#### What We Need:

To meet the growing demand for a 21st century multi-modal transportation system in Buffalo-Niagara – including an expanded Metro Rail.

# Why We Need It:

Attract & Retain Population – Growing numbers of Americans are seeking better transportation choices, including the option to live and work car-free in walkable, bikeable, mixed-use neighborhoods connected by transit.

**Parking & Congestion** – Transit moves people safely and cost-effectively without scarring our waterfront, parkland, or downtown streetscapes with acres of parking. Park & Ride facilities are free and reduce traffic congestion, pollution, and on-street parking shortages.

Access & Affordability – Over 1/3 of Buffalo households do not own cars. Transit expands mobility options for everyone (including seniors and the disabled), providing essential access to jobs, shopping, healthcare, education, etc. Up to \$10,000 a year can be saved for each car done without!

**Economics** – Investments in light rail and bus rapid transit are transforming many US cities by stimulating economic growth ("Transit-Oriented Development"). Because WNY's many rail rights-of-way are already publicly owned, expansion of our system is among the nation's most affordable.

**The Environment** – Automobiles in New York State emit more carbon per year than industrial, residential, or commercial sources; their exhaust contains pollutants that cause cancer and asthma. Buffalo's light rail runs partly on clean hydroelectric power – with the potential to run on 100% non-polluting Niagara Falls waterpower.

**Health Benefits** – CDC studies correlate transit use with increased physical fitness and decreased rates of chronic disease.

#### Transit Advocates for Over 50 Years!

Your tax-deductible membership funds the ongoing work of our all-volunteer staff. We educate the public, government officials, and their authorities and agencies about the increasing importance of public transportation in a rapidly changing world.

Join Citizens for Regional Transit and be counted among those demanding a sufficiently funded, 21st Century multimodal mobility system in Western New York, including a fully expanded Metro Rail.

## CITIZENS for REGIONAL TRANSIT

#### How to Join: By Mail: Treasurer Citizens for Regional Transit 617 Main Street, Suite 201 Buffalo, NY 14203 Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Via Website: www.citizenstransit.org (PayPal) Annual Dues: \_\_\_\_ \$250+ Corporate (logo put on our website) \_\_\_\_ \$50 Group / Organization \$35 Household \$25 Individual \_ \$5 Student, Senior, Unemployed, etc.

# **Extend Metro Rail CITIZENS** for REGIONAL TRANSIT







## **Top Priorities:**

**Airport Extension** – Extend our existing Metro Rail line beyond Canalside through the Cobblestone District and eastward above ground to Larkinville, Central Terminal, Thruway Mall, Walden Galleria, and the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport, ending at a Park & Ride on Transit Road near the I-90.

**Amherst Extension** – Unite UB Amherst with its urban campuses via public rapid transit.

**Leisure Connections** – Provide car-free access to our region's most popular leisure destinations for residents and tourists alike – including a connection from Niagara Falls to Buffalo's Waterfront. Any public funding and incentives for development projects, including major sports, recreational, and entertainment venues, must be contingent on public transportation access.

**Preserve Rights-of-Way** – Preserve our publiclyowned rail rights-of-way to enable ultimate completion of a 46-mile Metro Rail System as originally conceived, including lines to the Tonawandas, Hamburg, and Orchard Park.

**Dedicated Funding** – Secure a dedicated source of funding to operate and maintain a state-ofthe-art transit system for an increasing ridership, including cyclists, seniors, and commuters.



Web: www.citizenstransit.org Email: <u>crtc@citizenstransit.org</u>

f CitizensforRegionalTransit 🔰 WNYTransit