



**Buffalo
Central
Terminal**

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Buffalo Central Terminal to Hold Public Meeting on Community Vision

Buffalo, NY – The Buffalo Central Terminal will hold a public meeting via Zoom on **Thursday, April 8, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.** to share a vision and redevelopment strategy for the terminal and grounds, created in partnership with our local community. The meeting is free and open to all, and pre-registration is requested. To register, please visit www.buffaloterminalplan.org.

“This meeting is a celebration of nearly 10 months of dedicated and inclusive work with the community on a Master Plan for the Buffalo Central Terminal,” said Ujijji Davis, project manager with SmithGroup, the lead consultant for the Master Plan. “Together we will launch the Master Plan as a vision for the future.”

Concepts for the future of the Terminal building and grounds will be presented, and the final Master Plan will be shaped using public input gathered at the meeting. This coming together will celebrate the Terminal’s future, the ways in which many voices have shaped the direction, and how our collaborative work will continue together to make the Terminal an anchor for Broadway Fillmore and Buffalo again.

Though undertaken within the challenging context of Covid-19, the planning process has included five Community Advisory Council meetings with a dedicated group of Broadway Fillmore residents, businesses and organizations, and two well-attended public meetings. In addition, the Central Terminal Restoration Corp. (CRTC) has held six focus groups on topics such as open space and green space, economic development, small businesses, housing, arts and culture, and transportation and accessibility.

With its iconic Art Deco buildings, the historic Buffalo Central Terminal is a prominent feature of Buffalo’s East Side and the Broadway Fillmore neighborhood. Dedicated volunteer efforts have stabilized this landmark and brought attention to its importance and potential for a new life by combating deterioration from 40 years of vacancy and abandonment since the last train departed in 1979.

“We know massive redevelopment projects like this take time, but we have done it before in Buffalo and we can do it again. We are dedicated to seeing this through,” said Monica Pellegrino Faix, Executive Director of the Central Terminal Restoration Corp. “We recognize the important role the Terminal can play in the future of Broadway Fillmore.”

The Master Plan is being funded by a \$400,000 grant through Phase II of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Buffalo Billion, which is focused on ensuring that all Western New Yorkers have an improved quality of life and have a role to play in the new Buffalo. As part of this strategy, \$65 million in state funding is dedicated to the revitalization of Buffalo's East Side through transformational capital investments along four commercial corridors (Michigan Avenue, Jefferson Avenue, Fillmore Avenue, and Bailey Avenue). The Buffalo Central Terminal is part of the East Side Avenues program and funded through the East Side Collaborative Fund, which is administered by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo.

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About the East Side Collaborative Fund

The grant award is from the East Side Collaborative Fund which is administered by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. The pooled fund was created through a unique partnership of private and philanthropic organizations to complement capital funding that is being awarded by Empire State Development (ESD) as part of its \$65 million East Side Corridor Economic Development Fund (ESCEDF), which is part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Buffalo Billion II initiative.

About East Side Avenues

East Side Avenues is a capacity building initiative developed to fund, plan and coordinate revitalization strategies and initiatives aimed at improving economic conditions in four main commercial corridors on Buffalo's East Side. It is backed by a unique partnership of private and philanthropic organizations that created the pooled, \$8 million East Side Collaborative Fund administered by the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo. The grants and supports are being provided to complement capital funding that is being awarded by Empire State Development (ESD) as part of its \$65 million East Side Corridor Economic Development Fund (ESCEDF), which is part of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo's Buffalo Billion II initiative.

East Side Avenues stemmed from UB Regional Institute's (UBRI) partnership with ESD and the City of Buffalo to reach out to community members, to listen, analyze past investments and create a comprehensive plan focused on what key stakeholders said they'd like to see happen and what projects they believe are important for promoting economic activity. East Side Avenues is being led by a Project Implementation Team (PIT) from UBRI that will work to build organizational capacity by ensuring appropriate supports such as infrastructure, staff and funding are in place; assisting with strategic planning, program design and problem solving; reporting on progress and ensuring responsible use of resources. UBRI is the research enterprise of the University at Buffalo School of Architecture and Planning. Learn more about East Side Avenues at www.eastsideavenues.org.