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**OFFICIAL STATEMENT REGARDING BUFFALO HARBOR BRIDGE TIGER GRANT FUNDING**

While the Buffalo Harbor Bridge project was not selected in the initial round of Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant allocations, the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC) remains optimistic about the merits of its application and looks forward to additional opportunities to secure funding through upcoming stimulus investment programs administered by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Many thanks go out to U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, U.S. Congressman Brian Higgins, Empire State Development (ESD) Chairman & CEO designate Dennis Mullen, the City of Buffalo and the County of Erie for their ardent support of ECHDC's TIGER grant application and the overall Buffalo Harbor Bridge initiative. With Buffalo's waterfront redevelopment effort witnessing positive advancements almost daily, the harbor corporation is energized to work with these and other federal, state and local leaders to identify future funding mechanisms or resources that will help make this project a reality.

In addition, as the Buffalo Harbor Bridge was envisioned well before the TIGER grant program was ever announced, ECHDC will continue moving the required environmental impact study process towards completion.

Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation is a subsidiary agency of Empire State Development (ESD). ECHDC's vision is to revitalize Western New York's waterfront and restore economic growth to Buffalo based on the region's legacy of pride, urban significance and natural beauty. ESD is New York's chief economic development agency and also oversees the marketing of "I Love NY," the State's iconic tourism brand. For more information, please visit [www.eriecanalharbor.com](http://www.eriecanalharbor.com) or [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov).

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