

THE BUFFALO NEWS

Development begins with Skyway removal

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While I applaud Congressman Brian Higgins for his call to begin studies for the demolition of the Skyway, I am disturbed when I hear that this is something that is likely to happen in the distant future. What they should be doing is concentrating efforts to bring the Skyway down as soon as possible. Rather than giving Bass Pro tens of millions of dollars to locate here, that money would be better spent on improving access to the Outer Harbor. That access would be accomplished to a great extent by removing the obstacle that divides it, the Skyway bridge.

With that finally out of the way and competent people at the helm we can begin to develop a waterfront that will succeed because it is reunited with the city. Work can commence on doing what was also successful in cold-weather cities like Milwaukee, namely creating living space along with easy waterfront access.

With these essentials in place our waterfront will grow and expand on its own merit. We don't need a taxpayer subsidized big-box store to be the catalyst for waterfront redevelopment. We need common sense and a vision. That vision starts with the removal of the Skyway.

Jim Gras

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