BRIAN HIGGINS
26TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COUNTERTERRORISM AND INTELLIGENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
RESPONSE, AND COMMUNICATIONS

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON THE
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE,
EURASIA, AND EMERGING THREATS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515–3226

2459 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225–3306
(202) 226–0347 (FAX)

726 EXCHANGE STREET
SUITE 601
BUFFALO, NY 14210
(716) 852–3501
(716) 852–3929 (FAX)

640 PARK PLACE
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301
(716) 282–1274
(716) 282–2479 (FAX)

higgins.house.gov

February 15, 2013

Mr. Thomas Dee
President
ECHDC
95 Perry Street, 5th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14203

Ms. Kimberley A. Minkel
Executive Director
NFTA
181 Ellicott Street
Buffalo, New York 14203

Re: The DL&W Terminal

Dear Mr. Dee and Ms. Minkel:

Recent and ongoing substantial investments in the immediate vicinity of the DL&W Terminal have greatly enhanced the development potential of this historic asset. These investments include the Sabres' $170 million HARBORCenter project on the Webster Block, the exciting developments at Canalside, the environmental dredging of the Buffalo River itself, and Buffalo River Fest Park just upstream. While the lower level of the DL&W is being used for the operation of Metro Rail, the upper level is vacant, and features balconies with commanding views of the river and historic design features.

I write today to advocate that the ECHDC and the NFTA partner to advance the development of the second floor of the DL&W. Specifically, I write to recommend that the NFTA issue a Request for Proposals for a long term lease with private developers for the upper level of the DL&W, and that you work together to make investments to public improvements in the facility (e.g., access improvements, HVAC and plumbing) which are necessary to make the RFP viable. The build-out of this missing link on the river will add to the critical mass of momentum on Buffalo's downtown waterfront.

Thank you. I am grateful to both of you for your leadership and for the important work of your respective agencies.

Sincerely,

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER