

Greening the Border

The Binational Buffalo Niagara Region as a Case Study

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Primer on the Buffalo Niagara Region Border Crossings

4 Bridges, 1 Region

Third largest POE on the northern border for commercial traffic

Largest POE for passenger traffic

Largest POE for pedestrian traffic



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Figure 1: Overhead View of Buffalo Land Port of Entry



Peace Bridge

Average wait time: 10 Minutes

7 lanes; dedicated FAST and EZ PASS lanes; 1 NEXUS lane

Studies indicate health problems in surrounding neighborhoods

Asthma incidence is 2.7 times that in other neighborhoods in WNY

David versus Goliath



Peace Bridge

BTB Canada-US Pilot Program

Received the Ok from DC and Ottawa

Would increase lanes from 7 to 12

Also, NYS Lane Improvements

Decrease congestion, enhance air quality



Community not satisfied

Divert to Lewiston Queenston

Increase CBP and CBSA Officers

Establish "no idling" laws



Lessons Learned:

Extremely Political

Binational Cooperation is Essential - Look at the Pacific Northwest!

New Forum for Engagement is Required

Wait and See ...