

## BUFFALO NIAGARA PARTNERSHIP

### 2011 ADVOCACY WINS

#### Local:

- The Buffalo Building Reuse Project (BBRP), to be completed by year end, achieved consensus on private sector incentives to improve the competitiveness of downtown Buffalo for public/private development
- Positive movement on the Peace Bridge's U.S. Plaza Project
- Approval for the Erie County Executive to charge the Industrial Land Development Corporation (ILDC) with the responsibility of bond issuance to not-for-profits
- Erie and Niagara counties submittal of combined application for the 2011 Federal Sustainable Communities Planning Grant to fund implementation of the *Framework for Regional Growth*

#### State:

- Passage of SUNY2020 / UB2020 legislation to provide the resources and the path for UB to construct a new medical school on the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus
- Passage of Unshackle Upstate's 2011 Policy Agenda items including:
  - Passage of a 2% property tax cap
  - 10% decrease in state spending
  - No new taxes in the 2011/12 state budget
- Passage of ReCharge NY, new economic development energy legislation
- Restoration of \$8MM in state funding for Roswell Park Cancer Institute
- Approval of the Article X Energy Siting Bill
- Legislative passage of the Qualified Emerging Tax Company (QETC) tax credits
- Approval of lifting the moratorium in New York State on hydraulic fracturing
- Defeat of proposed "double wood" legislation
- Defeat of the New York Solar Industry Development and Jobs Act of 2011
- Defeat of the proposed "NYS Farmworkers Fair Labor Practices Bill"

- Approval of continued exemption from sales and compensating use taxes on the transportation, transmission, and distribution of gas and electricity to New York State customers and on printed promotional materials produced in-state
- Repeal of the state “cost recovery” tax on IDAs
- Creation of the Innovate NY Fund, a new seed-stage equity fund designed to support innovation, job creation and high growth entrepreneurship throughout the state
- Accelerate Upstate Action Agenda completed with the input of nearly 300 community, business, and government leaders

**Federal:**

- Passage of an extension of the research & development (R&D) tax credit
- Passage of multiple short-term SBIR/STTR re-authorizations
- Federal Transit Administration approval of \$1.2 million to the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority (NFTA) to evaluate transportation alternatives in the Amherst-Buffalo Corridor
- Passage of H.R. 4, which repealed an expansion of IRS reporting requirements, which would have increased the cost and complexity of complying with the federal tax code
- \$900,000 awarded to the New York State Department of Economic Development’s State Trade and Export Promotion (STEP)
- Congressional denial of the proposed “last in, last out: (LIFO) accounting method as a revenue generator during federal debt ceiling negotiations
- Approval of free trade agreements with South Korea, Colombia, and Panama
- Passage of a retroactive reauthorization of US Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)