

CITIZENS for REGIONAL TRANSIT NEWS

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Volume #13 Issue #5

June 2011

CRTC Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, June 15 12:00-1:00 PM

Olmsted Parks: Connections with Transit?

a presentation by **Brian Dold. Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy**

Brian Dold received his BS in Landscape Architecture from Cornell University in 2003. He has worked as a Landscape Architect for the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy for the last 8 yrs. Brian assisted in the preliminary planning of "The Olmsted City: Buffalo Olmsted Parks System – Plan for the 21st Century" and was the Project manager for the publication of the award-winning final document in 2008. During his time at the Conservancy, Brian has written grants which have generated over \$3 million in restoration funds for the Buffalo Olmsted Parks System.

Brian is a Buffalo native and is restoring his house on the west side.

Join us!

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.

On the waterfront...

Summer has arrived.

And in metro Buffalo summertime is the best time--warm, but not too warm, cool lake close by, flat land for bicycling.

What else do we need?

How about transit connections to all the city and county parks?

But the downtown waterfront is easily accessible, right now, by Metro Rail. so check it out...

* Explore by water taxi for pedestrians and bicycles, operated by Queen City Ferry 796-4556

* Enjoy Thursday at the Square's move to the waterfront-- see Buffaloplace,com for more events

Meanwhile, be on the alert for public meetings about transit issues, especially the Buffalo Harbor Bridge. This project would bring motor vehicles across the mouth of the Buffalo River to the Outer Harbor.

Leet's check out the Outer Harbor this summer.

Does this place need development? or is it valuable for its own sake?

Is this a place that requires automobile traffic?

or could it be a sanctuary where automobiles may visit but pedestrians and bicycles are invited to explore?

Could the Outer Harbor be a place where the lake dominates, and wind and fish and birds hold sway. and where the breakwater beckons sailors to see what's on the other side...

Let's go-- on the waterfront!

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Recent CRT actions..

--presented Cars on Main Street alternative to NFTA Board of Commissioners, 5-23.

--attended New York Public Transit Ass'n conference, Buffalo, 6-1 to 6-3. Staffed display to highlight activities of Transportation Regional Advisory Coalition (TRAC).

--President Gifford interviewed by ArtVoice, 5-26 http://artvoice.com/issues /v10n21/five_questions

Complete Streets Campaign

What is the "Complete Streets" concept? Simply put, a directive to transportation departments to include provisions for pedestrians, bicycles, public transit in the design and planning of streets.

Current planning for streets maximizes features to accommodate motor vehicles. Pedestrian fatalities and injuries occur when the design of the street fails to allow for alternative modes, i.e., sidewalks, signage, wide shoulders for bicycles.

The New York State Senate passed a Complete Streets bill in 2010, but no parallel action happened in the Assembly. Gov. Cuomo included passage of a Complete Streets bill in his election campaign.

To take action, see Tri-State Transportation Campaign:

The complete streets bill (S.5411) continues to move through the State Senate. But no equivalent bill has been introduced in the Assembly. Leadership from the governor and individual assemblymembers can move this bill and prevent needless deaths and injuries. To take action for a New York complete streets law, visit **www.tstc.org/completestreets**/.

CALENDAR

June 15 12:00 noon CRT Monthly Meeting 617 Main Street, Buffalo

June 18 10:00 am LWVBN walking tour of proposed Buffalo Harbor Bridge sites, begin at Hatch.

June 22 7-9 pm Transportation Town Hall 271 Grant St., Buffalo (see insert)

Sept. 24 9:00 am- 12:30 pm WNY Environmental Summit Daemen College, Amherst

Oct. 16-19 Rail-Volution, Washington, DC

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Citizens for Regional Transit

Mission: 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! corporate \$150.00 household 35.00 individual 25.00 student 5.00

send check to: CITIZENS REGIONAL TRANSIT CORP. c/o John K. Howell, treasurer 289 Ashford Avenue Tonawanda, NY 14150-8563

Thank you!

Citizens Regional Transit Corporation 617 Main Street

Buffalo, NY 14203

return service requested