



Central New York Regional Planning & Development Board

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NEWS RELEASE

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Regional Planning Board Begins Work on CNY Telecommunications Study

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – In a move designed to give Central New York communities additional information needed to assist with local business retention and recruitment efforts, the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board (CNY RPDB) has joined with other local economic development organizations to complete a **Regional Telecommunications Study for Central New York**.

The primary purpose of the study is to prepare a detailed inventory of the region's telecommunications resources. The study will also compare local telecommunication resources with other metropolitan areas nationally, and will include recommendations for system improvements in Central New York. Finally, the project will conclude with a series of educational seminars designed to help local officials develop a better understanding of the telecommunications industry and the resources that exist in the Region.

The CNY RPDB has retained ECC Technologies, Inc., a consultant firm based in Rochester, N.Y., to complete the study. Funding for this study is being provided by the federal Economic Development Administration, the CNY RPDB's five member-counties (Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga, and Oswego), local economic development agencies, the Empire State Development Corporation, and Niagara Mohawk. The study, which began in July, is scheduled for completion by December 2002.

According to David Bottar, the CNY RPDB's Economic Development Director, "information regarding

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a community's telecommunication resources has become one of the most important questions asked today by professional site location consultants and corporate real estate executives who are representing businesses looking to relocate or expand. Hopefully, this study will provide the Central New York Region with the information it needs to respond efficiently to these inquiries and improve the overall effectiveness of our local and regional marketing efforts.”

About the CNY RPDB:

Established in 1966 under State municipal law, the CNY RPDB is a public planning agency supported by Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Onondaga and Oswego Counties. Governed by a board of directors appointed by its five member-counties from Central New York, the CNY RPDB provides comprehensive planning services associated with the growth and development of communities in Central New York. One of ten locally created regional councils throughout New York State, it is the responsibility of the CNY RPDB and its staff to study local public policy issues, and to help develop and implement plans that will enhance the Region's future. Four key program areas include: Economic Development; Land Use and Transportation; Environmental and Water Resources Management; and Regional Information Services.

For more information, contact Communications Manager Wayne Westervelt at (315) 422-8276 or visit the CNY RPDB's web site at www.cnyrpdb.org

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