

## Coalition lobbies state officials for projects

By [THOMAS ADAMS](#) - 1/14/2010 4:30:07 PM

Members of the Rochester Community Coalition met Thursday with state lawmakers from the area to lobby for five projects they said would promote job growth and improve the local economy.

The coalition is seeking \$5 million in state funding over four years to expand an after-school initiative, \$40 million for the Institute of Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology, and \$150 million for the overhaul of I-390 from the Genesee River to the I-390/I-590 interchange.

The coalition also wants two changes in state policy. It is asking for relief from state-mandated programs that local governments must pay for, and for reforms to the state's Empire Zone and Industrial Development Agency programs.

"The purpose of the Rochester Community Coalition's agenda is to help our state representatives identify and support the top priorities for Rochester," Sandra Parker, president and CEO of the Rochester Business Alliance Inc., said in a statement.

"In recognition of the state's financial situation, we opted to limit the projects for which we are seeking state dollar investment and broaden the focus to include legislative action that can be taken to support the community's goals."

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