

-- MEDIA ADVISORY --

For Immediate Release: July 6, 2006



**HUD CONFERENCE ON REDUCING REGULATORY
BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**
July 10-11, 2006

Contact:

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WHAT: HUD-Sponsored Conference on Reducing Regulatory Barriers to Affordable Housing

WHO: HUD Deputy Secretary Roy Bernardi
Representative John Sweeney (R-NY)
Mayor Valerie Keehn, Saratoga Springs
Dr. Edward Glaeser, Housing Economist, Harvard

WHEN: Monday, July 10, 2006, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tuesday July 11, 2006, 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

WHERE: Longfellow's Hotel and Conference Center, 500 Union Avenue
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

BACKGROUND:

This regional conference is the first in a series by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development designed to assist local governments and public-private partnerships to identify regulatory barriers and provide technical assistance to reduce those barriers. About 100 participants are expected to attend including local government officials, housing advocates, non-profit representatives, builders and local business representatives.

The **Workforce Housing Partnership of Saratoga County (WHP)** is a partnership of business and community leaders, developers and concerned citizens which serves to advocate for workforce housing which is critical to vibrant communities. It was established in 2003 under the umbrella of the **Saratoga County Economic Opportunity Council (EOC)**. The partnership has supported a variety of solutions to the housing crisis, including reducing regulatory barriers, creating regulatory doorways, and setting up a housing trust fund.

The WHP has worked with the conference planners to design a program that focuses on raising awareness of the high cost of regulation and that looks at best practices and actions to take to solve workforce and affordable housing issues. WHP is hosting a networking reception for conference participants on Monday evening.

Additional information at www.housingbarriers.com
www.whpsaratoga.org

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