

OUR OUTER HARBOR

MEDIA ADVISORY

For immediate release: December 2, 2020

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What: Public Comment Period in Response to ECHDC's General Project Plan for Buffalo's Outer Harbor Closes in One Week

When: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 by 5:30pm

Where: Send comments to Landgprojectcomments@esd.ny.gov with "Comment--Buffalo Outer Harbor Civic and Land Use Improvement Project " in the subject line.

Who: Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC) is the author of the [General Project Plan](#) (GPP). The Our Outer Harbor Coalition (OOHC), a coalition of concerned citizens and over a dozen groups including the Western New York Environmental Alliance, 21st Century Park on the Outer Harbor, Friends of Times Beach Nature Preserve, League Of Women Voters of Buffalo Niagara, Sierra Club, Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo, and more. Website: www.ourouterharbor.org

Why: The OOHC is hoping to raise public awareness of the release of ECHDC's [General Project Plan](#) (GPP) and the public comment period. Buffalo's Outer Harbor is a stunning natural area in a remarkable location enjoyed as a park by a large general public, and there are many stakeholders just becoming aware that the GPP was released on Nov. 9, and that the public comment period closes on Dec 9. The OOHC has requested an extension to the comment period (to Jan. 15, 2021 or later) to give the public more time to read and respond to ECHDC's GPP and [Environmental Assessment](#) for Buffalo's Outer Harbor, but one is not expected to be granted at this time. In September 2019, the OOHC member organization Partnership for the Public Good released [a report outlining the reasons that New York State should officially designate the Outer Harbor as parkland](#). They are currently circulating [a petition urging ECHDC and lawmakers to formally designate this land as a park](#).

Links:

- ECHDC GPP:

<https://esd.ny.gov/sites/default/files/Outer-Harbor-General-Project-Plan-Nov92020.pdf>

- ECHDC Environmental Assessment (EA):

<https://esd.ny.gov/sites/default/files/FINAL-BuffaloOuterHarbor-SEQR-Nov092020.pdf>

- ECHDC Stakeholder Notification:

https://buffalowaterfront.com/u/pdf/Stakeholder-Notification_Outter-Harbor-GPP.pdf

-PPG Park Proposal:

https://ppgbuffalo.org/files/documents/environment/buffalos_outer_harbor_the_right_place_for_a_world-class_park.pdf

-OOHC Petition:

<https://www.change.org/p/sean-ryan-designate-buffalo-s-outer-harbor-on-lake-erie-coast-as-parkland>