

01/19/2017

From: Jibreel K. Riley

To: Committee Members

The Committee

I would like to advocate for the ultimate restoration of New York Central Terminal as use for passenger railroad service. I also believe that a downtown train station at Exchange Street is also necessary along with stop at Larkin District. The restoration of Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Terminal would be an awesome addition to Canalside however the DL&W trackage is extremely limited to only trains coming from the east (New York via New Jersey) as Buffalo to NYC trains terminated at Buffalo Inner Harbor. Former New York Central Railroad and Leigh Valley Railroad right way currently located within Downtown Buffalo connection modern Amtrak and CSX trains to Niagara Falls and across the Rainbow Bridge into Canada. Leigh Valley RR Terminal existed downtown Buffalo, on Main Street until the construction of the New York State Thruway and former Donovan Building that is currently has been repurposed into commercial space. Former LV Terminal is located within walking distance from Canalside attractions thus improvements to the Exchange Street area would be welcome.

Why stop at just one project when many of these projects can all become consolidated together to create a mega project, guided by an authority to direct improving Amtrak service while aiming to restore commuter rail to the Western New York region as well as expanding rapid transit options that serve all communities. This is an opportunity to grow the Western New York region beyond our wildest imaginations into a global city that is second to none.

I would also like to mention the important of the Depew train station as the Depew Station is a valuable asset to the mobility of the region that should not be dismissed. The committee should consider making improvements to accommodate for high speed rail.

Sincerely,

Jibreel K. Riley