



FRIDAY, MAY 23, 2008

MAYOR DUFFY STATEMENT ON COURT'S APPROVAL OF MIDTOWN CONDEMNATION PROCEEDING

(Rochester, NY) The rebirth of Downtown Rochester is taking another step forward. We are thankful for Judge Van Strydonck's decision to grant our motion to take ownership of Midtown by eminent domain. This is an important element to keeping the project on schedule.

We will continue to negotiate in good faith with the current owners of Midtown to reach a fair and equitable settlement for all involved. Taking ownership of the property now is vital if we are to meet our aggressive and agreed upon four-year timeframe to open PAETEC's new world headquarters.

Our relocation efforts are on track. Nearly all of the Midtown Plaza tenants will have vacated the property and the Mall will be closed by the end of July. Clear Channel and the Trailways bus station will remain open until the end of the year with separate access to their facilities. The Midtown Garage will close at the end of September.

Planning for asbestos removal, demolition and use of the site has begun. Asbestos removal is planned to begin in the fall, with demolition to start early next year.

The City can take ownership of the property after an order is prepared and filed; and after notice to counsel for the parties who appeared at the hearing. We hope to have that accomplished next week.

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For more information contact Gary Walker in City Communications at 428-7405