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**HARRIMAN RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION BOARD CHOOSES DEVELOPER**

*Redevelopment of Harriman Campus will spur economic development and create jobs for the
Capital Region*

The Harriman Research and Technology Development Corporation (HRTDC) Board of Directors met today and accepted the recommendation of its RFP Advisory Committee, passing a resolution to enter into negotiations with the Columbia Development, LLC team to have them serve as the primary developer of the first phase of incremental development of the Harriman Research and Technology Park.

“The Board of Directors is looking forward to this public-private partnership at the Harriman Campus, which will serve as a complement to Governor Paterson’s New Economy Jobs Plan,” said John C. Egan, Chairman of the Board of the Harriman Research and Technology Development Corporation. “The real work starts today as the first phase of the project moves forward.”

The Board voted to enter into negotiations with Columbia Development as the team presented a plan that conformed to the RFP and most closely aligned with HRTDC’s Innovation Community vision for the Harriman Campus. Further, the Board determined the components of the team’s proposal to be appropriate and preferred both in today’s economic conditions and within the reality of an on-going New York State agency presence on the Campus for the foreseeable future. In addition, the Board concluded the primary team members of Columbia, BB&L Construction and M+W Zander brought a proven track record, as they offer a demonstrated history of successfully completing both local and international large scale technology projects, similar to that envisioned for the Harriman redevelopment.

“We’re excited to partner with the Columbia Development team and begin the process of transforming the Harriman Campus, 330 acres of prime real estate and space, into a world-class research and technology park,” said HRTDC President Peter Wohl. “The team’s proposal was one that matched the criteria and requirements of the RFP and fit our vision for the Campus.

Selecting a developer is a critical first step in this public process that will have a resounding effect on the area by spurring economic development, growing the tax base and creating high quality jobs in the Capital Region.”

The HRTDC Board has selected the Columbia team with the understanding that the approach to the project will be incremental, allowing for development to begin fairly quickly despite the economic climate while limiting the need for State investment on big ticket items like transportation and infrastructure improvements in the initial phase. The overall Campus vision will remain intact and will honor previous public input, with the 2006 Master Plan continuing to be a guiding influence in the redevelopment of the Campus as the process moves forward. The effort will build on the leadership of the University at Albany in scientific research and technology development as the basis for attracting businesses to the Harriman Campus.

“I’m pleased the Harriman Research and Technology Development Corporation Board has continued this forward momentum by selecting a development team to get this project off the ground,” said Empire State Development Chairman and CEO designate and Harriman Board member, Dennis M. Mullen. “It’s critical to prepare a go-to market strategy now, and begin laying the groundwork for the redevelopment plan in order to maximize our investments and capitalize on the market as it begins its return.”

The plan for the Campus furthers New York State’s economic development strategy of supporting industry clusters and university technology transfer to the private sector and encouraging smart growth. The adjacency of the Harriman Campus to the University at Albany main campus, the University’s College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering and the growing SEMATECH complex makes it one of the most valuable and underdeveloped locations in the region.

“The Board’s decision has finally set the wheels in motion for redeveloping this valuable asset,” said Empire State Development Executive Director Peter Davidson. “I look forward to the collaborative efforts of the Board, the Columbia Development team and all stakeholders from this point forward as they work towards public and private partnerships to revitalize and grow the Harriman Campus.”

The Harriman Research and Technology Development Corporation, a subsidiary of Empire State Development, is dedicated to transforming Albany’s W. A. Harriman State Office Campus into a regional growth engine for New York State’s “Innovation Economy.” The Harriman redevelopment project brings technology-based employment to the Capital District by serving as the catalyst for continued growth by partnering with the research and product development currently underway at the University at Albany and other educational institutions, particularly the University at Albany’s College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering and the College of Computing and Information. For more information, visit HRTDC’s Web site at www.harrimancampus.com.

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