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THE CRAIN'S INSIDER

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A daily newsletter on government action of importance to business

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TODAY'S NEWS

ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT

The Bloomberg administration has agreed to host the second summit of C20, a group of large cities worldwide trying to reduce global warming. In advance of the spring 2007 meeting, Deputy Mayor Dan Doctoroff is setting up a "sustainability" office aimed at making the city more environmentally conscious and specifically at cutting carbon emissions. The Partnership for New York City, which will be the summit's liaison between business and city government, is hiring a staffer to help organize the event. The Rockefeller Brothers Fund has awarded a \$150,000 grant for the meeting.

JAVITS APPOINTMENTS

The governor appointed three new members to the state Convention Center Operating Corp. who are expected to support the redesigned Javits Center expansion. They are Kevin Corbett, former chief operating officer of the Empire State Development Corp.; Neville Bugwadia, former marketing director of ESDC; and Mike Petralia, president of the Javits Development Corp. ESD also approved a legal budget of \$500,000, partly to combat a suit by the Municipal Art Society, which claims that the redesign requires a new environmental impact statement. The *Insider* had predicted the addition of new board members.

ADAMS FAMILY GROWS

Retired NYPD Capt. Eric Adams says

Going is hard for bills in short-time Legislature

Contractors are pushing hard to get a bill passed in the waning days of the legislative session that would allow financial penalties against public agencies for causing construction delays. Many state agencies allow such penalties; most problems are with the state Conservation department and the city Transportation and Environmental Protection departments. The proposal, known as Damages for Delay, is supported by the General Contractors Association, the New York Building Congress and the Building Trades Employers Association, among others.

Meanwhile, supporters of a proposal to raise the limit on the number of charter schools concede that it would take a miracle for the Legislature to act before the end of the session. They are hopeful that the issue can be dealt with in a special session.

Gov. George Pataki remains a strong supporter of increasing the threshold, now at 100, which has been reached. He has been stymied in both houses as Democrats and suburban Republicans heed the objections of teachers' unions and local school boards.

many saw him as a "Sunday-morning press conference kind of guy" when he began his state Senate race in Brooklyn earlier this year. But Adams has racked up endorsements from three important local Democratic clubs, nearly every Democratic state committee member in the district and powerful unions 1199 SEIU and 32BJ. Lubavitch leaders in Crown Heights are also supporting him, and Adams has raised more than \$100,000. He faces three opponents.

AIRPORT BATTLE

Greg Meeks, D-Queens, has broken ranks with House Democrats again. He voted against a bill that would maintain rules against foreign ownership of airlines. Meeks was one of six Democrats nationwide, and

the only one in New York, to oppose the bill, which passed 291-137 late last week. The Bush administration argues that lifting the rules will encourage European countries to allow more international flights, which would benefit JFK Airport, which is in Meeks' district. Meeks previously clashed with fellow Democrats by voting for the Cafta trade bill.

AT A GLANCE

FORUM: The City Council task force that is trying to speed reform of the Department of Buildings will hold a public forum at 7 p.m. tomorrow at P.S. 113, 87-21 79th Ave., Queens. The task force will hear testimony on people's experiences with the embattled agency.

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