

**Buffalo Board of Parking**  
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**Contact Information:**

Division of Parking  
111 City Hall  
Buffalo, NY 14202  
(716) 851 5182<sup>1</sup>

**Website:**

There is no official website, but information regarding the BP's work can be found at

[http://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/Home/City\\_Departments/Administration Finance Policy and Urban Affairs/Parking Enforcement.](http://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/Home/City_Departments/Administration_Finance_Policy_and_Urban_Affairs/Parking_Enforcement.)<sup>2</sup>

or at the Buffalo Civic Auto Ramp website, <http://www.bcarparking.com>.<sup>3</sup>

**What is the BP's mission?**

The mission of the Board of Parking ("BP") is to relieve traffic congestion and to promote the clearance and reconstruction of substandard or unsanitary areas in Buffalo by coordinating City-owned and privately owned parking facilities and spaces strategically, environmentally and with minimal interference with Buffalo's streetscapes, skyline and views.<sup>4</sup>

**Who runs the BP?**

The Mayor appoints eleven members to the Board of Parking for staggered five-year terms. The Mayor designates the Chair Person from among the members.<sup>5</sup>

**What are the BP's key powers and duties?**

The BP is the head of the City's Division of Parking. It is responsible for investigating Buffalo's parking demands, keeping inventory of parking facilities, including curb and off-street parking spaces, and estimating the cost of acquiring property for and the construction, maintenance and operation of parking garages or spaces within Buffalo.<sup>6</sup>

The BP controls, manages and operates City-owned parking garages and spaces. It can lease or issue permits for the use of City-owned parking and it determines the fees and payment schedules for these leases and permits.<sup>7</sup>

The BP also enforces all regulations and ordinances related to parking throughout Buffalo, including the administering of parking tickets and fines for parking violations and the collection of ticket and fine payments. The BP holds meetings at least twice a month.<sup>8</sup>

### **How does the BP manage parking in downtown Buffalo?**

The BP manages parking in downtown Buffalo with its partner, Buffalo Civic Auto Ramps (“BCAR”), a non-profit corporation. BCAR is independent of the City, comprised of thirteen private sector members, including major downtown businesses, banks, development corporations and some retailers. These stakeholders oversee the City’s short and long-term parking development projects for the downtown, the Central Business District. The BP-BCAR partnership is governed by a management agreement that allows the City to build and finance parking facilities in Buffalo’s Central Business District. The BP leases its downtown facilities to BCAR and BCAR is responsible for their operation, including collecting revenues and paying expenses.<sup>9</sup>

BCAR pays all debt service on City parking bonds, for demolished ramps and for ramps under construction. If there is any surplus in revenues after BCAR pays all debt service and operation costs, the surplus goes to a City-held reserve for future parking system use.<sup>10</sup>

### **How does the BP report to the public?**

A Comprehensive Parking Assessment of Downtown Buffalo was compiled by a private company, Desman Associates, and submitted to the BP in December 2008. A link to the report is posted at the above website.<sup>11</sup>



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<sup>1</sup> See Buffalo Division of Parking, available at [http://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/Home/City\\_Departments/Administration\\_Finance\\_Policy\\_and\\_Urban\\_Affairs/Parking\\_Enforcement](http://www.ci.buffalo.ny.us/Home/City_Departments/Administration_Finance_Policy_and_Urban_Affairs/Parking_Enforcement).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> See Buffalo Civic Auto Ramp, available at <http://www.bcarparking.com>.

<sup>4</sup> See Buffalo City Charter, Chapter 6 Boards, Committees, Agencies and Commissions, Article XVIII Board of Parking § 18-36, available at [http://www.e-codes.generalcode.com/codes/1237\\_A/1237-Cha.pdf#xml=http://www.e-codes.generalcode.com/searchresults.asp?cmd=pdfhits&DocId=145&Index=C%3a%5cProgram%20Files%5cdtSearch%5cUserData%5c1237%5fA&HitCount=4&hits=52b3+52b4+531c+531d+&hc=68&req=Parking+Board](http://www.e-codes.generalcode.com/codes/1237_A/1237-Cha.pdf#xml=http://www.e-codes.generalcode.com/searchresults.asp?cmd=pdfhits&DocId=145&Index=C%3a%5cProgram%20Files%5cdtSearch%5cUserData%5c1237%5fA&HitCount=4&hits=52b3+52b4+531c+531d+&hc=68&req=Parking+Board).

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at § 18-35.

<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at § 18-36

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> See Buffalo Civic Auto Ramp, *supra* note 3.

<sup>10</sup> *Id.*