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Middlesex 3 Coalition Concludes Their 2016 Business Leadership Roundtable Series with U.S. Congresswoman Niki Tsongas

Lowell, Massachusetts - October 28, 2016

On October 26, 2016, the Middlesex 3 Coalition hosted their third Business Leadership Roundtable with U.S. Congresswoman Niki Tsongas at UMass Lowell, 110 Canal Street in Lowell, MA. The Business Leadership Roundtable series brought together state and federal officials with 75 leaders from area corporations, educational institutions, and municipalities to network and dialogue on initiatives to improve business competitiveness and growth with the Middlesex 3 Coalition region and the Commonwealth.

The first Business Leadership Roundtable discussion with Massachusetts Secretary of Housing and Economic Development, Jay Ash brought together 30 regional company executives representing a variety of industries. A variety of topics were discussed throughout the hour discussion including workforce development needs, rising infrastructure costs, and improvements to transportation access in the Route 3 region. The second Business Leadership Roundtable discussion with U.S. Congressman Seth Moulton brought together a larger group of professionals where the main topic of discussion was transportation improvements throughout the region and the Commonwealth. The roundtable with U.S. Congresswoman Tsongas concentrated on workforce development needs, creating a stronger pipeline within our educational institutions, and the role the federal government plays in supporting the business community through technical and financial assistance. "Middlesex 3 Coalition's series of roundtable discussions has proven to be a valuable resource for elected officials and the business community, allowing a platform for communication, idea sharing and productive conversations about how government can support the growth of local jobs and entrepreneurs," said Tsongas. "I make it a priority to engage the local business community, which is key to supporting economic development and business opportunities. Over the past year, I have visited over 30 businesses in this district and have seen the amazing and innovative ways in which they are benefiting our communities. This roundtable served as a catalyst for dialogue on initiatives to improve businesses and stimulate economic growth in this region and around Massachusetts."

The Congresswoman Tsongas roundtable discussion concluded the Middlesex 3 Coalition Business Leadership Series for 2016. "We have been pleased with the outcome of the Middlesex 3 roundtable discussions," according to Stephanie Cronin, Executive Director of the Middlesex 3 Coalition. "These meetings bring decision makers to the table and help us create

policies and practices to improve business development and economic vitality in the Middlesex 3 region.” Based on the roundtable feedback, Middlesex 3 will create and present their economic development action plan at the 2017 Business Leadership Roundtable series, which will be announced shortly. Information regarding upcoming Middlesex 3 events can be found at www.middlesex3.com.

This roundtable discussion was sponsored by the Nordblom Company and UMass Lowell.

Middlesex 3 Coalition is comprised of nine communities which share a common goal of fostering economic development, job growth and retention, diversification of the tax base and enhancement of quality of life. Members include stakeholders in local government, business, finance, education and development who have combined resources to promote the competitive advantages of the region and advance the economic vitality of the corridor. For more information, please visit www.Middlesex3.com



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