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Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation Unveils Great Lakes Regional Outreach Initiative

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation (SLSDC) today announced the launching of a Great Lakes regional outreach initiative. The program will focus on trade and economic development activities and provide ‘on the ground’ assistance to the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway System stakeholder community.

“The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is uniquely positioned to help facilitate trade and economic growth in the Great Lakes region. The Department is always interested in helping generate more economic activity in our communities and this new office will play a vital role in finding new ways to expand the use of the Great Lakes Seaway System,” said U.S. Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx.

SLSDC Administrator Betty Sutton said, “Our binational waterway provides the access to the cities, states, and provinces in the region, where trade opportunities abound. This focused trade and economic development initiative will support and encourage greater economic opportunities for the people and businesses throughout the ‘Opportunity Belt’ that depend on the Great Lakes. It is important that we have a direct presence in the region.”

The initiative’s goals and mission include: working with and supporting Great Lakes/Seaway ports, terminals, shippers, carriers, and labor to increase maritime trade; coordinating with other regional Federal entities, Great Lakes state transportation officials, and regional economic development agencies to ensure Seaway System maritime transportation is understood and prioritized in regional planning; and providing information about federal maritime transportation and funding assistance programs. The SLSDC’s Great Lakes Regional Representative, Adam Schlicht, can be contacted via email at adam.schlicht@dot.gov and via phone 216-379-9106.

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