

U.S. Small Business Administration



Your Small Business Resource



January 23, 2008

Mr. Jon E. Daskam
President
Cobalt Construction
2465 West Shore Road
Warwick, RI 02886

Dear Jon:

We wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for your participation in the 2008 Rhode Island Economic Summit.

More than 150 small business owners, business leaders, and state elected officials attended the conference. We were very pleased that Governor Carcieri, Lieutenant Governor Roberts, House Majority Leader Fox, Senate Corporations Committee Chair Walaska, and other legislative leaders played an active role in the summit. The breakout sessions on health care, taxes and budget, regulations, education and workforce development, and energy produced meaningful dialogue and an excellent report on issues of concern to the small business community.

The five standing committees have "fine tuned" their recommendations and proposals generated during the breakout sessions. A final report of recommendations was submitted to Governor Carcieri last Friday. Lt. Governor Roberts has scheduled a follow-up meeting with the General Assembly leadership January 29th at the State House. The committee chairs will make their presentations at this meeting. Enclosed you will find a copy of the final report and the material to be presented.

Your participation contributed greatly to the success of this second annual economic summit, and we thank you for your interest. We know that the Governor and legislative leaders were truly impressed by the active participation of the small business community, and we are confident that the dialogue that took place during the summit will ultimately result in changes that will help to improve the business climate in Rhode Island.

Again, thank you for your support and participation. We look forward to working with you again.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark S. Hayward".

Mark S. Hayward
District Director
Rhode Island SBA District Office

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Cronin".

John Cronin
Executive Director
RI Small Business Development Center
Johnson & Wales University