



**Western New York
Rail Corridor Project
Presentation to City of Buffalo Site
Selection for Buffalo Rail**

Presented By

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Western New York Rail Corridor Project

- A tourist rail corridor linking:
 - Jamestown
 - Gowanda/Zoar Valley
 - Hamburg
 - Buffalo

Mission

- Preserve and improve Jamestown to Buffalo Rail Corridor.
- Utilize the corridor as an anchor to attract new, and strengthen existing, tourism businesses, increase public mobility, and preserve commercial freight utility.
- As tourist demand grows, explore viability of operating commuter trains between Jamestown and Buffalo for events, labor access, and easing traffic congestion.

Benefits

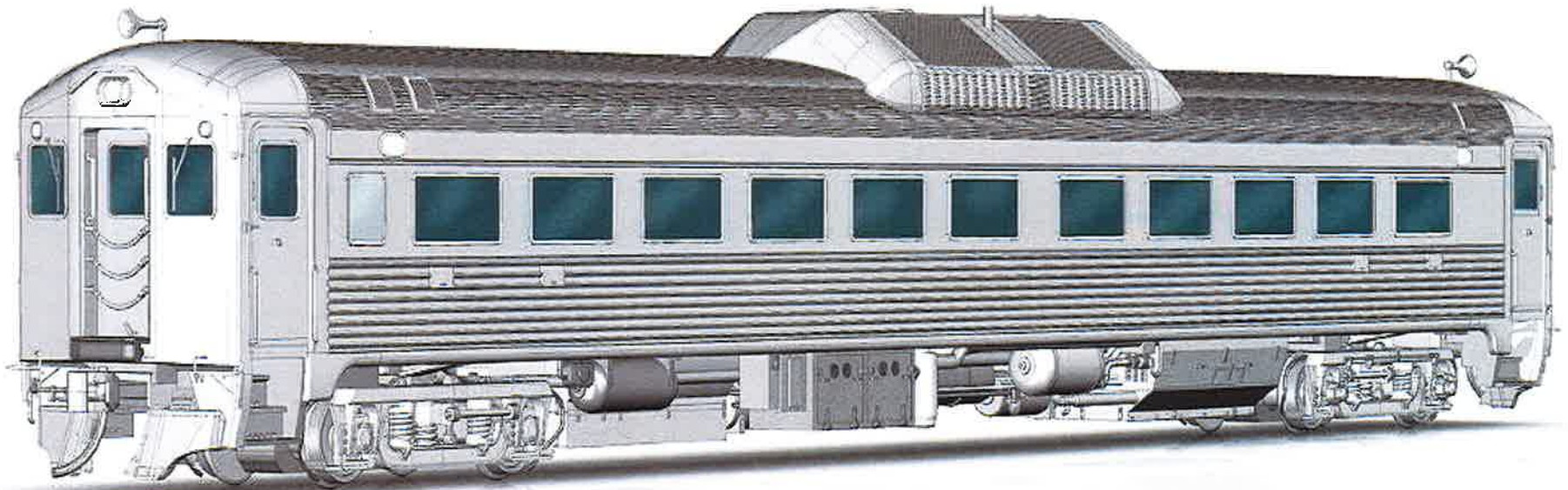
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- A blue and yellow N&WÉ locomotive, numbered 6758, is pulling a passenger train through a rural landscape. The locomotive is the central focus, with its front facing the viewer. It has a prominent diamond-shaped logo on the front with the letters 'N&WÉ' inside. The train is moving along tracks that curve to the right. In the background, there are trees with yellow and orange leaves, suggesting autumn. A red building and a white structure are visible on the right side. The sky is blue with some clouds. In the bottom left corner, there is a list of benefits.
- Bring increased tourism revenue and mobility to communities with stations along the corridor
 - Job creation
 - Create demand for new accommodations, restaurants and specialty gift shops along the corridor

The 66.7 Mile Corridor

- Erie County— 30.2 miles owned by Erie County, managed by ECIDA, and operated by Buffalo Southern RR
- Cattaraugus County— 25.7 miles owned by County of Cattaraugus IDA and operated by New York & Lake Erie RR
- Chautauqua County – 10.8 miles owned by STERA, leased to NS, and sub-leased to Western New York & Pennsylvania RR

Access to Buffalo

- Goal is to connect with NFTA Metrorail and buses in Downtown Buffalo to increase regional mobility
- Place northern terminus of corridor in close proximity to Buffalo's Downtown, Canalside, Cobblestone and Theatre Districts



Current Status of WNY Rail Corridor Project

1. Political support has been received from:

- City of Jamestown**
- Villages of Cherry Creek, South Dayton, Gowanda and Hamburg**
- Towns of Persia, Collins, North Collins, Eden and Hamburg**

2. New York & Lake Erie RR operated several successful tourist rail excursions in Cattaraugus County in 2016, and is planning an expanded schedule in 2017

**3. In June of 2016, Gov. Cuomo announced \$16.3 Million in NYS Rail Infrastructure Improvements
\$4.3 Million for Railroads in our WNY Rail Corridor Project
(26.4% of Total amount awarded)**

Amtrak Station Site Selection

- Should be downtown in close proximity to the exciting development occurring at Canalside and Riverfront districts.
- Must bring travelers to the center of business and cultural activity in Buffalo.
- Must have convenient access to expressways and direct connectivity to Metrorail.
- A downtown location, including Exchange Street, would allow a future connection to WNY Rail Corridor Project, facilitating mobility to/from Amtrak station with Cattaraugus and Chautauqua rail stations.