

# USAN announces public meeting to discuss former Rainbow Centre Mall

### Update on key development project will also be available via Zoom

USA Niagara Development Corp. and the City of Niagara Falls will hold a public meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 12, to provide

an update on the Rainbow Centre civic improvement project. Taking place at the Conference Center Niagara Falls, USAN leadership will

be joined by officials from the City of Niagara Falls, the design team led by Marvel Architects PLLC, and potential future tenants of the space.

Masks will be required for all attendees regardless of vaccination status. Those unable to attend in person may follow the meeting via Zoom here.

In December 2019, USAN and the City of Niagara Falls announced plans to undertake the adaptive reuse of the remaining mall space as a civic improvement project. Guided by the recommendations of a panel of experts from the Urban Land Institute (ULI), the project will establish greater public access and walkability, create commercial opportunities, and modernize parking resources

to support new and existing businesses at and near the mall site. These modifications will create up to 160,000 square-feet of available space that could be repurposed for uses that would benefit downtown Niagara Falls, including attractions or other entertainment venues; or partnerships with the Niagara Falls Culinary Institute, such as an expansion of programming. USAN and the city have signed a project term sheet that allows USAN to procure and retain, at its expense, consultants necessary to develop plans and specifications necessary for construction of the project.

Learn more about the Rainbow Centre Civic Improvement Project here.

Other upcoming events:

- Empire State Development and

USAN will hold a project update on the Niagara Falls Strategic Economic Development Fund, a new funding initiative to catalyze investment on targeted commercial areas along Niagara Street, Main Street, Portage Road and Pine Avenue, from 6-7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 19, via Zoom. For more information or to register, visit: <https://buffalobillion.ny.gov/niagara-falls-strategic-economic-development-fund>.

USAN, a subsidiary of Empire State Development, is solely dedicated to the support and promotion of economic development initiatives in Niagara Falls by leveraging private investment and encouraging growth and renewal of the tourism industry in the City of Niagara Falls.

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## Kiwanis Club installation ceremony



The Kiwanis Club of Northern Niagara County held its installation of 2021-22 officers on Sunday. From left: board member Dana Beltrano, Secretary Barbara Gorzak, President Janice Boyer, Treasurer Ron Parent, board member Donna Parent and board member Lynette Beltrano. The club meets on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at the Wilson House Restaurant.

For more information about Kiwanis and/or becoming a member of the club, contact Boyer at 284-0800.

## IN THE NEWS

### \$144k-plus in American Rescue Plan funding for Buffalo History Museum

Congressman Brian Higgins announced The Buffalo History Museum was awarded \$144,518

in American Rescue Plan funding to support the continuation of programs and protection of local jobs during the pandemic.

"I had the opportunity to visit The Buffalo History Museum twice in the last couple months and each visit provides a new ap-

preciation for the historic museum itself as well as the engaging nature of its diverse collections," Higgins said. "Cultural institutions play an essential role in Western New York's economy and quality of life. This federal funding helps keep people working and continues public access to all the History Museum offers."

Buffalo History Museum Executive Director Melissa Brown said, "In light of COVID-19, the community now has expanded options to access and learn from our region's history through the museum's online programs, virtual tours, a podcast series, and more. With the continued support of this American Rescue Plan Funding, the museum can ensure staff are able to not only maintain, but build on these new, innovative services for our community."

In March, Higgins voted to approve the American Rescue Plan, which included \$135 million to the National Endowment for the Humanities for the purpose of helping cultural organizations and educational institutions recover, reopen and maintain their workforce.

For more information on exhibits and hours, visit [buffalohistory.org](http://buffalohistory.org).

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