

PRESS RELEASE:

WELCOME MAT OUT FOR RED CARPET BUSINESS SERVICE TEAM

The Business Development Committee of the Town of Rochester hosted a presentation by the Red Carpet Business Service Team Monday, June 4, 2007 at the Rochester Town Hall in Accord, New York.

Six representatives of member agencies of the team addressed an audience that represented a cross section of interested county businesses and services. In attendance were interested residents, business owners of the Town of Rochester, New Paltz, Stone Ridge and Naponach, members of the Ellenville/Wawarsing and the Kerhonkson/Accord Chambers of Commerce, a Wawarsing Business Development group and the Rondout Valley Business Association.

The Red Carpet Team presented a variety of services that are offered free to existing area businesses and start-ups. Speakers covered services offered by Ulster County Employment & Training, Ulster County Chamber of Commerce, Kingston/ Ulster Empire Zone, NYS Department of Labor, Office of Ed. Services for Individuals with Disabilities, SUNY/Ulster Community College, Ulster County Development Corporation, Small Business Development Center, Ulster County BOCES Adult Career Education Center and Mid-Hudson Energy Smart Communities.

Each member explained their area of expertise, highlighting tax incentives, grants and money available for training or retraining for target populations of workers. A myriad of support services were explained. As an example, some programs offered through the NYS Department of Labor's ONESTOP Center in Kingston include advising employers on human resource policy & procedures to the development of an employee handbook. ONESTOP can also prescreen applications for employers, counsel applicants in the best ways to fine tune their marketability, help with resume writing, and match them to their job listings.

Ronald Stonitsch from the NYS Department of Labor announced that a Job Fair will be held at Ellenville High School on June, 13<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 5 PM. The Fair is open to everyone seeking employment and will have approximately 30 businesses in attendance that are seeking help.

Monday's presentation was the first in a series of presentations by the Town of Rochester Business Development Committee. Additional presentations are planed to provide, on an informational basis, assistance to existing or potential business owners in the area.