

NIAGARA ERIE REGIONAL COALITION

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MEMORANDUM

To: Co-Chairs Clyde Burmaster & Kathy Konst

From: Government Affairs Chair Peter McMahon

Re: November, 2008 Meeting

Date: December 12, 2008

The Niagara Erie Regional Coalition Government Affairs Subcommittee met November 21, 2008 at the Erie County Industrial Development Agency (ECIDA). Present for the meeting were subcommittee members McMahon, Ellis, and Wendel.

Smart Permitting:

The smart permit task group continued to meet, but is at a point where four questions need to be answered before we can move forward:

What is the interest level amongst the municipalities?

What level of involvement will the two counties have?

Who will shepherd and/or run the project?

Where will the funding be found?

The subcommittee will work to help resolve some of these questions and inform the task group of its results. Niagara County conducted a survey of municipalities that included questions on smart permitting and the permit process; the subcommittee would like to see a similar survey conducted with the Erie County municipalities.

Another missing piece is the one-page summary of the project that can act as a preliminary document to circulate for interest and potential funding. This document was promised from the UB Regional Institute; we will remind them so that the document can be obtained.

Other Topics:

Other topics discussed included the Framework for Regional Growth, the "Golden Horseshoe" of Toronto-Buffalo-Rochester, and a recent report regarding New York State tolls.