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ESDC BOARD APPROVES GRANTS LEVERAGING \$148.3 MILLION IN PRIVATE INVESTMENTS TO RETAIN AND CREATE JOBS ACROSS STATE

2,408 jobs to be retained and 528 new jobs to be created in New York State

Empire State Development Corporation's Board of Directors met today in Rochester and approved grants totaling more than \$16 million, pledging to retain 2,408 existing jobs and create over 528 new jobs in New York State. The grants will leverage more than \$148.3 million in private investments across the State.

Champlain Bridge Recovery Fund – \$2.3 million (Essex County)

The Champlain Bridge Assistance Program, announced by Governor Paterson in November, provides grants and loans to help New York businesses directly impacted by the bridge closure on October 16, 2009.

- *Increased Transportation Costs Grants – \$ 1 million*
The ESDC Board of Directors authorized grants totaling up to \$1 million to be used for 75 percent of the increased cost to agricultural and manufacturing firms resulting from the distance that detours add to their routes.
- *Retail Assistance Grants – \$1.3 million*
The ESDC Board of Directors authorized grants totaling up to \$1.3 million to retail and service firms affected by the Champlain Bridge closure. These funds will be used to reimburse revenue losses of up to \$10,000, or 50 percent, of quarterly revenue loss, whichever is less, if the retail business suffered reduced sales of at least 20 percent because of lost business traffic from the bridge closure, during the fourth quarter of 2009.

Restore New York Communities Initiative

The ESDC Board authorized the following Restore New York Grants. The Restore New York program is targeted toward the revitalization of urban areas and the stabilization of neighborhoods as a means to attract residents and businesses.

- *Bresee Block Redevelopment – \$2.2 million (Otsego County)*
The City of Oneonta was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$2.2 million to be used for a portion of the cost of demolition and rehabilitation/restoration of three deteriorated buildings in downtown Oneonta. The rehabilitation of these three properties

are expected to create nearly 40,000 square feet of rehabilitated residential and commercial space, including 27 new units of market rate housing. Total project cost is \$6,566,000.

- *Commercial and Mixed Use Center – \$2 million (Erie County)*
The City of Buffalo was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$2 million to be used for a portion of renovation costs of the Thaddeus J. Dulski Federal Office Building (now know as the Avant Building). The project includes the installation of a glass and metal exterior facade; state-of-the-art plumbing, electrical and HVAC elements; and interior reconstruction into hotel, condominium and office space. Total project cost is \$80,298,331.
- *Roxy Hotel – \$1,532,286 (Jefferson County)*
The Village of Cape Vincent was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$1,532,286 to be used for a portion of the cost of demolition, hazardous material handling and rehabilitation costs of the Roxy Hotel. Built in 1853, the Roxy Hotel is the only hotel built during this time that is still standing today. As a waterfront community, summertime brings an influx of vacationers and cottage owners and the restoration of the hotel is expected to continue to attract visitors to the downtown area. Total project cost is \$2,008,500.
- *Sackets Harbor Madison Barracks – \$735,000 (Jefferson County)*
The Village of Sackets Harbor was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$735,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of demolition, deconstruction, renovations and reconstruction of the Madison Barracks. The Madison Barracks, an abandoned army installation on the northern end of the village, offers 100 acres of architecturally and historically significant buildings and grounds. Building number 58 in the Barracks was the former U.S. Army Administration building and is one of five remaining vacant structures. With a majestic view of Lake Ontario, the 9,584 square-foot structure has been vacant since 1947 and in state of disrepair. While maintaining its historical presence, the building will be rehabilitated into a 15-room upscale hotel/inn. The project is anticipated to be completed by October 2010 and create up to ten permanent and seasonal jobs. Total project cost is \$1,170,000.
- *Spaulding Fibre Demolition – \$663,000 (Erie County)*
The City of Tonawanda was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$663,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of asbestos abatement and removal, demolition and site clearing at the Spaulding Fibre site. The removal of the building will have a positive impact on Tonawanda, eliminate a serious safety hazard and facilitate the redevelopment of the site. The potential future use of the site includes redevelopment for light industrial and/or commercial use with possible recreational components. Total project cost is \$1,046,000.
- *Historic Hollywood Theater – \$660,000 (Cattaraugus County)*
The Village of Gowanda was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$660,000 to be used for a portion of the reconstruction costs for Gowanda’s Historic Hollywood

Theater. Constructed in 1926, the Historic Hollywood Theater operated as a movie and performing arts theater until 1992, after which it remained vacant. The project includes the design and engineering; partial interior demolition; and interior renovations, including water and sewer upgrades, plumbing, electrical, security and sprinkler systems, necessary to allow the theater to re-open as an active historic landmark. Total project cost is \$2,160,000.

- *Dooley Drug Store – \$276,475 (Lewis County)*

The Village of Harrisville was awarded a Restore NY Round III grant of up to \$276,475 to be used for a portion of the cost of renovations to the Dooley Drug Store. The drug store is one of four remaining historic commercial buildings on Main Street in downtown Harrisville. Once rehabilitation is completed, the buildings will contain a drug store, sporting good shop and two apartments. The reuse of this vacant, condemned building will revitalize the center of Harrisville. Total project cost is \$310,882.

The following companies were awarded Economic Development Fund grants:

La Belle Farm Capital –\$176,205 (Sullivan County)

La Belle Farm is a privately held company, which specializes in poultry, egg and meat production and distribution. After a fire in 2005, the company needed financial assistance to rebuild and expand its operations. The company was awarded a grant of up to \$176,205 to be used for a portion of the cost associated with the construction of an 18,800-square-foot poultry processing facility. As a result of this project, the company will retain 47 employees and create 18 new jobs. Total project cost is \$836,058.

Syracuse Label Company – \$110,000 (Onondaga County)

The Syracuse Label Company, Inc. is a manufacturer of pressure-sensitive labels and flexible packaging. It operates from a 35,000-square-foot facility which includes production space, warehousing and office space. The company was awarded a grant of up to \$110,000 to be used for a portion of machinery and equipment acquisition related costs. The project will retain 80 jobs. Total project cost is \$1,544,554.

The following was awarded a JOBS Now Grant:

GE Energy Capital – \$5,000,000 (Schenectady County)

Since 1888, GE has maintained a manufacturing campus in Schenectady, which currently contains about 40 buildings on over 600 acres. In 2007, the company embarked on a plan to expand multiple functions of the GE Energy division and create a new headquarters. ESD offered an incentive package inclusive of a \$5 million grant to be used for a portion of the cost of renovations to building #53 in Schenectady. The company accepted the offer and as of October 2009, the company has created 640 new jobs, exceeding its employment commitment of 500 and bringing the job total to 2,800. Total project cost is \$46.1 million.

The following was awarded a Manufacturing Assistance Program (MAP) Capital Grant:

Cello-Pack – \$450,000 (Erie County)

Established in 1948, Cello-Pack is a produce bag manufacturer that designs and manufactures quality flexible bagging solutions, including high-barrier laminations, standup pouches, flat bags, shrink bags, lidding stocks and other flexible packaging primarily for the food and consumer products markets. Cello-Pack operates its manufacturing and distribution capabilities from a single 77,000-square foot location in Cheektowaga. The company was awarded a grant of up to \$450,000 to be used for a portion of the cost of the acquisition and installation of new machinery and equipment. The project will retain 121 full-time jobs through January 2012. Total project cost is \$6.3 million.

In addition, the ESDC Board of Directors authorized the following measures:

The Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC)

The ESDC Board of Directors approved the Canal Side General Project Plan (GPP) for the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation Canal Side Project. The GPP, which is required by Section 10(g) of the NYS Urban Development Corporation Act, provides a comprehensive analysis of the Canal Side project and details the associated economic benefits of revitalizing large swaths of previously underutilized waterfront lands in downtown Buffalo. Contents of the GPP include: project site summaries, backgrounds and history; environmental review specifications; land acquisition and usage details; design and construction process evaluation; cost benefit analysis; preliminary funding sources and uses information; required affirmative action program goals; as well as land zoning authority.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will tentatively be held the third week of January 2010, at a location to be announced closer to the time of the event.

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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