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**EMPIRE STATE DEVELOPMENT ANNOUNCES EXPANSION AT MAIN FORD
GENERAL SUPPLY COMPANY IN ROCHESTER**

Project Will Result In 30 Jobs In Area Impacted By Poverty

*Investment Complements “Finger Lakes Forward” – Region’s Successful Upstate
Revitalization Initiative Blueprint to Grow the Economy and Create New Opportunities*

Empire State Development (ESD) today announced the expansion of Main Ford General Supply Company, Inc. in the city of Rochester. Part of Schreiber Family Properties Inc., Main Ford is a distributor of food service equipment and supplies. The company plans to expand its Lyell Avenue facility resulting in 6 new full-time positions at the site and the retention of another 24 jobs.

Main Ford has been located on Lyell Avenue, a neighborhood severely impacted by poverty and economic distress, since it first opened its doors the 1960’s. In an effort to support the area, the company has committed to growing and investing at its current location and to hiring residents who live there. Poverty reduction is a core goal of the *Finger Lakes Forward* strategic plan, which supports multiple "Pathways to Prosperity" for all.

Empire State Development President, CEO & Commissioner Howard Zemsky said, “For more than a half a century, the Schreiber family has supported its community and thanks to Governor Cuomo’s leadership, they will soon expand their Lyell Avenue facility and create new jobs for residents in the region.”

ESD will provide economic support and assistance for the project in the form of a \$100,000 capital grant. The City of Rochester also provided a \$350,000 loan for the project and Monroe County offered PILOT exemptions as well. The total project cost is close to \$1.3 million.

Schreiber Family Properties President Charles Schreiber said, “We are thrilled to be expanding our business in the city of Rochester. This new building provides us with the opportunity to grow and will allow us to have all of our equipment under one roof. We are grateful for the economic support that is moving this project forward.”

The project calls for the existing building to be expanded by 28,500 square feet. The addition will allow Main Ford to accommodate company growth and will also allow them to consolidate equipment from an offsite leased facility into their new space.

State Senator Joe Robach said, “I want to thank the Schreiber family for their unwavering dedication to the City of Rochester. Main-Ford has been a longtime fixture in our city dating back to the 1960’s and continues to be a strong partner in business. In partnership with ESD, Main-Ford Supply Company will now have the opportunity to expand their local operations, while delivering new jobs for our region. I wish Schreiber Family Properties, Inc. continued success as we look to 2017.”

State Assembly Member Harry Bronson said, “This project represents another great example of the good that can happen when government and the private sector work together. I want to thank the Schreiber family for their commitment to the families of Rochester. This expansion of the Main-Ford Supply Company is another vote of confidence in the region and our economic growth. Today’s announcement is a great way to bring in the New Year.”

Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren said, "I am grateful to the Schreiber family and Governor Cuomo for their continued investment in the city of Rochester", said Mayor Lovely Warren. "Their commitment to Lyell Avenue, and the workers who live in that area, will bring us one step closer to achieving our goal of bringing more jobs, safer and more vibrant neighborhoods and better educational opportunity to all of our citizens."

Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo said, "Monroe County is proud to support the Schreiber Family, Main-Ford and their growth in our community. This family owned business will now deliver new jobs and retain existing jobs for our hard working families. I look forward to the continued success of Main-Ford and Schreiber Family Properties."

The addition is expected to be completed in February 2017.

Accelerating Finger Lakes Forward

Today's announcement complements “Finger Lakes Forward,” the region’s comprehensive blueprint to generate robust economic growth and community development. The State has already invested more than \$3.4 billion in the region since 2012 to lay the groundwork for the plan – investing in key industries including photonics, agriculture and food production, and advanced manufacturing. Today, unemployment is down to the lowest levels since before the Great Recession; personal and corporate income taxes are down; and businesses are choosing places like Rochester, Batavia and Canandaigua as a destination to grow and invest in.

Now, the region is accelerating Finger Lakes Forward with a \$500 million State investment through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, announced by Governor Cuomo in December 2015. The State’s \$500 million investment will incentivize private business to invest well over \$2.5 billion – and the region’s plan, as submitted, projects up to 8,200 new jobs. More information is available [here](#).

About Empire State Development

Empire State Development is New York's chief economic development agency. The mission of ESD is to promote a vigorous and growing economy, encourage the creation of new job and economic opportunities, increase revenues to the State and its municipalities, and achieve stable and diversified local economies. Through the use of loans, grants, tax credits, and other forms of financial assistance, ESD strives to enhance private business investment and growth to spur job creation and support prosperous communities across New York State. ESD is also the primary administrative agency overseeing Governor Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Councils and the marketing of "I Love NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information on Regional Councils and Empire State Development, visit <http://www.regionalcouncils.ny.gov> and www.esd.ny.gov.

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