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EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT APPROVES \$1.83 MILLION IN UPSTATE GRANTS AT BOARD MEETING

679 JOBS RETAINED AND 118 NEW JOBS COMING TO UPSTATE NEW YORK

Empire State Development (ESD) announced that five Upstate grants from the Economic Development Fund totaling \$1,830,000 received formal approval at the Board of Directors Meeting held at SUNY Purchase College on March 20.

Economic Development Fund approved projects included grants that will leverage \$9,651,502 in investment across New York and will result in the retention of 679 jobs and the pledge of 118 additional jobs. Upstate Grants presented for approval include:

- Eaton Corporation, Chemung County - \$800,000
- Oneida Molded Plastics, Madison County - \$180,000
- SKF Aeroengine, Chautauqua County - \$550,000
- Syntec Optics, Genesee and Monroe counties - \$150,000
- YRC North American Transportation, Erie - \$150,000

In other business conducted Thursday, the board also approved the following items for Upstate New York:

- Authorization to enter into contract with LiRo Engineers Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$350,000 to provide Phase 2 Environmental Site Assessment services in preparation for Rochester's Midtown Plaza demolition and disposal.
- Three City-by-City grants, totaling \$2,390,000, including:
 - \$250,000 for the Albright-Knox building expansion feasibility study (Erie)
 - \$240,000 for the City of Utica Central Business District Parking (Oneida)
 - \$1,900,000 for Clarkson University Peyton Hall Capital (St. Lawrence)
- One Restore New York Communities II grant, totaling \$2,500,000, for asbestos abatement and removal, demolition and site clearing at the former Spaulding Fibre Company in Tonawanda (Erie).
- One Aid to Localities grant, totaling \$150,000, to Griffiss Local Development Corporation
- Authorization to adopt Empire State Development's annual budget for fiscal year 2008-09.

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will tentatively be held on April 17, 2008 at a location to be announced closer to the event.

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency, encompassing business, workforce and community development. 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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