

Senator Young Hosts Rt. 219 Legislative Roundtable

On October 20, 2011, Senator Catharine M. Young hosted a Roundtable in Buffalo called "Route 219: Road to Our Future" to hear from key transportation, labor, tourism, logistics, education, banking and health care officials on expanding the route.

"Governor Cuomo is making a big push for growing the economy in

Western New York. We heard from experts in the field and community leaders who believe that completing Route 219 would play a major part in spurring job growth and economic development through the region. We need to refocus our attention on getting this project done," said Senator Young.

In addition to ten Legislators and staff, the roundtable featured remarks from 11 speaker leaders from various industry sectors.

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Tell Your Governor to Complete Route 219

Western New York and western Pennsylvania need jobs! Help us by telling your governor how a direct north-south connection is vital to our economies. Route 219 means new jobs, economic development, connection and safe roads!

New York: In NY, tell Gov. Cuomo to approve funding for two projects: \$6 million for the NY Route 219 SEIS,* and the completion of Route 219 in the long-term capital plan. Contact Gov. Cuomo Today!

Pennsylvania: To complete Route 219 in Pennsylvania, PennDOT must move quickly on construction as soon as the toll credit legislation passes in Congress. Let Governor Corbett know how important Route 219 is — we need new jobs, economic development, connection and safe roads! Contact Gov. Corbett Today! ■

Send your message today! continental1.org/contact-your-official

* Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

Route 219/C1: PROJECT STATUS

To move forward, New York State requires approval of funding for two projects: \$6 million for the Route 219 SEIS (Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement), and the completion of Route 219 in the long-term capital plan.

In Pennsylvania, toll credit language is included in the federal transportation re-authorization legislation expected to pass in January. The passage of this bill will release \$350 million in construction financing to complete the Somerset, PA portion of Route 219. ■



In the News



Albany Lobby Days

Continental 1 is looking for volunteers to travel to Albany prior to the January budget vote to flood the hallways and urge funding approval. If you want your voice to be heard by our elected officials, watch www.continental1.org for details on travel dates.

Please contact Gov. Cuomo today and tell him that a completed Route 219 will mean jobs, safety and prosperity for our region. You'll find sample letters and contact information on our website.

This is our best opportunity to move this transformational project forward! ■

For more information please contact:

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Project Manager

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According to Meg Lauerman, Project Manager, Continental 1, the participation of so many experts from the public and private sector demonstrates the wide support this project has in our region.

"We all appreciate the leadership and understanding that Senator Young and other area lawmakers bring to this issue," Lauerman said.

Health care is just one of the industries that will be strengthened by a completed Route 219.

A completed Route 219 will improve the quality of health care by making it possible to transport those in need of acute care.

"There are patients in the Jamestown and Olean areas that are more likely to go to Pittsburgh to get health care because there is no efficient route to Buffalo," said Patrick J. Whalen, Chief Operating Officer for the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. "A completed Route 219 will improve the quality of health care by making it possible to transport those in need of acute care to hospitals in Buffalo much more quickly and efficiently. Having a smooth and efficient four-way highway system is extremely important to our region's health care industry," said Whalen.

The event was covered by The Buffalo News, WBFO, WNED and YNN, and several local papers, further increasing awareness and understanding of this vital initiative. ■



SPREADING THE WORD ON THE ROAD

Coming soon – "Complete Route 219" bumper stickers! Help us create a movement to spread the word about the benefits of Route 219 and keep this issue strong. Details will be posted on our Facebook page soon.

CONTINENTAL 1 NEEDS SUPPORT FROM EVERYONE

Many of you have signed up for and received your **free Continental 1 Window decal** to display on your vehicle or at your home or business. This show of support will help move this transformational project forward!

The completion of Continental 1 – which includes Route 219 in New York and Pennsylvania – will mean **permanent jobs for our region and a safe, efficient route from Toronto to Miami.**

More ways you can help:

- 1 Spread the word and keep the momentum going!
- 2 Like us on Facebook.
- 3 Forward this message.

TELL YOUR FRIENDS!



Big News from Pennsylvania!

We are excited to report the recent progress in Pennsylvania regarding the toll credit language proposal. C-1 Board member John Vatauvuk has worked tirelessly on this issue – the project is shovel ready and could be released to bid four to six months after the law is passed. These projects move the entire route forward!

We urge concerned citizens to contact Pennsylvania Senator Casey and Congressman Shuster, and Maryland Senator Cardin and request their support. ■

Our Supporters Say It All

The following comments are speaker excerpts from our October 20, 2011 Roundtable testimony. We thank all of our participants for their support, time and passion.

- **Patrick J. Whalen, COO**
Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC)
Buffalo, NY

The completion of Route 219 is essential in not only providing patients with greater and more accessible health care, but also to help strengthen the health care industry in WNY.

- **John Manzella**
Manzella Trade Communications, Inc.
Williamsville, NY

Western New York offers a unique value proposition. Located on the border, we can enable companies to establish one location to penetrate two markets. If a company is interested in reaching half the U.S. and Canadian population in a one-day truck drive, WNY is the ideal location to establish a presence. C-1 will much more efficiently connect WNY to points south, enhancing the competitiveness of the region, New York State and North America.

- **Kathryn Byrk Friedman, Ph.D., Esq.**
University at Buffalo, Regional Institute
Director of Law and Policy Research
Buffalo, NY

Establishing Continental 1 would ensure that the bi-national region maintains its place as a critical link in Canada-US trade flows and would secure access and mobility for businesses engaged in cross-border trade...with close to \$645 billion worth of goods annually flowing across the Canada-US border – 30 percent of which crosses in bi-national Buffalo-Niagara.

- **Stephen F. Mayer, Ph.D., P.E.**
Niagara University, College of Business
Administration - Assistant Professor
Technology Commercialization Clinic - Director
Niagara Falls, NY

In Western New York – with the largest trade corridor in New York and second largest in the United States...we do not have an effective north-south route.... If we are to build a sustainable region and one that promotes our long run economic viability, we must get on with the completion of the Route 219/Continental 1 infrastructure that will strengthen our region's claim on international trade and connections. We can offer a real alternative to areas where infrastructure is at its limits and expansion of capacity is very costly.

- **D. Arthur Hile, Finance Director**
Americas and Asia Pacific
Dresser-Rand Co.
Olean, NY

Completing 219/Continental 1 will benefit existing and potentially new industries...by providing cost effective transportation of raw materials, supplies, parts, and products to customers; reducing transit times, increasing competitiveness, and significantly improving access for companies to airports and terminals in Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Buffalo and Toronto.

- **Dennis Eshbaugh, President and CEO**
Holiday Valley Resort
Route 219 Association, President
Ellicottville, NY

Continental 1 will enhance and expand the economic potential of tourism and entertainment. The economic impact of increased access to and through the region cannot be overstated.

- Buffalo Bills/Sabres attendees spend \$120 per event
- Allegany State Park/Ellicottville ski areas attract estimated 3 million visitors annually
- \$2.4 billion spent on tourism in Western New York annually

- **Sr. Margaret Carney, O.S.F., S.T.D., President**
St. Bonaventure University
Olean, NY

St. Bonaventure University is a cultural, educational and economic force in the Western Southern Tier. However, its remote location limits accessibility from safety and convenience considerations, to nearby cultural centers. Expressway access to Buffalo, Pittsburgh and points beyond would enhance the University's impact on the region economically and generally.

- **Meg Lauerman, Project Manager**
Continental 1
Buffalo, NY

The momentum to complete Route 219 has been increasing. A recent Zogby poll found 84% percent of Western New Yorkers support its completion. To date, over \$600,000 of private funds has been contributed to the effort and NY and PA congressional delegates support the project – already committing \$442 million. The major portion is already complete. The principal gap requires approximately 167 miles of new construction; and just 20 miles are in New York State.

- **The Hon. Catherine Young, New York State Senator**
57th Senatorial District

The completion of Route 219 has been a long battle – more than 40 years, but in the last ten years we've made more progress than any time before.

This progress could not come at a better time as there is no more urgent need in our community, in our state, or in our country than growing the economy and more jobs.

I'm very pleased that we have so many stakeholders from our community - business leaders, labor leaders, people from academia, and so on who understand this project is a crucial issue for Western New York, and for our future.

With the additional support from WNY Delegation members and Gov. Cuomo, who I believe very strongly understand how critical this project is to WNY, we are ever closer to achieving the ultimate goal of having this entire route constructed.

Sign up and receive a FREE window decal!

Show your support at continental1.org/support.

