



Joanne M. Mahoney, County Executive
Patricia M. Pastella, P.E., BCEE, Commissioner
650 Hiawatha Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204-1194
(315) 435-2260 or (315) 435-6820
FAX (315) 435-5023
<http://www.ongov.net/wep/>

----For Immediate Release----

Contact: Bj Adigun
Telephone: 315-435-2260
Email: bjadigun@ongov.net

County Executive Mahoney and Mayor Miner announce plans for Downtown Farmer's Market

Syracuse, New York – County Executive Joanne M. Mahoney and City of Syracuse Mayor Stephanie Miner will hold a press event on Wednesday May 12, 2010 at 3:30PM at the Downtown Farmer's Market (200-214 Salina Street -- Southwest Corner of S. Clinton and W. Washington Strts.) to announce new plans for the Downtown Farmer's Market lot.

The re-development of the Downtown Farmer's Market is part of Onondaga County's "Save the Rain" initiative. "Save the Rain" is the County's extensive program to implement green infrastructure throughout the City to capture storm water runoff where it lands. Green infrastructure uses natural systems to capture storm water and prevent run-off. The use of systems like tree trenches, rain gardens, green roofs, rain barrels and porous pavement catch and absorb storm water, preventing it from flowing into sewer systems. This reduction on volume can help mitigate the amount of untreated water that makes it way to Onondaga Lake and its tributaries.

The Farmer's Market is one of the first collaborations between Onondaga County and the City of Syracuse on the implementation of green infrastructure. Representatives from the City and the County identified the lot as a good candidate for re-development and have worked closely to make this project possible. Changes to the lot will include: replacement to the center guard-rail with a row of native species shade trees; addition of a porous paver surface in the center island; and the addition of landscaping bushes and shrubs to the perimeter of the lot. The new configuration will allow storm water to flow to the center island and be captured in a stone bed under the parking surface instead of flowing directly into the combined sewer system.

"Cooperation between the City and County made this project possible", said County Executive Joanne M. Mahoney "We have taken several steps to increase our partnership and this re-development of the Farmer's Lot is our first step in that process".

"This strong City-County collaboration will utilize innovative green infrastructure techniques to benefit the public and to reach our shared environmental goals," said Mayor Miner. "I look forward to continuing to work with the County in executing other exciting green projects."

Construction of the market is set to begin Thursday May 13, 2010 and should be completed in time for the Market's official opening on June 8th. Changes to the Farmer's Market schedule or temporary relocation of the lot due to construction will be managed by the Downtown Committee.

All media covering the event is asked to arrive by 3:15 P.M. for set-up. For more information or questions regarding this event, please contact Bj Adigun at 315-435-2260 or email at bjadigun@ongov.net

