



For Immediate Release: Monday, September 26, 2011

Contact:

Austin Shafran (ESD) | ashafran@empire.state.ny.us | (800) 260-7313

Jola Szubielski (ESD) | jszubielski@empire.state.ny.us | (800) 260-7313

John T. DeCelle (SEFCU) | JDeCelle@sefcu.com | (518) 464-5336

Theresa Bourgeois (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute) | bourgt@rpi.edu | (518) 276-2840

CAPITAL REGION ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO MEET SEPTEMBER 30TH AT THE GLENS FALLS CIVIC CENTER

Albany, NY - The Capital Region Economic Development Council (CREDC) will hold its next meeting on Friday, September 30 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Glens Falls Civic Center. Co-chaired by Dr. Shirley Ann Jackson, president of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and Michael J. Castellana, SEFCU's president and CEO, the group will meet to continue its work on a five year strategic economic development plan for the eight county Capital Region.

Glens Falls Mayor John "Jack" Diamond will open the session with welcoming remarks.

Council members will hear a report from the Public Engagement work group on key insights garnered from the three public forums held across the region (Columbia and Greene counties September 6; Albany, Schenectady, Rensselaer Counties September 7; and Saratoga, Warren and Washington counties September 14.)

Workgroups focusing on issues and opportunities; the strategic plan; metrics; and project priorities and planning also will provide an update on their activities and findings.

The entire meeting is open to the public, and will conclude with an open forum for area business, labor, education, and community leaders and other interested citizens to provide the council with ideas and suggestions related to economic development. To allow as many to participate as possible, each individual will be asked to speak for up to three minutes. The council also will accept written testimony at the meeting.

The meeting will be held in Heritage Hall on the Mezzanine level of the Glens Falls Civic Center. Directions to the Civic Center, located at 1 Civic Center Plaza in downtown Glens Falls, can be

found at <http://www.glensfallscc.com/directions/directions.cfm>. Parking is available at St Mary's Church parking lot, adjacent to the Civic Center.

This is the CREDC's fourth meeting in the region, which includes Warren, Washington, Saratoga, Schenectady, Rensselaer, Albany, Greene and Columbia counties.

The Council continues to encourage all residents from the region to complete an on-line survey at <http://capitalregionopenforbusiness.com> to maximize public input on this important initiative.

The Capital Region Economic Development Council is one of ten regional councils across New York, created by Governor Andrew Cuomo, to serve as a single point of contact for economic activity in the region. Through their strategic planning process, the councils will identify and expedite priority projects that demonstrate the greatest potential for job growth. As part of the initiative, up to \$1 billion in state resources will be accessible to eligible economic development projects through existing program grants and tax credits.

Each regional council is crafting a five year strategic plan, which will provide a regional vision for economic development, address critical issues and opportunities, and lay out an implementation roadmap for future growth. The state will work with the regional councils to align state resources and policies, eliminate unnecessary barriers to growth and prosperity, and streamline the delivery of government services and programs to help the regional councils carry out their plans for economic security.

To learn more about the CREDC activities, visit www.capitalregionopenforbusiness.com. To learn more about each region and their economic development plans, visit www.nyworks.ny.gov.

##