# **Integrating Smart Transit** into Complete Streets

**Moderator:** Lacy Bell

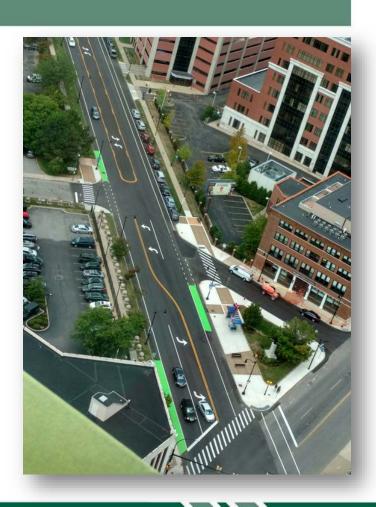
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## **Key Presentation Take-Aways**

- 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**



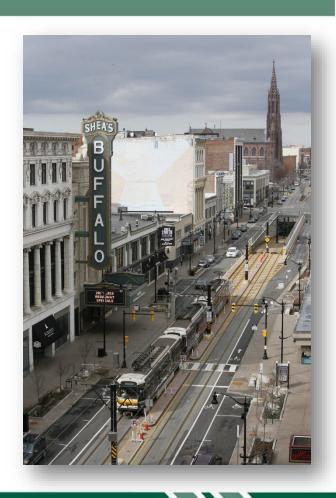




## **System Overview**

#### **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-intransit 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-andride

#### **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









## **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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