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## Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority Advances Mission of Connecting Northern New York to the World

As a self-sustaining New York State Public Benefit Corporation, the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority (OBPA) is a steward of transportation infrastructure in Northern New York. With five distinct operations ranging from port and rail facilities, to an international bridge, commerce park campus, and airport, the OBPA works to create opportunity for business to thrive. Through the undertaking of transformative projects and capital investments the OBPA is able to deliver on its mission and help improve the lives of the people it serves.

The OBPA continues to have much success in securing a diverse set of federal and state competitive grants for the improvement and expansion of its operations. Announced in Fall 2022, the OBPA was awarded from Governor Kathy Hochul the Upstate Airport Economic Development and Revitalization Grant which resulted in \$18M towards the reimagining of Ogdensburg International Airport. This innovative project, which builds upon the \$26M that has already been invested in the terminal and airfield, provides for not only the renovation and expansion of the airport terminal but also the construction of an events center complex to host public and private events and help provide a gathering space for the community. The new airport facility will be a warm welcome to travelers coming to the North Country and a point of pride for the area as well as aid in the attraction of additional air service and increased destinations.

Understanding that access to childcare in our region is a barrier for many looking to enter the workforce, the OBPA has undertaken a childcare facility project that will call the Commerce Park Campus home. With an anticipated 125 child capacity, the facility will provide services, programs, and daycare to children younger than school-age. The OBPA is proud to partner with The Arc Jefferson - St. Lawrence to operate the childcare

facility. With The Arc's extensive knowledge and expertise in providing services to children the facility will be a much-needed resource for the community, and will also provide an attractive amenity for companies looking to locate within the Commerce Park Campus. Funding for this project has been provided by, with the immense support of U.S. Senators' Chuck Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and New York State Empire State Development.

For its Port of Ogdensburg facility, the OBPA was the only New York State port successful in securing \$5.1M through the 2023 Port Infrastructure Development Program awarded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration. This funding will aid in expanding the port dock by approximately 450 feet and dredging a section of non-federal channel. By deepening and expanding the marine terminal facility, the OBPA is able to achieve greater levels of efficiency and economies of scale making the lone U.S. port on the St. Lawrence River more competitive.

Knowing that success is a team sport, the OBPA is greatly appreciative of its partner organizations such as its grant writer Strategic Development Specialists of Syracuse, NY, its elected officials, and community members who share in the desire to keep improving the lives of the people who call the North Country home. It is in the organizational DNA of the OBPA to never stop moving and to always be improving and expanding its infrastructure assets for the betterment of the community they serve.

To learn more about the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority please visit [www.ogdensport.com](http://www.ogdensport.com) or call 315-393-4080.