



Keeping You Posted

Councilmember Loretta C. Scott

June 2012



City of Rochester, NY
Thomas S. Richards, Mayor

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It's About Jobs!!!!!!

Project Labor Agreements (PLA) are designed to join forces with unions and contractors to enable them to complete construction jobs utilizing standard work practices, completion of the job in a timely fashion, reduce project cost, the establishment of dispute resolution procedures and the prevention of strikes or work stoppages. The City will use a PLA to complete the Midtown Redevelopment Project. Because of the many benefits afforded by utilizing a PLA, such as increased productivity through flexibility in work schedules and times, as well as ensuring well qualified employees, the savings to

the project as a whole will exceed \$1 million dollars.

PLA's are considered controversial by some. There are many strong opinions about using union vs. non-union workers and the qualifications or lack thereof. The PLA process allows for open bidding for both open-shop contractors and unions. By utilizing PLA's for the project, the hiring pool of people is larger and gives all who are trained and qualified the opportunity for employment.

One of the best benefits from using PLA's is it opens the door for more minority and female workers. The proposed PLA will provide

Project Labor Agreements – PLA's

recruitment, provide pre-apprenticeships that will prepare 1st year apprenticeships to prepare for a career in the construction trade. With so many people, especially minorities, currently unemployed, this will assist in putting many in our city back to work.

Rochester Careers in Construction, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, will assist in the recruiting process as well as training and development of minority and women construction trade labor.

PLA Passes For School Modernization Program



A few months ago, the Rochester Schools Joint Construction Board (RSJCB) voted to accept a project labor agreement PLA on the first phase of construction of up to 13 buildings included in the Rochester Schools Modernization Project.

A seven member board will monitor the overhaul of many Rochester City School District buildings. This approval secures keeping costs down, getting the job done in a timely fashion and providing job opportunities to minority and women who live in our community.

This PLA requires that 20% of the entire workforce be minorities and 6.9% percent be women. 86% of the school district is black or Hispanic. Many of these workers are life-long residents of Rochester and are dedicated to living and working here. To take a quote from the Rochester Labor News Paper, "These requirements mean that workers will be building the school where they once went, or where their children go. This community will have the opportunity to build their future both literally and figuratively.

*It's Budget Time Again!!!***Loretta C. Scott**

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Councilmember Loretta Scott

On May 18, 2012, Mayor Thomas Richards presented the 2012-2013 budget to City Council. This presentation was held in City Council Chambers and was also broadcast on City 12 TV.

I commend Mayor Richards and his team for making the almost impossible—possible—presenting a balanced budget! We read about the financial woes of other cities in New York, as well as all around the country and it's a welcome feeling to know that we have a plan to be fiscally responsible while continuing to maintain the Rochester quality of life. "The significance of the balance is not found in money, but in the quality of life we can deliver to our citizens," stated Mayor Richards during his presentation.

For the second year in a row, Mayor Richards solicited thoughts and ideas from the Rochester community during several Voice Of The Customer (VOC) sessions held and incorporated some of the ideas received into the budget.

Beginning on June 6, 2012, City Council will be holding public hearing to review the budget and have any questions or concerns addressed by the department heads.

For complete information regarding the 2012-2013 City Budget, go to the following link: <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/budget201213/>

*Nothing To Do This Summer? Let The City Of Rochester Help You Out!!!*

Party in the Park Concert Series— <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/PIP/>

Maplewood Rose Celebration 2012— <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/maplewoodrosefest/>

Xerox Rochester International Jazz Festival— <http://www.rochesterjazz.com/>

Aquatics - Swimming Programs, Pools, Spray-Play Areas, Beaches— <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/aquatics/>

Misc— <http://www.cityofrochester.gov/thingstodo/>

FIS Grants Available for Homeowners & Landlords

City Council recently passed legislation that would enable city owner-occupant and landlords that reside or own rental property in the Focus Investment Strategy areas (FIS), to be eligible for grants up to \$33K. The grant available will allow exterior repairs, control of lead-based paint hazards and landscaping treatments not to exceed \$1000 per property. Some of the upgrades available through this grant are, Porch repairs, roofs, siding or paint, gutters, windows, doors, railings, driveways, sidewalks outside of the right of way, landscaping, demolition of small garages or small exterior structures, or power washing of structures on parcel.

Current FIS Locations

- Dewey Driving Park FIS—Northwest Community Services—Linda Gonzales—(585) 254-8090
- Jefferson FIS—Southwedge Planning Committee—Eileen Thomas—(585) 256-1740
- Beechwood FIS—Northeast Area Development (NEAD) - Gloria Morris—(585) 482-7320
- Marketview Heights FIS—Marketview Heights Association—Ty Concepcion—(585) 423-1540

There are income and other restrictions apply. For more information, go to:

<http://www.cityofrochester.gov/article.aspx?id=8589942542>