

Buffalo Niagara Regional
Transportation Council
May 1, 2009

BiNational Tourism Summit 2009

Transportation Improvement

Initiatives in the Buffalo – Niagara Region

GBNRTC

Erie and Niagara County's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

A Cooperative Association of Area Governments and Agencies



Department Of Transportation

NFTA

Who We Are

- Erie and Niagara County's Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Local partners working together
- Primary responsibility is planning and programming transportation improvements within the region
 - Long Range Transportation Plan
 - Short Range Transportation Improvement Program
 - Local and Areawide Transportation Studies

This Region is Changing

- Decline in population and economy has leveled off, appears to be improving
- Numerous initiatives moving forward
- Progress in cooperative planning in a regional context
- Timing excellent to look ahead and leverage advantages in energy and sustainability

What's Happening In Our Region



The map shows the Buffalo waterfront area with various streets and landmarks. Numbered red boxes (1-6) indicate development sites along Main Street and Exchange Street. Numbered green boxes (7-8) indicate development sites on the waterfront and near the DL&W Terminal. Key landmarks include the HSBC tower, HSBC Arena, and Land purchased for Casino. The Erie Canal is shown flowing through the area.

The future of the waterfront

Key elements of the Erie Canal Harbor Master Plan

Phase I <i>(to be completed in 2008):</i>	Phase II <i>(completion forecast by 2011):</i>	Phases III and IV: <i>(roughly 2011 to 2026):</i>
1. Bessie Coleman Outdoor World, plus Great Lakes-themed museum and hotel in Memorial Auditorium.	4. Construction of a two-lane lift bridge linking the foot of Main Street to Buffalo's outer harbor.	7. Development of a new residential community on outer harbor land directly across the Buffalo River from inner harbor, a variety of single and double family homes.
2. Harborfront Market, a year-round venue for locally produced foods and goods.	5. Development of historic Erie Canal site.	8. Development of dozens of multi-use lofts on surface parking lots.
3. A pair of mixed-use commercial buildings, combining retail, parking, office and residential space.	6. A third parking/commercial structure.	



What's Happening In Our Region



What's Happening In Our Region



What's Happening In Our Region



Regional Vision

- Reverse the current economic, land use, social and demographic trends
- Rebuild and maintain the region's infrastructure and grow in those areas
- Establish the economic and environmental health of the region

