

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6/23/2023**

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## **Seneca County Industrial Development Agency Invites Community Input on Willard Campus**

**[Romulus, NY]** - The Seneca County Industrial Development Agency is seeking community input regarding the future of the Willard Drug Treatment campus in Romulus, NY. Since the center's closure in March 2022, the Seneca County IDA and various community partners engaged in the Willard Taskforce have been interested in taking a proactive approach to the future use of the campus.

The site is currently owned by the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, but the IDA is looking to determine the best path forward for beneficial and expedient reuse of the site. To assist in this effort, the IDA entered a contract with MRB Group from Rochester, NY, who is working with partner firms EDR, Bero Architecture, and HRP Associates to conduct a Highest & Best Use Study for redevelopment of the campus. As part of this study, the MRB team is conducting demographic and economic analyses, assessing the current condition of the buildings and infrastructure on the site, gathering input from local stakeholders, and developing a concept master plan that will help to communicate the community's vision for the campus. The ultimate goal is to better understand the feasibility of various uses at the site, as well as the most logical path forward for its redevelopment.

As part of this effort, the IDA has scheduled a Public Input Session to foster public engagement and gather valuable input from the community. The open house-style event is scheduled for **Monday, July 10 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm** at the South Seneca High School, 7263 Main Street, Ovid, NY. The open house will be held in the lower cafeteria. The public is encouraged to stop in at any point during the session to learn about the study and provide ideas for the future of the site. A second open house will be held in the future to share ideas and concepts generated from this event and other aspects of the study.

"We are excited to provide a platform for community members to actively participate in shaping the future of the Willard site," said Sarah Davis, Executive Director of the Seneca County IDA. "The public input session represents a crucial step in gathering valuable insights and perspectives, ensuring that the development plans align with the aspirations and needs of our community."

For more information about the future of the Willard Campus, please contact: David Hewitt at 315-539-1727 at [d.hewitt@senecacountyida.org](mailto:d.hewitt@senecacountyida.org).

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