



# CITIZENS for REGIONAL TRANSIT NEWS

published by Citizens Regional Transit Corporation  
617 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203  
contact: crtc@citizenstransit.org http://citizenstransit.org/

Volume #12 Issue #7

October 2010

## Winds of Change

Gusts of wind are changing transportation weather in WNY.

Retirements abound, at the NFTA and at the NYSDOT. The November elections will bring a new NYS governor plus changes in the NYS legislature and in the US Congress.

And when the weather calms, the governor will appoint a new chair of the NFTA Board of Commissioners. In addition, the Congress is due to enact the new transportation act in the spring.

These fresh faces in policy positions should bring new directions in transportation policy.

Will these winds of change blow toward effective public transit?

Will new leaders be bold to insist on infrastructure investments for all modes of public transit?

Will new policy makers heed the results of the TEN study (p. 2) and invest in public transit?

The winds of change will eventually calm, and when they do our task as public transit advocates will remain the same as always--

Challenge the new faces--

avoid the status quo!

be agents of change!

support Metro Rail extension!

So let the winds blow....

\*\*\*\*\*

## CRTC Monthly Meeting

**Wednesday, October 20  
12:00-1:00 PM**

## Healthy Transit=Healthy Kids

a discussion led by

**Jessie Hersher**

**Project Coordinator - Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities  
Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, Inc.**

How does transportation policy and street design relate to healthy living?

Ms. Hersher will bring the Healthy Kids, Healthy Communities campaign to bear on the work of CRT, in two ways:

First, our advocacy for light rail is based in part on environmental/health benefits, due to the improvement in air quality that accompanies it.

Second, studies have shown that users of public transit are by necessity more active, if only because they walk to and from the stations or stops that they use, at origin and destination.

### Join us!

\*\*\*\*\* NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE \*\*\*\*\*

### Citizens Regional Transit meets at:

**617 Main Street, Market Arcade Building, Buffalo**

Meeting space available courtesy Preservation Buffalo-Niagara.

**CRTC meetings are free and open to the public.**

\*\*\*\*\*NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE\*\*\*\*\*

# More Transit = More Jobs Study Rings true in Buffalo

by Gladys Gifford

Led by VOICE-Buffalo and People United for Sustainable Housing (PUSH), over fifty people rallied in downtown Buffalo, 9-2-10, in support of the public release of a study, "More Transit=More Jobs."

This national study was sponsored by Transportation Equity Network (TEN), a coalition of 350+ grassroots organizations in 41 states working toward transportation equity.

The study found that **"metropolitan areas that give a higher priority to transit generate more jobs per dollar spent on transportation."**

Data for the study was found through examining Transportation Improvement Programs (TIPs) from twenty Metropolitan Planning Organizations. Researchers found that the proportion of transportation dollars spent on public transit ranges from 15 percent to seventy-five percent. The Greater Buffalo Regional Transportation Council (GBNRTC) serves that role in the Buffalo-Niagara region, and displays their TIP on their website, [gbnrtc.org](http://gbnrtc.org). Local examination shows that the **GBNRTC allots 15% of transportation dollars to public transit.**

TEN concluded that if regions shifted 50% of their highway funds to transit, the net gain of transit jobs alone would provide a significant boost to local economies--without requiring any additional dollars.

Organizers of the rally gave copies of the report to news media and to the NFTA. **The report is available at: [transportationequity.org/](http://transportationequity.org/)**

## CALENDAR

Oct. 14, 7:00 PM  
**VOICE-Buffalo& PUSH Public Meeting**  
Holy Cross R. C. Church  
345 7th St., Buffalo  
For more info, call 842-6571

**Oct. 20 12:00 noon**  
**"Healthy Transit= Healthy Kids"**  
**CRTC Monthly Meeting**  
**617 Main Street, Buffalo**

Nov. 3 9:30 AM  
GBNRTC PCC meeting  
Erie Co. DPW, Rath Bldg.

Nov. 6 2-4 PM  
"Imagining the Buffalo Waterfront" by Tony Goldman and Fred Kent, from Project for Public Spaces.  
City Honors auditorium,  
186 E. North St., Buffalo  
for more info:  
[ggrasser@irdprojectmanagers.com](mailto:ggrasser@irdprojectmanagers.com)

\*\*\*\*\*NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE\*\*\*\*\*NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE NOV 2 GO VOTE\*\*\*  
**Citizens Regional Transit Corp.**

aims to improve and expand bus and rail transit for all of WNY through citizen involvement and education.

Join us! Membership dues are fully tax-deductible! send check to: **CITIZENS REGIONAL TRANSIT CORP.**  
corporate \$150.00 c/o John K. Howell, treasurer  
household 35.00 289 Ashford Avenue  
individual 25.00 Tonawanda, NY 14150-8563  
student 5.00

**Thank you!**

---

### **Citizens Regional Transit Corporation**

617 Main Street  
Buffalo, NY 14203

*return service requested*