

2015-J1598

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION supporting the efforts of the collaboration of people and organizations, the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, and the New York State Department of Transportation to move forward with the project to cover the Route 33 highway, and bring new investment and transformation to this east side neighborhood and to the City of Buffalo

WHEREAS, Buffalo's East side was once a vibrant, lively, and thriving neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, The Humboldt Parkway, a magnificent tree-lined Frederick Law Olmsted-designed streetscape, once served as the connector of The Park (now Delaware Park) and the Parade (now Martin Luther King, Jr. Park), and was a neighborhood where people wanted to live and raise their families; and

WHEREAS, The Humboldt Parkway was known previously to the east side of the City as what Bidwell Parkway is now to the Elmwood neighborhood, a grand place to live and a gathering place for the community; and

WHEREAS, The construction of the Route 33 highway ungraciously removed this magnificent tree-lined streetscape and replaced it with a high speed roadway, rudely dividing this thriving neighborhood, fracturing the community, and ultimately precipitating the decline and disinvestment of this area; and

WHEREAS, A collaboration of neighborhood associations, citizen groups, residents, churches, and other organizations desire to see this east-side community healed, restored, and transformed; and

WHEREAS, This collaboration of stakeholders sees the original construction of Route 33 as the root of the problem, and the reconstruction of the Parkway, by way of adding a cover to the "bathtub section" of the highway, as a major step forward to bringing this trans-

formation about; and

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to help transform the City into a thriving urban area, with every neighborhood full of life and known as a great place to own a home, go to school, develop a business, and raise a family; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to support the efforts of the collaboration of people and organizations, the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, and the New York State Department of Transportation to move forward with the project to cover the Route 33 highway, and bring new investment and transformation to this east side neighborhood and to the City of Buffalo; and be it further

RESOLVED, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, and the New York State Department of Transportation.