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GSA Awards Construction Contract for Massena Border Station Project

The U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) today announced the award of a \$50 million construction contract to **Northland Associates, Inc. of Liverpool, NY** for construction of a new and expanded Land Port of Entry at Massena, NY.

“We are very excited and pleased to announce this contract award,” stated Emily Baker, Regional Administrator of GSA’s Northeast and Caribbean Region. “With it, we can anticipate the completion of a new and enhanced border crossing at Massena, one of the many such crossings that are key to the continued effectiveness of New York State’s commercial corridors.”

Massena’s new border crossing will increase the number of primary inspection lanes for passenger vehicles from four to six, and commercial inspection lanes from one to three. In addition, there will be four secondary commercial inspection docks and an expanded secondary passenger inspection area with four enclosed bays. There will also be a new main building, a secondary inspection building, a non-intrusive inspection building and a vehicle maintenance garage. All existing buildings will be demolished. In addition, this new Port of Entry will incorporate state of the art communications, information management, security systems and inspection booths, all of which are critical to the operations of U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

Work is anticipated to begin in early July at the site and local area residents and users of the existing port of entry will be pleased to learn that the construction work will not, interrupt the ongoing operations of the existing facility. This is made possible by temporary reconfiguration of the approach roadways, so frequent travelers are advised be aware of new and changing traffic patterns throughout the construction period which will last through 2009. Last year, after several public meetings with local Tribal Councils and the incorporation of value engineering recommendations, GSA’s team was able to address concerns of the local community regarding access issues through the border and make modifications to the roadway designs. The success of this project is due to great coordination with the

New York State Department of Transportation, the New York Power Authority, Alcoa, and the Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe, Mohawk Council of Akwesasne.

GSA's other private industry partners in this effort include: Smith-Miller +Hawkinson Architects of New York City, who designed the project; and Gilbane Building Company of Providence, RI, construction manager on the job.

Founded in 1949, GSA serves as a centralized procurement and property management agency for the federal government. GSA manages more than one-fourth of the government's total procurement dollars and influences the management of \$500 billion in federal assets, including 8,300 government-owned or leased buildings and 170,000 vehicles. GSA helps preserve our past and define our future, as a steward of more than 420 historic properties, and as manager of **USA.gov**, the official portal to federal government information and services. GSA's mission to provide superior workplaces, expert technology solutions, acquisition services, purchasing and e-travel solutions and management policies, at best value, allows federal agencies to focus on their core missions.

Additional information regarding GSA programs and policies can be found at the agency's website: www.gsa.gov.