



Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council  
438 Main St, Suite 503 | Buffalo, NY 14202 | 716-856-2026 | [www.gbnrtc.org](http://www.gbnrtc.org)

May 4, 2022

Hon. Patrick F. McAllister  
Steuben County Supreme Court  
3 East Pulteney Square  
Bath, NY 14810

Dr Jonathan Cervas, Special Master  
Steuben County Supreme Court  
3 East Pulteney Square  
Bath, NY 14810

Dear Justice McAllister and Special Master Cervas:

As staff at the Greater Buffalo Niagara Regional Transportation Council, we would like to note the importance of transportation in our region and the need for consistent representation to support our plans and projects. The 63<sup>rd</sup> State Senate District connects the Town of Amherst with portions of the City of Buffalo and City of Lackawanna.

Amherst is Buffalo's largest suburb and shares the University at Buffalo campuses with the city. It is also home to the planned expansion of the Metro Rail system, as well as several other key transportation projects. Amherst's economic, demographic, and geographic ties to Buffalo are an important component of our regional plans.

The State University at Buffalo, the largest SUNY campus with over 30,000 students, has campuses located in Buffalo and Amherst. The University is one of Western New York's largest employers (6000) and a direct economic impact of more than \$1.7 billion. These would be linked by the existing, and proposed extension of the Metro Rail system. We are assisting planning and coordination of system expansion, as well as related Transit Oriented Development in a consistent manor across these entities. This will leverage jobs access and affordable housing in the corridor.

Buffalo, Amherst and Lackawanna exhibit a strong and increasingly diverse population profile. From a regional planning and transportation projects perspective, consistent representation in a geographical sense is important to our area. We appreciate your consideration of our concerns and recommendations.

Sincerely,

Richard Guarino, AICP  
Acting Executive Director