



Assemblyman Sean Ryan

Legislative Update

A
Successful
Year
for
Buffalo,
Lackawanna
and
Hamburg



Dear Friends and Neighbors:

“It is an honor to represent you in the New York State Assembly, and I am looking forward to another successful legislative session in Albany. I look forward to continuing the progress we have seen in recent years, with on-time balanced budgets, and great initiatives which are helping to create jobs and grow our economy. While out of legislative session these past few months, I have been busy traveling around the 149th district and working on many important issues which are detailed in this newsletter.

There are many great things happening throughout Buffalo, Lackawanna, and Hamburg, and I look forward to continuing to serve and fight for this community. Please contact my office if I can ever be of any assistance. I wish you and your family the best in the New Year.

Sincerely,

Sean M. Ryan

Assemblyman Sean Ryan Delivering Results for Western New Yorkers



Riverbend and The Buffalo Billion

In September, we broke ground on the Riverbend Solar Energy Facility in Buffalo. Thousands of new jobs are going to be available for Western New Yorkers, and Buffalo will be on the leading edge of the technology of the future. Thanks to the Buffalo Billion, this initiative will be a huge win for our region, for our economy, and for investment in renewable energy across our country.



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Additional Funding Secured for Hamburg Public Library

Earlier this year, I was pleased to announce that additional state funding would be coming to the Hamburg Public Library. The nearly \$450,000 in new funding from New York State will help to continue the great work that is being done to improve the infrastructure of the library. The accessibility upgrades will allow the library to continue their mission of serving the public's educational needs. In addition, the new meeting space and coffee shop will be a great destination for Hamburg residents.



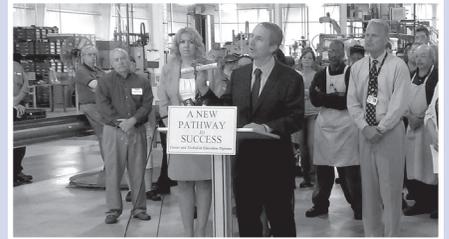
Starting Construction on the Lackawanna Homes Project

Throughout Lackawanna's First Ward, construction recently began on the Lackawanna Homes

Project. The project, locally sponsored by Lackawanna Housing Development Corporation (LHDC), is constructing 47 single-family homes and a community center in Lackawanna's First Ward. The project is being constructed by The NRP Group LLC, and the \$12 million cost is funded by New York State Office of Homes and Community Renewal, the City of Lackawanna, and Erie County. I recently held a public meeting to discuss the lottery application process for selecting tenants. Applications are available at the office of the LHDC, which is located at 640 Ridge Road in Lackawanna. There is no deadline for submitting an application, but the lottery selection for the homes is ongoing and potential applicants should submit an application as soon as possible.

A New CTE Pathway for High School Students

This year I have been urging the state Board of Regents to approve a new Career and Technical Education diploma option for high school students across our state. Students in New York need more options to find success, and I am thankful that the Board of Regents finally took action in October to ensure that students in our state will have a new way to graduate with a Regents diploma and find a successful career. Not all students want to follow the traditional path of a four-year college. The CTE option will help to improve graduation rates by giving these students the opportunity to discover a pathway to a career that works for them.



Rebirth of the Richardson Olmsted Complex

In October, we broke ground on the new hotel and conference center at the Richardson Olmsted Complex. The rebirth of the Richardson Olmsted Complex is one of the great success stories in the history of the City of Buffalo. Long forgotten and abandoned, the complex now has a place in Buffalo's future thanks to the tireless work of so many at the federal, state, and local levels. The improvements to the South Lawn are already drawing visitors from near and far. The renovations now underway will continue the progress we have seen, create hundreds of jobs for Western New Yorkers, and preserve the complex for future generations.



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Serving the 149th
Assembly District

Winter 2014



Highlighting Bad IDA Deals in WNY

I recently took part in a bus tour with the Coalition for Economic Justice to highlight good and bad Industrial Development Agency projects in WNY. We all know that our current IDA system is broken and in desperate need of reform. There are some examples of good companies that are creating good-paying jobs, like Curtis Screw in Buffalo, which should receive support from our IDAs. But we know that many projects approved by Western New York IDAs are creating low-wage jobs, and in many cases companies are not living up to the job creation goals they promised. As for a bad example, we visited a hotel under construction in Lancaster, which received tax breaks after claiming that the project is a tourist destination. We need a system with tighter controls to ensure only projects that truly benefit our economy are being approved.