

## 2016 GreenLITES Evergreen Project Summary

**Project Name:** [Ohio Street & Inner Harbor Improvements](#), City of Buffalo, Region 5  
**PIN:** 5760.26

### **Project Description:**

In the City of Buffalo, the Ohio Street Corridor links major activity centers including Canalside, the Cobblestone District in the Inner Harbor with Gallagher Beach, Wilkeson Point, and Buffalo Harbor Park in the Outer Harbor. Intended to service the waterfront's former industrial land use, the existing Ohio Street corridor consisted of a four-lane commercial arterial with no provisions for pedestrians, bicyclist or transit users. The project includes development of a Complete Street concept that provides a solution where all modes of transportation are accommodated.

This project meets the city's goals and objectives as a multi-modal connection between the Inner and Outer Harbor and has become Buffalo's first true Complete Street. It incorporates Multi-Modal and Green Components that when combined, provide a sustainable solution enhancing mobility while reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. This project stimulated over \$60 million in new residential and commercial development. This includes significant investments by local utilities to upgrade infrastructure to service future development. "It's [Ohio Street] one of those game-changers," said Rep. Brian Higgins. "It will create a 'land bridge' to the outer harbor."

### **Sustainability and Environmental Highlights:**

- Project incorporated a Road Diet concept by reducing the number of travel lanes from four to two on Ohio Street. The reclaimed pavement area was reallocated for a multi-use pathway for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- Reduced stormwater runoff using low maintenance materials such as permeable pavement; resulted in 30% reduction in impervious surface area when compared to existing conditions.
- Coordinated traffic signals to optimize traffic operations. Traffic Signal Coordination and Timing Optimization has proven to reduce energy usage by approximately 10.5%, as well as a comparable reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.
- By providing opportunities for alternative travel modes, the project promotes a reduction in vehicle miles traveled, reducing fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Energy efficient LED street lighting was used to reduce energy consumption and extend the service life of luminaires.
- Project promotes a healthier lifestyle benefiting the whole community.
- Coordination of adjacent green spaces; inclusion of street trees, increased lawn area and tree canopy.
- Provides transportation choices, supports transit-oriented mixed-use development, and brings a sense of place that encourages activity and enhances the viability and vitality of the community.

