



**For Immediate Release**

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**Erie County Convention Center Authority Opens Additional Waterfront Walkway**

(Erie, Pa.) — The remediation of the former GAF site is now complete — paving the way for new development, and more visitors along Erie’s bayfront.

As part of the remediation process to cap the existing seawall, and improve its structural integrity, 1,100 feet of additional walkway space is now open to the public. The new walkway adds to the 2,700 feet of existing pathway, giving visitors nearly three-quarters of a mile of walkway access to Erie’s beautiful bayfront. The expanded pathway links from the Bayfront Convention Center into existing pathways to the east and west.

New landscaping and lighting, fishing pods and benches have all been added for visitors to enjoy. “Not only does it exceed the zoning requirement, but it also provides a waterfront park everyone can enjoy,” says Casey Wells, executive director of the Erie County Convention Center Authority. “I believe it’s an amenity for subsequent development on the bayfront. Whatever happens, they have a waterfront park at their doorstep.” Wells says the new walkway will be a nice place for both passive and active recreation where people can sit and relax, walk, bike, run or skate — all while enjoying one of Erie’s beautiful sunsets.

The \$7 million clean-up effort by the Erie County Convention Center Authority was made possible through the state’s Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP). The program provides grants to local communities for the construction of regional economic, cultural, civic, recreational and historical improvement projects.

**A ribbon cutting ceremony inviting the public to enjoy the new walkway will take place Thursday, Sept. 4 at 11:00 a.m. at the foot of the Sassafra Street pier.**

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