

September/October 2008

[www.eriecanalharbor.com](http://www.eriecanalharbor.com)**Timeline of Recent Activities:****September**

- .....Erie Canal Harbor summer programming garners over 35,000 participants.
- .....Aud demolition RFP released to general public.
- .....Asbestos remediation reaches 85% completion (Aud) and 55% completion (Donovan building).
- .....Harbor hosts 2008 NYS Canal Conference attendees.
- .....Charles F. Rosenow retires as ECHDC President.
- .....City of Buffalo announces Aud memorabilia auction details.

**October**

- .....ECHDC launches new website.
- .....Aud demolition contract awarded to Buffalo-based firm.
- .....Asbestos remediation reaches 95% completion (Aud) and 65% completion (Donovan building).
- .....ESD Upstate President Dennis Mullen becomes interim ECHDC President; full-time executive search process commences.
- .....Outer harbor bridge study consultant proposals received.
- .....Harbor greets 60,000<sup>th</sup> visitor.

**Near Future**

- .....Asbestos remediation at Aud and Donovan buildings finishes.
- .....Demolition of Aud and Donovan buildings commences.
- .....Outer harbor bridge study consultant officially selected.
- .....Canal Side master design plan finalized and SEQR process initiated.
- .....Other activity.

**About ECHDC**

*ECHDC is a subsidiary of Empire State Development and was created to spearhead the waterfront development effort. Its mission is to revitalize WNY's waterfront and restore economic growth to Buffalo based on the region's legacy of pride, urban significance and natural beauty.*

**Waterfront Development News & Highlights**

While summer quietly slipped-away, and the months of September and October brought their seasonably cooler temperatures to WNY, progress on the redevelopment of Buffalo's waterfront stayed as hot as ever!

**Aud Asbestos Work Wraps-Up; Demolition to Begin Next Month...**

The \$4 million remediation project at the Memorial Auditorium (Aud) is officially winding-down, with actual asbestos removal work complete and contractor de-mobilization underway. Meanwhile, ECHDC's Board of



Directors approved a roughly \$1.5 million proposal from Buffalo-based Ontario Specialty Contracting, Inc. for demolition of the Aud. Under this proposal, demolition work will begin in mid-November 2008, and finish no later than late-spring 2009. The approved demolition contract also requires several architectural elements of the

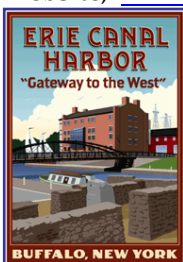
building to be salvaged and given to the City of Buffalo, for inclusion in a public memorial to the Aud. ECHDC plans to pay for the Aud demolition contract through monies received via an agreement with the New York Power Authority (NYPA) and remaining grant funds provided by the County of Erie for asbestos remediation. For more information, [click here](#).

**Donovan Building Asbestos Remediation Continues...**

The \$7.1 million asbestos remediation effort at the General Donovan State Office Building remains on-track, with a mid-December 2008 completion date anticipated. Work at the Donovan site is currently around 65 percent finished, with over 1,000 tons of asbestos and other hazardous materials having been removed from the vacant waterfront structure to date. ECHDC expects to release an RFP for demolition of the Donovan building sometime in late-November or early-December of this year. The RFP will be printed in the [NYS Contract Reporter](#), and also posted on [ECHDC's website](#).

**Harbor Corp. Launches New Website...**

In October, ECHDC officially launched a brand new user-friendly website, [www.eriecanalharbor.com](http://www.eriecanalharbor.com). This website now functions as the official internet address for the Harbor Corp., offering information, photographs and updates on the waterfront development effort. In addition, the website features many useful links for those visitors interested in learning about the various events and programming activities being held at Erie Canal Harbor. Later this year, the site is expected to feature a Canal Side "harbor cam," which will allow visitors to keep visual tabs on the inner harbor and watch the overall waterfront development effort online!

**Outer Harbor Bridge Study Proposals Received...**

ECHDC received several responses to its August RFQ for a professional civil engineering, planning, and environmental consulting firm to provide project scoping, preliminary engineering, and environmental review services for a proposed bridge connection over the Buffalo River between the Inner and Outer Harbor. The bridge consultant selection committee, made up of representatives from the Harbor Corp., NYS Department of Transportation (DOT), and the City of Buffalo, is now in the process of reviewing these responses and determining the most comprehensive RFQ proposal received. A bridge consultant is expected to be officially awarded a contract in the coming months. To view the RFQ, [click here](#).

**Charles F. Rosenow Retires; Empire State Development Upstate President Dennis Mullen Assumes Interim Duties...**

ECHDC's inaugural President Charles F. Rosenow officially retired on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008, following a 39-year public service career. During his three-year reign at the helm of ECHDC, Rosenow spearheaded some of the Harbor Corp.'s most notable accomplishments, including completion of the Erie Canal Harbor project, acquisition and demolition of the Aud and Donovan State Office Building, negotiation and purchase of the 7+ acre Cargill Inc. outer harbor parcel, and preparation for future Canal Side development. As a result of Rosenow's retirement, ECHDC's board of directors appointed ESD Upstate President Dennis Mullen, as interim president. Mullen will oversee the Harbor Corp.'s day-to-day operations while an executive search process is conducted to select Rosenow's replacement. For more information, [click here](#).