



# CITIZENS for REGIONAL TRANSIT NEWS

published by Citizens Regional Transit Corporation  
P.O. Box 1186, Buffalo, NY 14231-1186  
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Volume #8 Issue #1

January 2007

## Good-bye 2006, Hello, 2007

The year 2006 may have been a break-through year for the main goal of CRTC: to expand Metro Rail.

The development which portended better times for public transit in Western New York came from Governor Pataki. He acted to fill position on the Board of Commissioners at the NFTA.

In so doing, Gov. Pataki may have left a significant legacy for public transit in WNY.

The first appointment was Gregory Stamm as Chairman of the Board, filling the vacancy left by the death of Luiz Kahl. Mr. Stamm immediately made clear that he appreciated the work of the CRTC and promptly invited the CRTC to speak directly to the Board.

Next came Thomas H. Burton, advocate for the disabled.

Then, Kevin J. Helfer, former Buffalo councilman and mayoral candidate, who has expressed views supporting better transit.

A fourth appointment has yet to be confirmed.

In previous years, the efforts of the CRTC have been stymied by an uncooperative NFTA Board. No effort to expand Metro Rail can proceed without the leadership of the NFTA.

Therefore, the current makeup of the NFTA Board presents an opportunity for the whole community to push forward with the best Big Idea for WNY--expand Metro Rail!

The CRTC does its work through the generous support of members and friends. Thank you!

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## Citizens for Regional Transit Monthly Meeting 3330 Main Street, corner NF Blvd., Buffalo

**January 16, 2007  
12:00-1:30 PM**

## CRTC Annual Meeting

Annual reports for 2006, election of officers for 2007,  
strategic planning for the new year.

**Citizens for Regional Transit** meets in  
University Presbyterian Church education wing,  
across from the University Station of Metro Rail.  
Enter through the parking lot door, take elevator to "ML."

**CRTC meetings are free and open to the public.  
Come on your lunch break, bag lunches welcome!**

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### Did you know....?

Buffalo has the fifth highest ridership level of any *light rail* system in the country.

Rank	Community served	Ridership per mile
1	Boston	8,016
2	Houston	5,040
3	Newark	3,481
4	Salt Lake City	2,810
5	Buffalo	2,727
6	Minneapolis	2,400
7	Portland	2,086
8	San Diego	1,978
9	Denver	1,949
10	Los Angeles	1,886

source: American Public Transportation Association

League of Women Voters of Buffalo/Niagara

presents

**“At Taxpayers’ Expense:  
How Government Policies Encourage  
Sprawl in Erie and Niagara Counties”**

A presentation followed by a panel discussion

**Tuesday, January 23, 2007  
7:00 PM**

**Harlem Road Community Center, 4255 Harlem Road, Amherst**

The Panel to include:

**Kevin Gaughan**, regionalism expert

**George Grasser**, president of Partners for a Livable WNY

**Laura St. Pierre-Smith**, vice president of Buffalo Niagara  
Partnership

**Carl Calabrese (invited)**, lobbyist for the Buffalo Niagara Builders  
Association

for more information, contact LWVBN at 884-3550

**CALENDAR**

**Jan. 16 Noon**  
**CRTC Monthly Meeting**  
**3330 Main St., Buffalo**  
**(corner NF Blvd & Main)**

**Jan. 23 7:00 PM**  
LWVBN sprawl presentation  
Harlem Road Community  
Center

**Jan. 26 9:00 AM**  
**GBNRTC Public Forum**  
**10:00 AM**  
**GBNRTC Policy Committee**  
Quality Inn, 7708 Niagara Falls  
Blvd., **Niagara Falls**

**Feb. 7 9:30 AM**  
PCC of GBNRTC  
City Hall, Buffalo

**Feb. 20 Noon**  
**CRTC Monthly Meeting**  
**3330 Main St., Buffalo**  
**(corner NF Blvd. & Main)**

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*return service requested*