



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

## **Senator Malcolm A. Smith Announces Workshop On Economic Development "Mega Projects"**

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Saying "Recent large-scale development proposals across New York State have the potential to involve numerous local, small and minority and women-owned business contractors and firms," State Senator Malcolm A. Smith (D- Queens) today announced that he will hold a workshop addressing these issues during the 34th Annual Conference of the New York State Association of Black, Puerto Rican and Hispanic Legislators.

Economic Development: Mega Projects -- A Multitude of Opportunities, will take place Saturday, February 19, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., in Hearing Room B at the Legislative Office Building in Albany.

"From the new Bass Pro shop coming to Buffalo, to proposals for an arena in Brooklyn and a stadium in Manhattan, there will be a need for business opportunities for local, small and minority and women-owned businesses. This workshop will discuss ways in which these businesses can substantially involve themselves,"

Senator Smith said.

Invited guests include:

- Bruce Ratner, Owner, New Jersey Nets
- Jay Cross, President, New York Jets
- John C. Whitehead, Chairman, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation
- Robert E. Boyle, Chairman, Jacob K. Javits Convention Center
- Mike Lorenz, CEO, DestiNYUSA
- James Hagle, President and COO, Bass Pro Shops
- Thomas Suozzi, Nassau County Executive, Nassau Coliseum Redevelopment
- Dean John Flateau, School of Business, Medgar Evers College - CUNY

"These participants have been invited to present their project vision and provide information on how local, small and minority and women-owned businesses can procure contracts relative to these *mega projects*, if and when they commence," Senator Smith said. "Given the continued problems caused by Upstate's prolonged economic slump, the burst of the stock market bubble of the late 90s and the 9/11 attacks, it is of utmost importance that these projects benefit all New Yorkers."

Those interested in learning more about this event are encouraged to call Senator Smith's office at 718-528-4290.