



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

December 2, 2011

The Honorable Robert J. Duffy  
Lieutenant Governor  
NYS Capitol Building  
Albany, NY 12244

Dear Lieutenant Governor Duffy:

On behalf of the Assembly Minority Conference's Western New York Delegation, we are writing to express the need for the Western New York Regional Economic Development Council to receive adequate funding when awards are allocated.

The Council has released its proposed development plan, laying out numerous projects and initiatives that are extremely worthy of state support. By investing in higher education, agriculture, tourism and other resources unique to Western New York, we will not only turn our local economies around, but we will position our region to be a catalyst for economic recovery across the state.

Most importantly, Western New York is both in need and deserving of this economic development funding. Our region has repeatedly been hurt by budget cuts to crucial areas that have left our families and businesses at a competitive disadvantage. The state has an obligation to treat our region fairly, and now has an opportunity to unlock Western New York's potential as an economic engine that will return New York to its status as The Empire State. We ask only for fairness and equity as the award decisions are being made.

As a delegation, we are fully committed to working with you and your panel to find creative ways to get New York's economy back on track. Now, more than ever, Western New York needs the state's support, and we are confident that any investment made in our region will be returned exponentially to the state as a whole. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Assembly Minority Conference Western New York Delegation

Assemblyman Dan Burling

Handwritten signature of Dan Burling in black ink.


R,C-Warsaw

Assemblyman John Ceretto

Handwritten signature of John Ceretto in black ink.

R,I-Lewiston

Assemblywoman Jane Corwin



R,C,I-Clarence

Assemblyman Andy Goodell

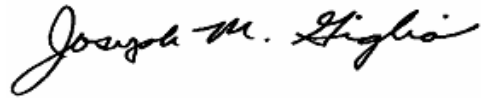


R,C-Chautauqua County

Assemblyman Kevin Smardz




Assemblyman Joseph M. Giglio



R,I,C-Gonawanda

Assemblyman Steve Hawley



R,I,C-Niagara County

Assemblyman Ray Walter



CC: Mr. Kenneth Adams, CEO and Commissioner of Empire State Development  
Mr. Dall Forsythe, Senior Fellow at the Wagner School of Public Service at New York University and former Vice President for Finance and Operations at the Atlantic Philanthropies  
Mr. Walter Broadnax, Professor of Public Administration at the Maxwell School of Syracuse University  
Mr. Bruce Katz, Vice President at the Brookings Institution and Founding Director of the Brookings Metropolitan Policy Program  
Ms. Joan McDonald, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Transportation  
Mr. Cesar Perales, New York State Secretary of State