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LEGISLATORS BRING STATE DOLLARS TO HACC-MIDTOWN PROJECT

State Senator Jeffrey Piccola and State Representative Ron Buxton Secure
\$1.5 Million in RACP Funding for New Academic Center

Harrisburg, PA – Harrisburg’s State Senator Jeffrey Piccola (R-15th) and State Representative Ron Buxton (D-103rd) today presented a check for \$1.5 million to officials from Harrisburg Area Community College and Powers & Associates as part of the state’s commitment to the project. The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) grant covers some of the rehab costs for the \$17 million project that both saves and productively reuses a landmark midtown building.

“We are delighted to be here today to present these state dollars to such a worthy project,” said Senator Piccola. “HACC’s midtown project is amongst the most significant community and academic development projects to occur in the midstate in many years, and we are delighted to be able to assist in this good effort.”

“HACC and Powers and Associate have done a tremendous job in restoring this historic structure,” said Buxton, “bringing new life and a promising future to both midtown and the many thousands of students who will soon be gracing these halls.”

The pair of prominent state legislators presented the check to Edna V. Baehre, President of HACC, and Tom Powers, principal of Powers and Associates, in the newly restored midtown center’s modern new academic complex at N. Third and Reily Streets.

The RACP funding secured for the project by the pair of local legislators is in addition to other state funding likely to be announced by Governor Edward G. Rendell in the coming months. This important redevelopment effort reuses a former industrial building that could have easily remained vacant without the common vision and commitment to urban revitalization. Instead it will now be an academic and economic engine for the midtown and city.

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Baehre said the new midtown educational center is ready to open as planned on Monday, August 20, with as many as 2,500 students enrolled in HACC's trade and technology curriculums attending. The new Center occupies 130,000 sq. ft. of beautifully restored space that houses such programs as carpentry, home building and remodeling, plumbing, HVAC, industrial maintenance and many others. The new facility will also serve as a resource center for area high school students who are enrolled in college level classes.

Mayor Stephen R. Reed has described the project as "a hub for investment and activity that is expected to spur revitalization throughout the Third Street Corridor."

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