



Construction of the new BlueCross/BlueShield of Western New York headquarters, Buffalo

Building has been restored to its original glory, the Granite Works, in the 800 block of Main St. restored burned out buildings to their original look, and the 1970s stucco façade at the Courtyard Mall property at 460 Main St. is now gone and the developers are returning the building's original red brick.

On Buffalo's waterfront, the redevelopment of the Inner Harbor is progressing on schedule, with the reopening of the historic Erie Canal's Commercial Slip set for completion by late summer of 2007 and other related projects moving forward. With important and needed funding derived from the settlement of the Niagara Power Project's 50-year relicensing agreement, we are finally seeing real progress on the waterfront. The Erie Canal Harbor Development Corp., a state supported development organization that is comprised of local private and public sector representatives, has laid out a comprehensive, mixed-use development plan and strategy to complement the historic redevelopment of the Erie Canal's western terminus along the Inner Harbor.

During 2007, we will see more exciting projects coming to fruition in downtown Buffalo. The ribbon will be cut and over 1,500 new workers will inhabit the BlueCross/

BlueShield of Western New York's Regional Headquarters, the Uniland Building at 285 Delaware Ave. (north of Chippewa St.) is fully leased and will open to tenants in 2007, and we will break ground on several new downtown housing projects as well. The redevelopment of the former federal Dulski Building is set to begin, phase 2 of the exterior rehabilitation of Buffalo City Hall will get under way, plus many more. We continue to receive calls of interested from developers and inves-

tors from the region, as well as from across the country and overseas.

This is truly an exciting time for the city of Buffalo, and downtown Buffalo is at the leading edge of the continuing transformation and revitalization of our great city. As mayor, it is my goal to continue building and rebuilding a better Buffalo for today and the future.

Byron Brown is the mayor of the city of Buffalo, N.Y.



New Era world headquarters, Buffalo

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A new day in Buffalo: Experiencing a development boom not seen in decades