



**COMMUNITY REPORT**  
**November 2007**

**TRANSITION TEAM FOR COUNTY EXECUTIVE-ELECT MAHONEY:** It is a great honor for F.O.C.U.S. and me to serve the newly elected County Executive on her Transition Team and to chair the Task Group that is making recommendations on “Community Revitalization”. The topics this Task Group is covering include: Public Safety, Youth Recreation, Elimination of Neighborhood Blight, Increasing Home Ownership, Quality Parks and Recreation, Environmental Sustainability, Downtown and Arts/Culture, Infrastructure, and Transportation. All these issues, when integrated, shape a sustainable community. The members of the Community Revitalization Task Group are: Bea Gonzalez, David Rufus, Magda Bayoumi, Kerry Quaglia, Neil Murphy, Oren Lyons, Kate Clark, Larry Luttinger, Teresa Doherty, and Frank Fowler. To add your comments to any of the Task Groups log on to [www.joanie2007.com](http://www.joanie2007.com). If you have some positive (Be+) recommendations for community revitalization, contact me directly at [focus@ci.syracuse.ny.us](mailto:focus@ci.syracuse.ny.us). I look forward to hearing from you.

**CITIZENS ACADEMY – A MODEL FOR REPLICATION:** F.O.C.U.S. advised several groups interested in providing a type of Citizens Academy for high school and college students, neighborhood organizations, and non-profit institutions. In the future you may see academies with a variety of specialties growing in the region. The University College/F.O.C.U.S. sponsored Citizens Academy will continue to concentrate solely on how governments work. Watch for the announcement for the next fall academy.

**CORE GROUP:** The Southeast Gateway plan was created by the Urban Design Center with input from local residents. It was described by Bob Haley, AIA, Ashley McGraw Architects and David Rufus, Executive Director of the Gateway project. Though progress has been slow, we are encouraged that recent activity is advancing the project. For more information, contact either Bob Haley or David Rufus.

**NEXT CORE GROUP: Friday, December 14, 2007 @ 7:30 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall Commons, 201 E. Washington St.**

**“F.O.C.U.S. on BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY:  
FUSING ART, TECHNOLOGY AND DESIGN ON THE NEAR WESTSIDE”  
Presenter: Marilyn Higgins, Vice President for Community Engagement and  
Economic Impact at Syracuse University  
EVERYONE IS WELCOME**