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# Taiwanese suppliers, educators are visiting Central NY to talk about Micron

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Micron is planning to build a large semiconductor plant on Route 31 in Clay. The company says the plant will employ up to 9,000 people and cost up to \$100 billion to build. Photo taken Friday, May 3, 2024. Rick Moriarty | [rmoriarty@syracuse.com](mailto:rmoriarty@syracuse.com) Rick Moriarty | [rmoriarty@syracuse.com](mailto:rmoriarty@syracuse.com)



By [Glenn Coin | \[gcoin@syracuse.com\]\(mailto:gcoin@syracuse.com\)](mailto:gcoin@syracuse.com)

Syracuse, N.Y. -- About 25 Taiwanese business people and educators are spending two days in Central New York this week to share information and scope out potential sites to open shop and service the planned Micron Technology development in Clay.

Among them are five companies that local officials met with during a trip to Taiwan in March, Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon said.

Micron plans to build up to four massive chipmaking plants, and will need suppliers for chemicals, gases and other products. Micron's biggest plant is in Taiwan, and suppliers scheduled to be here this week already do business with Micron in Taiwan.

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At least two suppliers have already tentatively agreed to come to Central New York, McMahon said last month. He declined to name them.

The county has bought more than 100 acres of land across the proposed Micron plant on Route 31 for a supplier business park.

Among the public officials involved in the Taiwanese meetings this week are McMahon, Syracuse Mayor Ben Walsh, and Bob Petrovich, executive director of the Onondaga County Industrial Development Agency. All three of them went to Taiwan in March.

Also in town for the meetings is Kevin Younis, the executive deputy commissioner of the New York state Empire State Development Corp. One goal of the visit is to make it easier for Taiwanese companies to build a presence halfway across the world.

"We're really helping to align and simplify the process for supply chain partners," said Younis, who went to Taiwan in April with ESD President Hope Knight. "How can we minimize the friction? How can we bring the workforce and all the different elements that they need in a way that is accessible as possible?"

Syracuse University and Onondaga Community college are also taking part this afternoon in an educational roundtable at SU's National Veterans Resource Center.

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McMahon said the county will pack a lot in over two days for the Taiwan visitors.

“They’re excited about this supply chain site, but they’re going to meet other key community partners, university leaders, business leaders (to) understand the ecosystem here and all the efforts putting into developing the workforce,” he said.

The Taiwanese contingent had planned to stop first in Oregon to visit an Intel plant and was scheduled to arrive in Central New York Wednesday. They’ll leave today and head for Rochester, Younis said. Syracuse, Rochester and Buffalo have formed an alliance as one of [31 national technology hubs](#).

The island of Taiwan, which sits 100 miles off the southeast coast of China, is the world’s chip-making capital of the world. More than half of all computer chips are made there, including 90% of the most advanced chips, referred to as “leading-edge.”

Micron has several factories in Taiwan, where it employs 10,000 people and makes the majority of its best-selling memory chips. The company has \$13 billion of assets in Taiwan, more than in any other country, according to the company’s most recent annual report. Micron says it is the largest foreign investor in Taiwan.

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