



# SUPPORT

MEMORANDUM IN  
**SUPPORT**

of  
**S.5306-A Kennedy / A.7574-A Peoples-Stokes**

Open Buffalo and the below-signed partner organizations strongly support the passage of this legislation.

This bill amends the vehicle and traffic law to create a new Section 1640-o, authorizing the City of Buffalo to adopt a residential parking system in the historic and predominantly African-American Fruit Belt neighborhood.

**Open Buffalo** is a civic initiative to make major, long-term improvements in justice and equity; it is an unprecedented collaboration among a diverse group of partners; and it is one of three projects in the nation chosen for the Open Places Initiative of the Open Society Foundations.

Parking has been a major challenge for residents of the Fruit Belt due to the overwhelming number of Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus (BNMC) employees parking on their streets, resulting in traffic hazards, congestion, and air and noise pollution. On behalf of Open Buffalo and the below-signed partner organizations and community groups, we are in support of a fair parking permit program in the Fruit Belt and Bill Numbers A.7574-A / S.5306-A.

The shortage of available parking spaces on the medical campus should be addressed through employer incentive programs for alternative transportation, including employer-paid public transportation vouchers, and *not* by sacrificing residents' ability to park safely in front of their homes.

For these reasons, Open Buffalo and the below-signed partner organizations urge the adoption of S.5306-A / A.7574-A.

Sincerely,  
Franchelle C. Hart  
Executive Director  
Open Buffalo

Sam Magavern  
Co-Director  
Partnership for the Public Good

Jennifer Tuttle  
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Communications Workers of America – District One

Michael Graham  
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Pastor Alan R. Core  
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Fruit Belt Advisory Council

Ricardo Herrera  
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Buffalo Federation of Neighborhood Centers

Kirk Laubenstein  
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Coalition for Economic Justice

Veronica Hemphill-Nichols  
Fruit Belt/McCarley Gardens Housing Task Force

Annette Lott  
Fruit Belt United Inc.

Harvil Hill and Sandy Campbell-Hill  
President and Secretary  
Mulberry Street and Friends Block Club

Zaid B. Islam  
Fruit Belt Homeowner and Tenant Council

Aaron Bartley  
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People United for Sustainable Housing (PUSH) Buffalo