



Thanks to all our members who renewed in August

RENEWING

Center for Automotive Education & Training RCN

Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning

H. B. Chevrolet

The Foundry L.I.C.

Mattone Group, LLC

NEW MEMBERS

Ruskin Moscou Faltischek P.C.

Oppenheimer & Co. Inc.

Quality Health Plans of New York, Inc.

H & R Block

AFLAC NY

Alex Borghi Photography Studios

New York Life Insurance Co.

Pet Menu

ACC Communcations & Creatives

Elderplan

\$100 Million For Queens Development Projects

Fourteen capital improvement projects around John F. Kennedy (JFK) International Airport in Queens will receive a total \$100 million in funding through an agreement between the city and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

The projects, which include infrastructure improvements, traffic mitigation and streetscape upgrades, are all within five miles of JFK Airport and will bring nearly 400 new jobs to the borough.

"Investing in critical infrastructure and supporting neighborhood improvements throughout the city are central components of our Five Borough Economic Opportunity Plan," said Deputy Mayor Robert Lieber, who helped announce the projects on Friday, July 31. "New York City's airports are the gateway to our city, and with these investments in the communities that surround JFK and LaGuardia we will set the stage for continued growth throughout Queens."

Some of the projects include the Station Plaza redevelopment in Jamaica, which will decrease traffic congestion while establishing new bus loading and off-loading lanes during peak hours; new sanitary sewer and storm-water infrastructure at Willets Point and enhancements to the Vaughn College of Aeronautics and Technology's Library and Community and Conference Center.

Other transportation related projects include Woodhaven Boulevard safety improvement, which is expected to come out of a study already underway, and a series of traffic and

safety improvements at the Astoria Boulevard, Brooklyn Queens Expressway and Booddy Street intersection by the Bulova Corporation and Retail Center.

The funding for the projects date back to an agreement between the city and the Port Authority in 2004 reached during negotiations for the airport lease. The city's Economic Development Corporation (EDC) will oversee most of the projects.

"The Port Authority is proud to participate in projects that will improve the economic viability of Queens and enhance the borough for businesses, our transportation hubs and citizens alike," said Port Authority Executive Director Chris Ward.

Many of the projects will enter into its design phase sometime this year, with a groundbreaking set for two or three years from now.

Queens Borough President Helen Marshall praised the announcement, saying that the infusion of jobs comes at a time when the borough desperately needs them, and she believes the infrastructure improvements will continue to have a positive impact throughout the borough.

"Not only will these projects affect our two great airports; they will also contribute to significant economic development in Willets Point, Far Rockaway and other neighborhoods near the airports," Marshall said. "I am pleased that these projects are moving forward."

To view a complete list of projects that will receive funding, log onto www.nycedc.com

Staff Updates

Kick-Off For Fall

Summer may be a quiet time, but the Chamber was still percolating - new members to be initiated, events to be planned for the remainder of the year and exploration of brand new initiatives.

Many of our members held summer-themed networking at venues to appeal to the broadest number of Queens Chamber members. One of our newest educational members, Hofstra University, invited our members to their campus for a wine and cheese gathering, drawing 60 of our members. The Provost of the school welcomed everyone, and a tour of the campus was offered. Hofstra is committed to partnering with us for the betterment of business development in Nassau County's neighbor, Queens.

York College is spearheading new programs for the fall and spring 2010 via their Small Business Development Center, and they have sought our expertise with topics and content.

Getting together with elected officials is another outlet for us to gain insight into the needs of communities. City Councilmember Elizabeth Crowley reached out to us for assistance in putting together a job fair, and State



Senator Shirley Huntley sought our marketing support for a seniors' program series.

Once again, the Job Fair for the Developmentally Disabled will take place this year on Friday, October 23, and it is one of the highlights of National Disability Employment Awareness Month. Queens College will host the event in the Student Union Building, and free tables are available to compa-

nies who want to meet and potentially hire the disabled seeking employment. Information on tax breaks and other benefits to employers will be explained.

Get psyched to join us again on Friday mornings for our informative Breakfast Before Business, resuming on September 11 at 8:30 a.m. We have a wide range of topics planned - all the way through January! Let me know if you think you have a subject of interest to share.

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September - A Month To Insure Our Future

For some, a decision to buy a life insurance policy is made at the wrong time, during a critical health crisis; but for professionals, insurance is a way to live, to plan for our future, to protect our families and business.

The Queens Chamber of Commerce encourages our membership to recognize Life Insurance Awareness Month (LIAM) this September. A comprehensive public awareness campaign aimed at promoting the importance of life insurance among America's families and businesses will take place throughout Queens. See our business directory for insurance professionals among our membership who you may consult for further information

The Queens Chamber of Commerce celebrates the wellness not only of our business community, but our entire community by sponsoring and branding the mission of our members and their programs.



Currently, a large group of Queens Chamber of Commerce members are working with a local property management company to bring together local businesses, organizations, tenants associations, the public libraries and community based organizations, to sponsor and coordinate events for small business, senior citizens, young families and children. This type of community partnership ensures a better understanding is achieved between landlords and tenants.

The Queens Chamber continues to work diligently to coordinate more financial, business and new tax law seminars. Providing the tools to navigate the road to success for local business enhances their quality of life in our borough. Definitely a better way to do business in Queens!

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