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ECHDC Announces Plans to Light Connecting Terminal Grain Elevator Moving Forward

Contracts awarded for general and electrical construction with completion in spring 2014

Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC) met today and approved two contracts that will move forward and start construction on a permanent lighting installation at the Connecting Terminal grain elevator in Buffalo, building on Governor Andrew Cuomo's vision for a revitalized Buffalo waterfront. General and electrical construction will start in September with project completion in June 2015. *View renderings of the project [here](#).*

"Lighting Buffalo's grain elevators, which have such a rich history, has long been part of Governor Cuomo and ECHDC's larger vision for the redevelopment of Buffalo's waterfront and I am happy we are one step closer to adding such a visually interesting component to Canalside and the Outer Harbor," said ECHDC Chairman Robert Gioia. "The evolving light show on the Connecting Terminal will transform the structure into a contemplative artistic lighting installation and keep visitors coming back to the site to share the experience with friends and family while enjoying their time on the waterfront."

The Connecting Terminal grain elevator presents the ideal urban situation to receive a significant visual intervention. Its location and position provides a direct visual link to Canalside across the water. It anchors one of the water gateways into the Buffalo River and will act as a luminous beacon fronting Lake Erie. The lighting installation, similar to the Aurora Borealis Project in Quebec City, will operate year round and be permanently installed on the grain elevator. Multiple schemes based on a narrative theme will be programmed and displayed.

ECHDC will enter into a contract with Hohl Industrial Services for the general construction of the Connecting Terminal Grain Elevator at a contract amount not to exceed \$1,167,710. ECHDC will also enter into a contract with Frey Electric Construction Co. for the electrical construction of the Connecting Terminal Grain Elevator at a contract amount not to exceed \$1,759,500. The

funding source for the contracts is proceeds payable to ECHDC pursuant to the New York Power Authority (NYPA) Relicensing Agreement.

The permanent lighting installation will be displayed through kinetic lighting comprised of five specific light layers. Each proposed light layer involves a different kind of light fixture and system for attachment. Construction and installation of the light fixtures' infrastructure is planned on and around the Connecting Terminal grain elevator and site, which is located at the First Buffalo River Marina, as well as on Kelly Island, which is located across the Buffalo River at General Mills. The infrastructure completed at these two sites is intended to accommodate five types of light fixtures, which will be commissioned and programmed to create a dynamic light display on the grain elevator facade.

About Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation

The Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation (ECHDC) is governed by a nine-member board consisting of seven voting directors and two non-voting, ex-officio directors. The seven voting directors are recommended by the New York State Governor and are appointed by the New York State Urban Development Corporation d/b/a Empire State Development as sole shareholder of ECHDC. The two non-voting, ex-officio director positions are held by the Erie County Executive and the City of Buffalo Mayor.

As a subsidiary of Empire State Development, the state's chief economic development agency, the Erie Canal Harbor Development Corporation supports and promotes the creation of infrastructure and public activities at Canalside, the Ohio Street corridor and the Outer Harbor that is attracting critical mass, private investment and enhance the enjoyment of the waterfront for residents and tourists in Western New York. Its 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. For more information on ECHDC, visit www.eriecanalharbor.com.

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