

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY COALITION

2011 Top Priorities for State Investment

Business – City and County Government – Education – Labor – Nonprofits
Many voices, one agenda for a greater Rochester

INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AT ROCHESTER INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Investment Requested in FY 2012: \$25 million

State investment is essential to complete a total public-private partnership fundraising goal of \$107 million, which includes \$50 million to construct a new facility for the Institute for Sustainability at Rochester Institute of Technology. RIT has already raised 50 percent of the total project cost.

The Institute will conduct initiatives in education, research and technology transfer, building on RIT's strongest academic programs and regional assets in sustainability and related fields. It will drive new opportunities for job growth, positioning Upstate New York as a global hub for the green-tech economy.

This fall, RIT also was awarded a \$13.1 million grant from the National Institute for Standards and Technology toward the facility construction, one of only five awards and the largest amount awarded in a national competition. RIT's work in job creation and technology transfer has also been recognized by the U.S. Department of Commerce with its 2009 Award for University-Led Economic Development Strategies, the first granted to any organization in New York state.

Return: Up to 6,000 new jobs regionally; 100 new professional and technical positions at RIT; \$650 million in regional earning potential; 160 construction jobs over two years.

HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER FOR COMPUTATIONAL INNOVATION (HSCCI)

Investment: \$33 million

This investment would go toward a potential \$100 million public-private partnership that could reshape the delivery of health care and serve as a national and international model. The Health Sciences Center for Computational Innovation would combine the technologies, expertise and talents of two of New York's largest employers – IBM's high performance computing resources and the University of Rochester's robust biomedical research enterprise. HSCCI will create the nation's largest and most powerful computer systems dedicated to health research. It will allow UR to play a key role in devising solutions to health care's most daunting challenges, improving the quality and delivery of health care, while reducing costs and providing savings to the state.

The center will also position Upstate New York as a hub of health innovation and technology development, strengthening and potentially expanding UR's research partnerships with industry leaders such as CareStream, Bausch + Lomb, Siemens, Samsung, Intel, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, and others.

Return: This project will generate as many as 800 university and private sector jobs in the region, and result in approximately \$43 million in labor income. Over 10 years, it is estimated this project will also be responsible for as much as \$134 million in total research grants.

I-390 INTERCHANGE PROJECT

Investment: \$100 million

Since I-390 was constructed, significant growth and development have occurred along the Route 15 and 15A corridors. Congestion, delays and accidents are common and jeopardize the ability of the interchange to accommodate current and future traffic demand associated with the University of Rochester's expansion plans, as well as future growth for the Rochester Institute of Technology, Monroe Community College, and several other large-scale projects planned along Mt. Hope Avenue and East Henrietta Road. The I-390 Interchange Project will overhaul the corridor from the Genesee River to the I-390/I-590 Interchange, increasing safety, relieving severe congestion and improving access to the interstate and local road system. New York state has committed \$28 million in funding for this project, but additional support is needed from the state as well as our Congressional delegation.

Return: The Center for Governmental Research recently estimated that this infrastructure will be instrumental in institutional growth and business development that could add more than 20,000 new jobs (both direct and indirect) to the region over the next 20 years. The construction phase of this project alone will create more than 850 jobs (both direct and indirect) and \$42 million in labor income.

ROCHESTER AFTER-SCHOOL INITIATIVE

Investment: Four-year investment of \$5 million (\$1.25 million per year)

The Rochester After-School Plan, developed through collaboration among the City of Rochester, the Rochester School District, United Way and Rochester Area Community Foundation, is designed to help our youth find safe and constructive options after school. Such programs aim to develop critical social skills, establish mentor relationships with caring adults, and provide access to academic enrichment.

This program is key to our community, where homicide is now a leading cause of death among Rochester youth and the average age for entering a gang is 13.

These social factors play an enormous role in the resulting low high school graduation rate. And they strain the families of these children, as well as our economy and the community at large.

Return: The investment will be used to bolster this program and develop a long-term implementation strategy, as well as allow the program to serve an additional 625 youth annually, which will support a reduction in youth crime and improved graduation rates.