

Integrating Smart Transit into Complete Streets

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2018 Sustainability & Multimodal
Planning Workshop

Key Presentation Take-Aways

1. Coordination & Community Engagement
2. Enhanced Transit Experience through Complete Streets
3. Increased Private Development through Public Expenditure

Presentation Outline

- Introduction
- System Overview
- Project Overview
- Goals and Objectives
- Outcomes
- Conclusion



System Overview

- Two county region serving Buffalo and Niagara Falls, NY
- Metro population 1.15 million people
- Organization is responsible for Bus and Rail operations, along with two airports



System Overview



System Overview

Statistics

- 320 buses (diesel, hybrid, CNG)
- 27 rail cars
- 74 paratransit vehicles
- 625 bus and rail operators
- Roughly 100,000 daily trips on bus and rail



Project Overview

- City of Buffalo Complete Streets Ordinance (2008)
 - A complete street provides for the safe, convenient and comfortable travel by foot, bicycle, transit or personal vehicle
- Mayor's commitment to installing at least 10 miles of bike lanes annually



Project Overview

- Niagara Street Corridor
 - High demand urban transit corridor
 - 6,700 daily boardings
 - Neighborhood Redevelopment
 - FTA Livability Grant
 - Coordination with Buffalo DPW and Sewer Authority, along with local partners



Project Overview

- Community Involvement
 - Engaged neighborhood leaders
 - Public Meetings
 - Participated in local community group meetings
 - Community led art-in-transit project



Goals & Objectives

- City's Goals
 - Improve overall vehicular safety and operational conditions
 - Improve overall safety and mobility for pedestrians and bicyclists
 - Return pavement to good conditions
 - Enhance the corridor aesthetically to better identify it as a major gateway to the City of Buffalo CBD

Goals & Objectives

- NFTA Goals
 - Positive coordination with local partners (City of Buffalo, MPO and NITTEC)
 - Construction of a Neighborhood Transit Center
 - Enhanced shelters with next bus technology
 - Transit signal priority (TSP)
 - Bus procurement (5 new vehicles)

Outcomes - Teamwork

- Coordination
 - Weekly meetings
 - Shared consultant
 - Monthly stakeholder meetings
 - Joint public outreach
 - Coordination on power
 - NFTA funding for new traffic signal controllers
 - Over \$19 million invested in Niagara Street

Outcomes - Shelters

- New design
- Increased presence
- Real-time signage



Outcomes – Transit Hub



- Gas station remediation
- Increased transfer opportunities
- Community messaging
- 25 space park-and-ride

Outcomes – Public Art

- Local artist
- Photographs by local children
- Long-lasting
- Neighborhood Centric



Outcomes – New Buses

- Compressed Natural Gas (CNG)
- Five new buses
- Cleaner air



Outcomes – Better Bus Speeds

- Transit Signal Priority (TSP) at all signals in the corridor – 26 in total
- Allows for greater travel speed and less time on the bus
- Configurable to work with signal timings

Outcomes – Placemaking



- Hispanic heritage trail
- Celebration of residents and community leaders

Outcomes – Private Investment



Outcomes – Private Investment



Outcomes – Private Investment



Outcomes – Private Investment



Progress & Next Steps

- Phase 1 & 2 Complete, Phases 3 and 4 start construction soon
- Additional real-time signage and controller replacement
- Protected bike lanes
- Full completion scheduled for 2020

Conclusion

- Local partners and community involvement are key to successful projects
- Streets that share all modes
- Lead to a great deal of private investment
- Created a model for which to develop new corridor investment (Main, Bailey, South Park)

Thank you!

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