

Empire State Development News

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FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATE

10/20/2009

NEW YORK CONVENTION CENTER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION ANNOUNCES JAVITS CENTER EXPANSION IS ON SCHEDULE AND ON BUDGET

Expansion on track for June 2010 opening

The New York Convention Center Development Corporation announced today that significant progress has been made on the expansion of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center since construction began in July on the block bounded by 39th Street, 11th Avenue, 40th Street and 12th Avenue. The structural steel frame is entirely in place, and the roof and exterior cladding will be put in place in the next four to six weeks. Following the pouring of concrete slabs, NYCDC expects the structure to be closed in by November, after which the interior fit-out will begin.

"We're looking forward to completing the expansion on time and on budget by June 2010, and to turning the building over to the many valued customers of the Javits Convention Center," said Barbara Lampen, President of New York Convention Center Development Corporation (NYCCDC). "Once the expansion is completed, work will begin on the \$390 million dollar renovation of the existing Center. Major elements of that renovation include replacement of the roof and an entirely new exterior envelope, which will be completed in 2013."

The 100,000 square foot expansion will contain 40,000 net square feet of exhibition space. Pre-function and registration areas, support and core functions (restrooms, food service areas), and a truck court and loading docks will be located within the remaining 60,000 square feet. Upon completion of the renovation, the 40,000 square feet of exhibition space will remain in service and will complement existing operations.

"Since its opening twenty-three years ago, the Javits Center has been a world-class destination for events and a vibrant part of our State's economy," said Dennis M. Mullen, Chairman and CEO of Empire State Development. "It is our responsibility to ensure that the Convention Center retains a competitive edge in a highly competitive industry, and we know that the improvements we are making will ensure its future as an important economic engine for the City and the State."

"We are pleased with the ongoing progress that is occurring on the Javits Center," said Peter Davidson, Executive Director of Empire State Development. "The expansion and renovation is a signature project for ESDC because of the significant impact that the Convention Center has on both our City and State economy, and we are looking forward to the expansion's opening this spring."

The Jacob K. Javits Convention Center opened in 1986 as the successor to the Coliseum Convention Center (formerly at 59th Street and Broadway). Since its opening, Javits has been New York City's primary venue for large conventions, exhibitions and major trade shows. These events are key contributors to the City and State economy, stimulating direct and indirect employment, economic activity, and tax revenues, and strongly supporting the City's hotel, restaurant, tourism and entertainment industries. Total annual attendance at Javits exceeds one million people, with total annual sales of \$1.9 billion.

NYCCDC was created by State statute in 1979 to develop a Convention Center in New York City. The same statute also created the NYCCOC, an independent public benefit corporation responsible for the operation of the Javits Center.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency. ESD also oversees the marketing of "I LOVE NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, visit www.nylovesbiz.com.

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