



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Therese Fuerst
Fuerst Consulting Corp.
716.200.3593

BUFFALO OLMSTED PARKS CONSERVANCY BEGINS FIVE YEAR PLAN DISCUSSION

Community Meetings will be conducted now through January 2019

Over the next two weeks the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy will be conducting the first in a series of three community meetings to discuss park improvement priorities for the Olmsted-designed parks in the City of Buffalo. With support from the Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo, and assistance from University at Buffalo's Regional Institute, this process will allow for the collective development of improvement priorities for each of our beloved Olmsted landscapes, as well as gather feedback from park users. The input and community engagement process will culminate in a Five Year Plan report to be presented to the public at the State of the Olmsted Parks address in May 2019.

The first series of meetings will begin with a review of park improvement projects implemented over the last ten years since the development of the Buffalo Olmsted Park System Plan for the 21st Century. The brief presentation will detail the significant capital investment projects implemented by the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy and our partner, the City of Buffalo, in the Olmsted Park System. The community input meeting will also dedicate time to facilitate input from the community on project ideas and concerns.

Meetings are being promoted in partnership with City of Buffalo Councilmembers and are scheduled as follow:

- South District - Monday, July 30th, 6:30 - 8:00pm - Tosh Collins Community Center (35 Cazenovia Street)
- MLK, Jr. Park - Wednesday, August 1st, 6:30 - 8:00pm - Buffalo Museum of Science (1020 Humboldt Parkway)
- Delaware District - Monday, August 6th, 6:30 - 8:00pm - Buffalo Seminary (205 Bidwell Parkway)
- West District - Wednesday, August 8th, 6:00 - 7:30pm - Niagara Branch Library (280 Porter Avenue)

The second series of community meetings will be conducted in mid-October and the final series in late January 2019 prior to finalizing the Five Year Plan report. Notice for meetings will be advertised through the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy's website (www.bfloparks.org/events), social media, neighborhood newspapers and with the support of City of Buffalo Common Councilmembers. The community is encouraged to become engaged in this very important input process in support of Buffalo's Olmsted Parks.

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About the Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy

The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy is the first nonprofit organization in the nation to manage and operate an entire urban park system that consists of over 850 acres of beautifully designed parks, parkways and circles. The park system was designed by America's first landscape architect, Frederick Law Olmsted, 150 years ago and today, more than 2.5 million people use Buffalo's historic, award-winning Olmsted Park System annually for recreation, relaxation and rejuvenation. Since 2004, basic maintenance of the parks has been greatly improved since the groundbreaking public/private agreement between the City of Buffalo, Erie County and The Buffalo Park Conservancy. The Conservancy is a membership-based, community organization whose mission is to promote, preserve, restore, enhance and maintain the Frederick Law Olmsted-designed landscape in the Greater Buffalo area. Learn more at: www.bfloparks.org.

The Buffalo Olmsted Park System includes:

Six parks: Cazenovia Park in South Buffalo, Delaware Park in Delaware/Parkside District, Front Park at the Peace Bridge, Martin Luther King, Jr. Park at Fillmore Avenue, Riverside Park at Niagara and Tonawanda Street, and South Park at McKinley Parkway

Seven parkways: Bidwell, Chapin, Lincoln, McKinley, Porter, Red Jacket, and Richmond

Eight traffic circles: Agassiz, Colonial, Ferry, Gates, McClellan, McKinley, Soldiers, and Symphony