

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**PHILADELPHIA DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP HONORS COUNCILMAN W. WILSON  
GOODE, JR. FOR HIS COMMITMENT TO THE MICROENTERPRISE COMMUNITY  
Also being honored is former PDP director,  
Jeremiah J. White, Jr.**

PHILADELPHIA, PA (December 4) - Councilman W. Wilson Goode, Jr. will be honored this evening at a holiday event sponsored by the Philadelphia Development Partnership (PDP). The event, featuring cuisine prepared by microentrepreneurs from PDP's peer lending program, Community Capital Works (CCW), will be held in the Mayor's Reception Room at City Hall from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Councilman Goode, an ardent advocate for neighborhood microenterprise development, has pushed recent legislation through City Council, all of which directly or indirectly affect microenterprise programs, resulting in three bills that were unanimously approved and signed by Mayor John F. Street.

The legislative package mandates that a portion of federal Community Development Block Grant spending be allocated on an annual basis to support community development corporations' economic development programs. It also created a pilot initiative in which a tax credit will be given to businesses

that contribute at least \$1 million over 10 years to community based economic development. In addition, it appropriates \$5 million to capitalize the Community Development Financial Institution Fund, which expands the availability of credit, investment capital, and financial services to microentrepreneurs in low-income communities.

Jeremiah J. White, Jr., former director of PDP and currently the chairman of Monarch Consulting Group, will also be acknowledged this evening for his 10 years of service as PDP's visionary and leader. During that time, he organized and managed several private/public partnerships that resulted in small business and affordable housing opportunities for residents living in low-income neighborhoods of Philadelphia and Chester. Though no longer with PDP full-time, Mr. White continues to be involved with the organization as a consultant.

Leslie Benoliel, executive director of PDP, will distribute honorary plaques to Mr. White and Councilman Goode at tonight's event. Approximately 100 people are expected to attend.

Founded in 1989, the Philadelphia Development Partnership is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote economic development in low and moderate-income neighborhoods of the Philadelphia metropolitan region. PDP provides small

amounts of credit, business development services and networking opportunities to low-income entrepreneurs.

PDP is an affiliate of the Greater Philadelphia Urban Affairs Coalition, which brings together business and community leaders to solve urban problems.

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