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**EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES SCHEDULE FOR REDC'S
PRESENTATIONS TO STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT TEAM**

***All 10 Regions Will Present Their 2016 Proposals And Provide Progress Updates
To The NYS Review Team Next Week In Albany***

Presentations Will Be Streamed Live Online At www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov

Empire State Development (ESD) today announced the schedule for this year's Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) presentations to the Strategic Implementation Assessment Team (SIAT), which is led by Secretary of State Rossana Rosado. As in years past, the SIAT will be composed of State officials and outside economic development experts, each of whom have years of experience working on community and economic development projects and planning.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky said, "The REDC initiative has transformed New York's economic development process for the better, spurring investment and creating jobs by relying on those who are on the front lines and know their region best. The work of the SIAT is an essential piece of this process, and their recommendations are always comprehensive and very thoughtful. Governor Cuomo's vision for a holistic, bottom-up process has, undeniably, been a great success – leading to billions of dollars in public and private investment, and tens of thousands of jobs being created and retained throughout New York State."

On Tuesday, November 1, and Wednesday, November 2, the 10 REDCs will present their Round VI proposals to the SIAT in Meeting Room 6 in the Empire State Plaza Concourse, in Albany. Representatives from each region will have up to 30 minutes to provide an in-person presentation to the SIAT, including updates on their strategic plan goals, progress achieved on priorities and projects funded in previous rounds and outlines of their Round VI strategies. The presentations will be followed by up to 30 minutes of questions from the review team.

New York State Secretary of State Rossana Rosado said, "The SIAT is ready to begin working to evaluate each region's progress. These comprehensive presentations provide us with valuable recommendations to maximize investment in vital economic

development projects, leveraging state, local and private resources to create jobs and encourage economic growth throughout New York State.”

The schedule for REDC presentations is as follows:

Tuesday, November 1

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.	Finger Lakes
10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Mid-Hudson
12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Southern Tier
2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	North Country
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	Mohawk Valley

Wednesday, November 2

9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	New York City
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Long Island
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.	Western NY
2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.	Central NY
4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.	Capital Region

The REDC process has transformed New York State’s approach to economic development, streamlining the application process and creating a statewide framework for regional economic growth. After five rounds of the REDC competition, nearly \$4 billion has been awarded to support more than 4,100 projects that are supporting the creation or retention of more than 200,000 jobs statewide.

By incentivizing the implementation of strategic plans, the Regional Councils, businesses, educational institutions, local governments, not-for-profit groups and other stakeholders are further motivated to work together to accomplish the regional vision they developed collaboratively. The REDC competition emphasizes performance and action to implement strategies, and encourages genuine cooperation among the Regional Councils and representatives of the community, which is critical to achieving successful economic development.

Since 2011:

- Western New York REDC has delivered \$356.4 million for 429 projects;
- Finger Lakes REDC has delivered \$425.6 million for 489 projects;
- Southern Tier REDC has delivered \$420.0 million for 398 projects;
- Central New York REDC has delivered \$466.9 million for 404 projects;
- Mohawk Valley REDC has delivered \$362.2 million for 356 projects;
- North Country REDC has delivered \$423.2 million for 373 projects;
- Capital Region REDC has delivered \$353.9 million for 479 projects;
- Mid-Hudson REDC has delivered \$392.6 million for 459 projects;
- New York City REDC has delivered \$320.2 million for 323 projects; and
- Long Island REDC has delivered \$424.5 million for 468 projects.

Round VI of the REDC initiative will award up to \$750 million in state agency resources

to economic and community development projects, with all 10 REDCs competing for the designation of being a “Top Performer.” Five Top Performers will be selected and will receive up to \$25 million in Empire State Development Capital Grant funding, with the remaining five regions receiving up to \$10 million. Additionally, each region will be eligible for up to \$15 million in Excelsior Tax Credits to help attract and grow businesses in the region.

Priorities for the REDCs in 2016 include:

- Support the Downtown Revitalization Initiative Plan, and begin to identify priority projects in the defined community;
- Implementing strategies through the project pipeline;
- Training the workforce for today and tomorrow; and
- Measuring the performance and progress of the strategic plan and CFA projects.

The 2016 Regional Council awards will be announced later this year.

About the Regional Economic Development Councils

The Regional Economic Development Council initiative (REDC) is a key component of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo’s transformative approach to State investment and economic development. In 2011, Governor Cuomo established 10 Regional Councils to develop long-term strategic plans for economic growth for their regions. The Councils are public-private partnerships made up of local experts and stakeholders from business, academia, local government, and non-governmental organizations. The Regional Councils have redefined the way New York invests in jobs and economic growth by putting in place a community-based, bottom up approach and establishing a competitive process for State resources. After five rounds of the REDC process, nearly \$4 billion has been awarded to more than 4,100 job creation and community development projects consistent with each region’s strategic plans, supporting the creation or retention of more than 200,000 jobs. For more information on the Regional Councils, visit www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov.

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