

# LAKEFRONT TODAY

Developing Syracuse's Future: From Downtown to the Water's Edge

Winter 2000

## Syracuse Inner Harbor Construction Begins

Years of planning and partnerships between government and private interests led the way to the historic groundbreaking ceremony this September to mark the start of construction on the Syracuse Inner Harbor development project.



Canal freight house moves to its new location.

Attended by the Lakefront Development Corporation Board of Directors, Lt. Governor Mary O. Donohue and other state and local officials, the group praised the efforts of the City and the NYS Canal Corporation for bringing the Inner Harbor project to reality.

A large crowd turned out to celebrate a significant step toward creating new jobs, housing, business and tourism in Syracuse. The Inner Harbor project is considered the centerpiece of the Lakefront Area redevelopment.

"This is a day we have all been looking forward to, as we begin to see the



Lt. Governor Donohue speaks at groundbreaking ceremony.

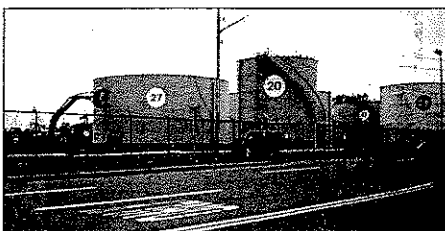
results of years of careful planning and coordination. The Syracuse Lakefront is undergoing a major transformation," stated Syracuse Mayor Roy Bernardi.

The first phase of construction is well underway, including the repair of the bulkhead walls of the Inner Harbor

*Continued on page 3*

## Syracuse Skyline Changes as Oil Tanks Come Down

Relics of Syracuse's industrial past are giving way to the excitement of a revitalized Lakefront Area and a future based upon tourism and commercial development. It is also changing a familiar part of the Syracuse skyline.



Few oil tanks remain in the former "Oil City".

Last Fall, thirteen more oil tanks were demolished as the "Oil City" tenants relocate their large tank facilities and begin environmental remediation on their properties.

Efforts to remove the tanks from the Lakefront Development Area began over a decade ago, when more than 80 oil tanks lined the edges of the Barge Canal and Inner Harbor. Now only three remain, and these tanks are expected to be removed in the

*Continued on page 4*

## CONTENTS

*The Source for Inner Harbor News & Events*

### In This Issue:

Planning for the Future .....	2
New Tenants in the Lakefront Area .....	2
Solar Street Project .....	3
Report from the Executive Director .....	4
Regional Market Renovations .....	5
O.M. Edwards Project .....	5
CNY Trail Initiatives .....	6

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT

As the Lakefront Development Corporation (LDC) joins the multitude of companies transitioning to the year 2000, we do so with much excitement and anticipation. This is due to the



David M. Aitken  
LDC Executive Director

progress that has been made over the past twelve months – and more important – the development scheduled for implementation during the next year.

With the start of construction in the Syracuse Inner Harbor, the removal of all but three of the oil tanks, and the addition of twenty-five Lakefront Area businesses, I would contend that the project is not only headed in the right direction but is picking up considerable momentum. This observation is based upon the interest in the project from private developers, inquiries via telephone and e-mail from interested stakeholders, as well as a review of our collective accomplishments.

During the coming year, LDC staff will continue to place considerable emphasis on enhancing infrastructure within the Lakefront Area. This includes the second phase of public improvements to the Syracuse Inner Harbor, the extension of the Onondaga Creekwalk, enhancements to the Solar Street Corridor, work on the street network in the Lakefront Industrial District, as well as the development of a comprehensive signage plan for all of the destination points within the Lakefront Area.

Equally important, LDC will transition from facilitating the implementation of several public projects to placing considerable time and energy on

securing private developers. With over \$6 million of infrastructure work being constructed over the next year, it is now time to leverage the community's investment with private dollars.

If you are interested in opening a business within the Lakefront Area or know someone who is, please contact our offices at 315/448-2244. We are looking forward to assisting developers to create new jobs.

Finally, on behalf of the the Lakefront Development Corporation Board of Directors, please accept our best wishes for a safe and enjoyable new year.

## Oil City

*Continued from page 1*

near future. Most of the oil companies have moved their operations to a new location in the Town of Van Buren.

Syracuse Mayor Roy Bernardi applauded the tank demolition as "another positive step forward in the redevelopment of the Lakefront Area."

The removal of the tanks makes way for new development opportunities, including an expanded Carousel Center, Inner Harbor and surrounding Lakefront commercial and residential districts. The recent demolition was timely, coming just days before formal groundbreaking for the beginning of construction at the Inner Harbor.

## LAKEFRONT DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### LDC Board of Directors

Stephen Suhowatsky, President  
Thomas R. Kennedy, Vice President  
Jack Webb, Treasurer  
Irwin L. Davis, Secretary  
H. Mickey Berger  
Charles Tsun-Ting Li  
Hugh C. Lordon  
J. Kemper Matt  
Alexander Pasquale  
Alfred W. Popkiss  
George Wladis

### LDC Staff

David M. Aitken  
Executive Director  
Megan Hourigan  
Executive Assistant  
Thomas J. Blanchard  
MDA Staff  
Wallace J. McDonald  
Counsel to LDC

The LDC is a private, not-for-profit corporation created in a partnership between the MDA and the City of Syracuse. The LDC was established to both facilitate and coordinate commercial, residential, tourism, and recreational development within the City's waterfront, making Syracuse a premier tourist destination point in the Northeast.

Lakefront Development Corporation  
238 West Division Street  
Syracuse, New York 13204

Telephone: 315/448-2244  
Facsimile: 315/448-1835  
E-mail: [ldcsyr@worldnet.att.net](mailto:ldcsyr@worldnet.att.net)  
Web page: [www.syracuse.ny.us/lakefront](http://www.syracuse.ny.us/lakefront)