graduates coming out of college are meeting the needs of employers, which can be of tremendous value to a university's review of academic programs.

Shayne Spaulding highlighted a few of the findings. Researchers spoke to task force members and others, for a total of 39 interviews. Some of the key drivers included economic conditions, regulatory change, and compliance. One of the biggest drivers was the fast pace of change in technology, especially the rise of big data, as well as globalization and the challenges of managing a multi-generational workplace. Interviewees noted that jobs in demand included lab technologists and primary care providers in health care, and programmers and engineers in the IT industry. Most interviewees talked about skills shortages. They spoke of a need for those with T-shaped skills—a deep understanding of one area and broad knowledge across a range of areas. Fundamental skills in demand included oral and written communication skills, analytical skills, creativity, and a willingness to learn new things. Researchers identified a set of recommendations for universities: build deeper relationships with industry, offer better career guidance for graduates, and provide graduates with work experience (internships).

Chancellor Goldstein thanked them and commended the city on its efforts to strengthen the high-tech industry and workforce through efforts such as the Applied Sciences Center.

### **III. Recap of Last Meeting**

On May 4, the council listened to a presentation from Derek Utter, deputy director of agency redesign and efficiency of the Spending and Government Efficiency (SAGE) Commission, and received a report on the ReChargeNY allocations for the NYC region.

Irene Baker presented what can be expected in 2012 for the regional economic development council initiative and the second round of consolidated funding applications.

The council received an update on PlaNYC and progress reports on four of its priority projects:

- 1) Hunts Point Terminal Produce Market
- 2) Brooklyn Navy Yard Green Manufacturing Center
- 3) NYC Seedstart
- 4) Staten Island Green Zone

It was also given a presentation on New York City's and New York State's efforts to assist small businesses.

Since the last meeting, Governor Cuomo, Mayor Bloomberg, and Borough President Marty Markowitz announced that funding has been secured to begin construction of the \$46 million development of the Green Manufacturing Center at the Brooklyn Navy Yard, one of the council's priority projects.

In addition, state agency staff have conducted four consolidated funding application (CFA) workshops in Queens, Staten Island, the Bronx, and Manhattan. The next and final CFA workshop is scheduled for this coming Thursday at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn.

The council's next scheduled meeting is not until Sept. 12, but it will be engaged in a number of activities over the summer, including:

- 1) Identifying new priority projects;
- 2) Drafting a document that will report on the implementation of the strategic plan and list new priority projects; and
- 3) Scoring the new projects submitted through the CFA process.

### **IV. Implementation Agenda**

Chancellor Goldstein noted that there are two major components to the implementation efforts. The first is that Kathy Wylde will work with the writing committee to summarize the work that has taken place during

2012 to implement various aspects of the plan and to situate these activities within the council's strategic framework. The second is to charge committees of the council with oversight of specific aspects of implementation, specifically in the areas of small business development, MWBE, and capital and infrastructure development.

Chancellor Goldstein said that he asked Gary LaBarbera and Steve Spinola to co-chair a new committee on development/infrastructure, with assistance from Deputy Mayor Steel and his staff. The purpose of the committee will be to look at the implementation of individual projects being supported by the council, and to examine more generally development and infrastructure issues that interest the council, such as waterfront development. He asked for other members to volunteer to serve on the committee, asking them to speak to Jay Hershenson, Suri Duitch, or Irene Baker at the end of the meeting.

Chancellor Goldstein then asked Kathy Wylde, chair of the writing committee, to discuss the council's implementation agenda. She explained that the committee will revisit the original strategic plan based on feedback from the reviewers. For example, it was suggested that the plan needs more depth in the workforce development area. All are invited to provide input regarding that area; she has spoken with SBS, Deputy Mayor Steel's office, CUNY, and others to augment that section of the plan. In addition, reviewers felt the plan was a bit diffuse, particularly with regard to the broad swath of activities covered (including rezoned areas across the city that were termed opportunity zones). The writing committee will work with the city to see what progress has been made and what should be added to the plan. In addition to the infrastructure/development committee, and related to the legislative committee, a meeting with the secretary to the governor was held, and subcommittees have been created to deal with issues that percolate up.

She noted that the CFA process will continue, and the council will hear more today about priority projects. Its job is to make sure that these processes are used to bring the community together around workforce and economic development priorities. Many members are doing that, both formally and informally, and the more that work can continue—and be documented, in order to be included in the progress report—the better the report will be.

## **V. CFA Scoring**

Chancellor Goldstein asked Kenneth Knuckles, chair of the scoring committee, to provide an overview of the CFA scoring process, including the new regional council statewide endorsement standards and the timeline and process for scoring. Kenneth Knuckles explained that CFAs must be submitted by July 16. The committee will then begin its work. Final scores are due to state agencies by August 27. In order to give the council sufficient time to review, the scoring committee must finish by August 17. Ratification of scores will be conducted via e-mail, with appropriate recusals.

The review and ranking of CFAs is based on set of endorsement standards, as well as the statewide standards and the council's criteria. If the proposal is identified as a priority project by the council, then it is accorded 20 points. If a proposal is identified in the plan and has regional benefits, it can get 15 points. If the proposal advances the council's plan and has local benefits, it can be awarded up to 10 points. If the proposal is consistent with the plan and has project-level benefits, it can be awarded up to five points. If the proposal has limited or no relationship to plan, then it will likely not be accorded any points. The council's endorsement constitutes only 20 percent of the full endorsement. Applications are then advanced to state agencies, which conduct technical reviews that constitute 80 percent of the total endorsement score. The council has received nearly 200 applications thus far.

## **VI. Discussion of Priority Project Criteria**

Chancellor Goldstein said that the council recently approved additional criteria for the new priority projects; the

criteria have been posted on the council's website. The council will give special consideration to proposals that incorporate the following components:

- 1) Interregional cooperation: In addition to multi-region economic impact, the council is seeking proposals that contribute toward building industry clusters across multiple regions of New York State.
- 2) Partnerships between business and institutions of higher education: Such partnerships would capitalize on the state's higher education assets in research, workforce development, education, and training in ways that directly contribute to creating jobs, developing new businesses, and hiring local residents.
- 3) Strong business partnerships: Projects designated as "priority" by the council must have substantive partnerships with businesses and/or employers.

Chancellor Goldstein then introduced Tim Sullivan from Deputy Mayor Steel's office to report on projects coming out of the city.

Tim Sullivan noted that three or four projects are citywide in reach, focusing broadly on waterfront development, broadband activity, and brownfield redevelopment. In addition, there are individual projects that will capitalize on investments already made (e.g., Fresh Direct in the Bronx). Other projects are more site specific, e.g., those aimed at Coney Island, Staten Island, etc.

## **VII. Public Forum**

Chancellor Goldstein said that the remainder of the meeting would be devoted to listening to proposed priority projects and public comment. Each speaker was given three minutes to speak and an invitation to leave written copy.

Lia Gartner, The New School. Support is requested for a new building on the Greenwich Village campus to prepare students for jobs in the creative economy and the environmental field. The building is opening in 2013. It will create additional jobs and will serve the university's students and those who participate in continuing education programs. The university will offer a certificate in high-performance building management. Funding has come from bond proceeds, the state, the city, the U.S. Department of Energy, and others. The university has instituted partnerships with businesses and trade unions.

Andrew Stone, The Trust for Public Land. Support is requested for the QueensWay, a park and greenway created by reconstituting a rail line. Similar projects, such as the High Line Park and the Brooklyn Bridge Park, have increased activity and development in their communities. The QueensWay would offer bike transit and highlight the cultural diversity of Queens. It would have a positive impact on real estate values, promote cultural tourism, and help the borough compete for jobs in the technology sector.

Marc Matsil, The Trust for Public Land. Support is requested to transform a 50-year-old abandoned rail line into a park that would jump-start tourism in Queens. The QueensWay would offer 3.5 miles of biking, promoting both health and cultural benefits. It would be an investment in smart growth infrastructure, tourism, and public-private partnerships. Many people live within a mile of the QueensWay and have little access to public open space.

Nancy Kelley, New York Genome Center. The center is an independent nonprofit research institute with 11 institutional founding members (the city's largest academic medical centers) and investment from the private sector, the city, and nonprofit entities. Support is requested for a new genomic sequencing and bioinformatics facility located in Manhattan, to be fully operational by 2013. The goal is to increase NIH funding to the academic institutions the center works with and expand local development with spinoff companies. It would serve as a talent magnet for the city, and the center would work with universities to train employees.

Travis Terry, Friends of the QueensWay. Friends of the QueensWay was created by residents of Queens to convert a rail branch from a blight into a parkway. The rail line runs by schools, residences, and businesses, and the creation of a new park space would improve quality of life, generate new economic activity, attract tourists, and retain businesses.

David McKeon, The New York Stem Cell Foundation. Support is requested to scale up the work of this nonprofit aimed at accelerating cures through stem cell research. It has raised \$100 million and supports 60 scientists and many other full-time staff. Additional resources would be aimed at new robotic technology to produce more stem cell lines every year. The technology would also create new jobs and would enable New York to better compete with other cities in biotech.

Lev Sviridov, CUNY Energy Institute. Support is requested for the institute, which develops innovative energy-storing devices, and, in doing so, attracts young researchers, trains students, and creates strong ties to government and industry throughout the state. The institute is promoting sustainable growth through spinoff companies, with the goal of growing the local scientific infrastructure.

Colleen Heemeyer, The New York Landmarks Conservancy. The council is reminded that an EPA grant was used to replace the slate roofs at an Episcopal church in Brooklyn Heights. The restoration of the roofs allowed for the removal of a sidewalk bridge, improving the appearance and value of the neighborhood. This indicates the ongoing value of the grant. It is noted that EPA resources were allocated to religious projects.

Major Owens, Medgar Evers College. Support is requested for the Central Brooklyn Redevelopment Project in order to address the community's high unemployment rate, high incarceration rate, and high mortgage failure rate, which the nation's economic collapse has only exacerbated. The comprehensive project could be a pilot program that could be replicated in other distressed communities in the city. It would entail a research design and development initiative to address job training, housing, business development, medical resources, and more. The request is for \$1 billion over five years.

Ann-Isabel Friedman, The New York Landmarks Conservancy. With reference to the CFA process, the council is reminded of the successful Sacred Sites program of the Landmarks Conservancy. These historic preservation grants have had an outsized effect on religious properties and their surrounding communities. State and private grants have generated economic growth and jobs (including grants to a synagogue in Queens and a Baptist church in Bedford-Stuyvesant).

Liz Lusskin, Polytechnic Institute of New York University. Support is requested for a clean energy incubator to grow jobs in the green tech industry. Green tech is the next great economic sector in NYC, with state and local policies, as well as businesses, driving demand. NYU-Poly's Accelerator for a Clean and Renewable Economy (ACRE), supported by a NYSERDA grant, has created 100 jobs since 2009, with a waiting list of industries. The proposal would move the project to Brooklyn and create 500 jobs.

Caren Heller, Weill Cornell Medical College. Support is requested for a Medical Technology Innovation Center that would spin out start-up medical device technology companies based on novel prototypes designed by faculty. The center would facilitate collaborative device development. It is expected to be transformative, with 25 viable ideas in the first year. The proposal aligns with the council's criteria; there will be both upstate and NYC campuses, and it will create job growth. The plan is to synergize with the Cornell-Technion campus. Cornell has initiated space planning for sites.

Valerio De Angelis, CUNY Energy Institute. Support is requested for the CUNY Energy Institute, which is developing technologies for the development of large batteries under the leadership of its director, Sanjoy Banerjee. The institute has already received \$8 million in grants, is creating high-paying jobs, and has developed partnerships with state agencies. Its work focuses on creating batteries with a longer life at the same cost. The institute is licensing its technology to Urban Electric Power and plans to build out manufacturing throughout the state.

Michael Hurwitz, Grow NYC/Oak Point Property. Support is requested for a fresh food campus to meet the

increasing demand for fresh food and locally grown produce. A city-based food hub would create a downstate infrastructure for distribution and marketing, with a broker making connections upstate. The project would impact every county in the state and create job-training programs. It would scale up the work that Grow NYC is already doing across the city.

Steve Smith, Grow NYC/Oak Point Property. Support is requested for the Oak Point project, a 20-acre property in the South Bronx that has been developed and cleaned. The property has rail and water access and would be used as a fresh food campus to get food from across the state to the Bronx and other boroughs that need healthy foods. The project would create 500 industrial jobs in food manufacturing and distribution, provide distribution channels, and strengthen the linkage between upstate and downstate.

Lissa Frenkel, Park Avenue Armory. Support is requested to continue capital improvements to the armory, mostly in infrastructure. In the last five years, the armory, managed and operated through a public-private partnership, has been transformed into a center for the performing arts. Its new artistic director will bring in new local and international programming. Only three of 18 interiors have been refurbished, and it must complete its largest infrastructure project to enable completion of the interior projects.

Refael Tessler, NCM USA. Support is requested to expand operations and research activity at a new pharmaceutical manufacturing facility in the Bronx. Three pharmaceuticals—to detect cancer, brain disorder, and heart disease—are being manufactured, and eight to 10 more will be added. NCM is actively hiring local scientists and servicing local hospitals and diagnostic centers. It has an agreement with Roche to develop imaging to detect prostate cancer.

Joshua Winters, NYC EDC. Support is requested for the Low Income Fast Track (LIFT) Entrepreneurship Program. The program offers expertise and resources to low- and mid-skilled residents who want to start a business. LIFT provides technical assistance, access to capital, connections to anchor institutions, and incubator space to entrepreneurs. It targets those in distressed communities who are underemployed or in low-wage jobs and at risk of becoming detached from the labor market.

Tracy Massei, NYC EDC. Support is requested for the Connect NYC project, which helps commercial buildings access high-speed digital services. The city still has digital deserts in some industrial zones. While digital access is often provided through ISPs, this can be too expensive for small businesses. Industrial businesses, which provide important mid-skill job opportunities, need better digital access. Connect NYC will target buildings in IBZs that need wiring.

Daniel Zarrilli, NYC EDC. Support is requested for a grain transload facility in Staten Island, adjacent to the rail terminal. There is no large facility in New York to meet market demand for grain-based exports from the Midwest. The construction of a facility to ensure that the port is located in New York City would result in additional jobs and would position the city as a critical destination for this market.

Javier David, Mt. Lebanon Baptist Church. The council is asked not to lose sight of religious institutions and other landmark sites that need support for restoration projects. Mt. Lebanon, in Bedford-Stuyvesant, benefited greatly from a roof restoration project, as did the larger community it serves.

Andrew Genn, NYC EDC. Support is requested to create a mitigation bank for private and public development. In New York, waterfront development projects are affected by the tension between economic development and the protection of natural resources. Projects get stalled in the review process. The cost of mitigating a project can be very high. Through a mitigation bank, developers bank credits, or a third party provides credits. This does not reduce a project's environmental impact burdens; it simply speeds the permitting process.

Tom McKnight, NYC EDC. Support for two projects is requested. One, in Coney Island, is the acquisition and redevelopment of the Shore Theater. Developing it as a new performance venue would offer a major boost to the area's revitalization. The second, in downtown Jamaica, is the redevelopment of a pivotal lot to jump-start high-density transit. The 60,000-square-foot site across from the air terminal has potential for hotel, retail, and office space.

David Freidman, Montefiore Medical Center. Support is requested for Montefiore's planned capital investment in the Bronx. The medical center is engaged in real estate transactions to expand its services, including new ambulatory clinical space with operating rooms, imaging services, and physician practices. Montefiore would take a 16-year lease, and the project would stimulate job creation.

Sabrina Terry, UPROSE. Support is requested for efforts to allow better access to the waterfront for Sunset Park residents. It is difficult to attract new businesses and employees to the area because of the inaccessibility of the waterfront. A planned pedestrian access project, which would incorporate green infrastructure, would add green space to the community, facilitate economic development, and enable better connection to the waterfront.

Andrew Kimball, Brooklyn Navy Yard. Support is requested for a partnership with Steiner Studios to create a media campus at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The project leverages private funds, would create many good-paying media technology and manufacturing jobs, and meets the critical demand for media space. Steiner has a track record of creating jobs, as does the Navy Yard. Steiner already has media education partnerships with Brooklyn College and Long Island University and is in discussion with Carnegie Mellon University and other schools.

Daniel Walsh, NYC Office of Environmental Remediation. Support is requested to continue environmental cleanup in low-income communities, which OER administers under the Brownfield Cleanup Program. This will enable new development on sites that have long been vacated, in Harlem, Central Brooklyn, the South Bronx, the north shore of Staten Island, and other communities. The program offers high-quality cleanup with liability protection, and a strong return on investment, with the creation of new jobs and funding leveraged by city and federal funding.

Ray Kenard, Northeast Transportation Electrification Alliance. Support is requested to replace diesel-fuel vehicles with electric vehicles. At many ports, containers are moved from ships by truck to other centers. These trucks are all diesel fueled, and are harmful to the environment and public health. The use of trucks that use more environmentally sound fuels would improve community health and create new jobs.

Jukay Hsu, Coalition for Queens. As part of the coalition's work to foster technology growth in Queens, support is requested for a tech incubator in Long Island City. The biggest obstacle to growing technology in the borough is space, and this project would create new space, some of which would be used to offer educational classes. It is located on 12 acres of waterfront property in an Opportunity Zone across from the site of the Cornell-Technion center.

Holly Kaye, Planning and Development Consultant. The council is reminded of the importance of preserving sacred sites, which are micro-engines of economic growth. They often exist in communities where the demographics have changed, and aging facilities must be addressed. Such projects generate jobs, and the sites serve as anchors for the community. For example, capital improvements to the Free Synagogue in Flushing would advance its role as an important base of a diverse neighborhood.

Aimee Boden, Randall's Island Park Alliance. The island has a waterfront park, tennis courts, athletic playing fields, and an urban farm, and hosts large-scale city events; in addition, Icahn Stadium hosts international track and field competition. Support is requested to strengthen these initiatives. Access to and around the island would be helped by infrastructure improvements.

Leslie Schultz, BRIC. BRIC arts and media programming is mostly free to the public, and support is requested to expand programming through new space in Downtown Brooklyn. Through renovation of an existing facility, space for performances, programs, exhibits, and town hall meetings would be created. It is a shovel-ready project, and existing funding could be leveraged to open a new BRIC arts and media house in 2015.

William Wilkins, Local Development Corporation of East New York. Support is requested to help the LDC meet the city's goal of developing biotech clusters in the outer boroughs. The LDC has partnered with a group that has received FDA approval for its first project: the development of modular equipment to take vital statistics offsite. The LDC is providing tax credits; there is a need for an R & D center, and, later, space for manufacturing.

Max Joel, Solar One. Capital support is requested for the Solar 2 project, a new green energy arts and education center. It would be the city's first net-zero building, using geothermal and solar power, a water recapture system, energy-efficient lighting, and a wetlands area. It is a shovel-ready project that would transform abandoned industrial space into an education center.

Stephen Martin, FDR Four Freedoms Park. Support is requested for the park on Roosevelt Island, which will be completed this fall. The park was originally designed when there were no public facilities. Today, the plan is to repurpose a former hospital into a visitors center for the public, offer lectures and other public programming, and bring ferry service to the site, as the island's population is expected to grow with the construction of the Cornell-Technion site.

Tom Conoscenti, Downtown Brooklyn Partnership. With the emergence of the technology sector in Downtown Brooklyn, commercial growth is poised to double over the next several years. The area has a low vacancy rate for small commercial space. Support is requested to transform existing spaces into small offices in order to create more job opportunities, as well as for step-up space as companies grow.

George Murillo, Columbia University Medical Center. Support is requested for an existing facility on the Columbia campus that needs infrastructure modernization in order to increase operational efficiency. The facility is shared by several researchers and must be flexible enough to allow for different space configurations. The \$9.7 million project will create jobs in the Washington Heights area.

Michael O'Connor, NYU College of Dentistry. Support is requested for the college's biomaterials research program, which will expand with the construction of NYU's new, interdisciplinary health sciences education and research facility. Specifically, \$750,000 is requested for a nano-CT scanner. The scanner would help to create new techniques for treating patients, leading to shorter stays, reduced costs, and improved results. The scanner would be made available to other institutions.

Eric McFarland, CUNY Energy Institute. Support is requested for Urban Electric Power, a privately financed company to commercialize the battery technology developed through the CUNY Energy Institute. The company would bring new jobs to the area, improving energy efficiency, reducing costs, and reducing the peak load problem. The company is negotiating a license with CUNY and will continue to fund R & D work at CUNY. Support is requested for two stages: a pilot manufacturing facility and a later upgrade to a larger manufacturing facility.

## **VIII. Wrap-up/Adjourn**

Lieutenant Governor Duffy thanked all of the public presenters, the council members, and Irene Baker. With no further comments or questions from council members, he then adjourned the meeting.