

Cobblestone District Feasibility Study Proposal

As proposed by the Citizens Regional Transit Corp. (CRTC), the Cobblestone District extension of Metro Rail would be a 1.2 mile loop, traveling east on South Park Avenue, north on Louisiana Street and west on Perry Street.

The first step in accomplishing this short extension is to complete a feasibility study.

A feasibility study is prepared by a professional engineer in preparation for a major project, to lay out the specifics of the project with its projected costs.

The CRTC has identified Sone Consulting & Design, Inc., as a provider of the feasibility study. Stone Consulting is a small firm with wide experience in street-running rail transit systems. Their engineer came to look at the project on April 2, 2007, guided by CRTC.

To do the feasibility study for the proposed Cobblestone District, Stone Consulting will:

- visit Buffalo to obtain input from community leaders;
- determine if other route locations should be included in the study;
- recommend a final route;
- identify issues involved in connecting with the existing Metro Rail;
- provide ridership estimates;
- estimate cost to build the system;
- provide an operating budget to show approximate income from farebox and discuss other sources of income to offset operating costs;
- describe available grant funding sources and estimate local share to build project;
- return to Buffalo to present final report.

Stone Consulting assures the CRTC that the feasibility study may begin as soon as the funds are available, and will be completed within three months of the start date. Cost of the study is \$9,750 of which the CRTC has raised \$2,000 from its membership, as of 5-31-07.