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**MOHAWK VALLEY REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL TO MEET
OCTOBER 6TH AT SUNY COBLESKILL**

NYS Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) workshop to follow the Regional Council meeting

The Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council will hold its next meeting on Thursday, October 6th from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at SUNY Cobleskill, Bouck Ballroom, State Route 7, Cobleskill. Co-chaired by Bjong Wolf Yeigh, President of the SUNY Institute of Technology, and Larry Gilroy, President of Gilroy, Kernan & Gilroy, Inc., the group will meet to continue its work on a five year strategic economic development plan for the Mohawk Valley region which includes Herkimer, Oneida, Otsego, Schoharie, Montgomery and Fulton counties.

Members will discuss and act on materials developed by various workgroups, including Vision; Public Participation; SWOT/Regional Drivers; Strategies and Implementation; and Strategic Writing. The entire meeting is open to the public for observation.

In addition, the council encourages participation at two workshops being held in the Mohawk Valley this week to help potential applicants better understand the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) process. The workshops will include an overview of the application process, as well as breakout sessions covering the areas of Business Assistance, Community Development, and Energy and the Environment. The workshops in the Mohawk Valley are scheduled as follows:

Utica: Wednesday, October 5, 2011

5:30pm – 8:00pm

Utica State Office Building

207 Genesee Street

Utica, NY 13501

Conference Room A& B, 1st Floor

Cobleskill: Thursday, October 6, 2011

1:00pm – 3:30pm
SUNY Cobleskill, Bouck Ballroom
State Route 7
Cobleskill, NY 12043

Governor Andrew Cuomo's transformative plan to improve the state's economic development model includes the introduction of the NYS Consolidated Funding Application. The CFA was created to streamline and expedite the state-assistance application process. The CFA marks a fundamental shift in the way state resources are allocated, ensuring less bureaucracy and greater efficiency to fulfill local economic development needs.

Economic development projects will now use the CFA as a support mechanism to access \$1 billion in economic development funding from multiple state funding sources through one application, making the process quicker, easier and more productive. **Applicants must submit their CFAs by October 31, 2011.** Application materials and a guidebook are available online at <http://nyworks.ny.gov>. Once the CFA is submitted by the applicant, it goes to the local Regional Economic Development Council to be reviewed and ranked as part of its strategic planning process.

The Mohawk Valley Regional Council, which is comprised of a diverse group of approximately 30 area leaders from the private and public sectors, labor, chambers of commerce, higher education, and community-based organizations, is working to create a five-year strategic plan for economic development in Herkimer, Oneida, Otsego, Schoharie, Montgomery and Fulton counties. The strategic plan will provide a regional vision for economic development, address critical issues and opportunities, and lay out an implementation roadmap for future growth. Please visit www.nyworks.ny.gov/content/mohawk-valley to learn more.

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.

The Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council is one of ten regional councils across New York that will serve as single points of contact for economic activity in each region. Created by Governor Cuomo, the Regional Economic Development Councils represent a fundamental shift in the state's approach to economic development—from a top-down development model to a community-based approach that emphasizes regions' unique assets, harnesses local expertise, and empowers each region to set plans and priorities.

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