



Building a city for:
**SMART + SUSTAINABLE
INFRASTRUCTURE**

Over the next four years, the City must retain its commitment to investments that are focused on maintaining and modernizing our public infrastructure, while also expanding affordable and safe access for residents in Buffalo. Investment in Buffalo's infrastructure is fundamental in creating strong communities that promote economic growth now and in the future. Major infrastructure improvements, as demonstrated by the recent reconstruction of Niagara Street can spur equitable growth, significant private investment and breathe new life into our commercial corridors and neighborhoods. Continued planning, community engagement, and a focus on financial stability will be key aspects for the city moving forward.

Goal: Equitably address implementation of smart cities technology

Action Steps

- Implement education opportunities for residents on the benefits of smart city technology and its importance for the future of their communities
- Enhance and encourage use of digital information related to city services, facilities, and community information utilizing Buffalo OpenData as a central source
- Installation of smart street lights with energy efficient LED technology, prioritizing historically disinvested communities
- Determine infrastructure needs for free public wifi particularly in communities that lack access to reliable and affordable internet services
- Pilot smart technologies such as connected and semi-autonomous vehicles
- Investment in broadband technology to increase access and bridge the digital divide to remain competitive as more companies adopt remote work policies

Indicators

- Increased online traffic on the Buffalo OpenData website
- Increased # of outreach strategies educating residents on how to use the OpenData portal
- # of new smart street lights
- # of public wifi hotspots installed
- # of acres with newly installed broadband infrastructure

Goal: Modernize the City's multi-modal transportation

Action Steps

- Enact a micromobility ordinance to regulate the usage of e-bikes and e-scooters on public streets
- Improve multi-modal connections and transportation choice
- Develop curbside management policies and pilot a flexible smart corridor design downtown which can be applied to other streets as appropriate

Indicators

- Increased # of mobility hubs at key intersections citywide
- Successful implementation of downtown flexible corridor
- Pilot of an additional neighborhood center and flexible corridor

Goal: Strengthen the City's fiscal health to meet current and future needs

Action Steps

- Plan for capital investments holistically and collaboratively through enhanced communication among city entities, state and federal government, the community, and the private sector
- Identify opportunities to increase revenue and create financial sustainability, to maintain existing assets and continue to provide needed services long-term while keeping taxes and fees competitive with other municipalities

Indicators

- Ratio of operating costs to budget
- Bond rating
- Increased tax base

Goal: Reinvest in the City's assets and infrastructure

Action Steps

- Strategically prepare for the expenditure of Federal and State funds on the maintenance of existing and planned infrastructure improvements
- Prioritize infrastructure investments in historically disinvested communities including East and West Buffalo Corridors such as Grant St, Jefferson Ave, Bailey Ave, Michigan Ave, and other major arterials
- Collaborate with the NFTA to modernize metro rail, to improve accessibility, connectivity, and increase development opportunities
- Relocate and consolidate Department of Public Works (DPW) facilities into one campus, to streamline operations and efficiently serve residents
- Continue investment in the Replace Old Lead Lines (ROLL) Program, to ensure the continued safety of drinking water, enhance residential infrastructure, and to make it more resilient in the future
- Continue the implementation and maintenance of Green Infrastructure in Buffalo's Central Business District, and throughout its neighborhoods, to help solve stormwater challenges
- Connect and increase access for neighborhoods from Kensington Avenue to Downtown Buffalo's popular destinations, through investments in both the Car-Sharing Main Street project and the Middle Main transformational project
- Accelerate street resurfacing schedule to improve the overall condition and maintenance of roadways throughout the City

Indicators

- Complete Kensington Expressway small area plan to compliment State investment and maintain housing opportunities for existing residents
- Completion of Jefferson Avenue Streetscape Improvement Project and implementation of streetscape improvements on Michigan Avenue
- Successful implementation of Build Back Bailey
- Completion of LaSalle Station Equitable Transportation-Oriented Development
- New DPW Campus
- New city animal shelter
- # of lead lines replaced
- Increased # of rain gardens
- Acreage of impervious surface managed
- # of green infrastructure facilities housed in Buffalo Parks
- Completion of Middle Main Streetscape project
- Increased vehicular access on Main Street in Downtown Buffalo
- Increased pedestrian activity on Main Street
- Increased # of multi-modal connections within quarter mile walk of major corridors
- Improved streets and sidewalks city-wide