



Representative Louise M. Slaughter
Chairwoman, House Committee on Rules
Representing New York's 28th District

P R E S S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monday, June 16, 2008

Rep. Slaughter Secured \$100,000 in Federal Funding To Support Jefferson Avenue Business Growth

Attends Public Meeting With Community and Business Leaders

Rochester, NY – Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Chairwoman of the

House Committee on Rules today attended a public meeting in Rochester to discuss strategies to grow and strengthen Jefferson Avenue businesses. Rep. Slaughter was joined by Rochester city officials, community leaders, Urban League of Rochester (URL) members and Jefferson Avenue Business Association (JABA) members.

Rep. Slaughter secured \$100,000 in the FY08 Omnibus Appropriations bill for the Urban League of Rochester's Business Development Division to provide guidance and assistance to Jefferson Avenue businesses beginning this summer. At today's meeting, the ULR presented JABA members with an overview of the types of assistance they will provide, including help attracting new customers, hiring employees, applying for grants, and learning new accounting software.

“A fully revitalized Jefferson Avenue requires that we not only repair sidewalks and restore buildings, but promote a thriving business community,” said Rep. Slaughter. **“I am proud to have secured the federal funding to support the small businesses that will become the cornerstone of our local economy.”**

BACKGROUND

Ensuring that Jefferson Avenue businesses flourish is just one component of the effort to completely revitalize Jefferson Avenue.

Recently, the Jefferson Avenue community came together to identify priorities for how the thoroughfare should look and function. Soon, University of Rochester graduate students will conduct an economic analysis, city-hired consultants will create street and infrastructure designs, and finally, a master revitalization plan will be created and implemented.

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