Erie Canal Harbor Development Corp.

Thomas P. Dee President, ECHDC



As ECHDC president since May 2009, Mr. Dee is responsible for advancing the Harbor Corporation's mission of revitalizing Western New York's waterfront and restoring economic growth to Buffalo based on the region's legacy of pride, urban significance and natural beauty.

Mr. Dee is also charged with managing ECHDC's day-to-day operations, while advancing not only the exciting Canal Side project, but also the region's overall waterfront redevelopment effort. Under his supervision, ECHDC has completed demolition of Memorial Auditorium, continued pursuing various outer harbor land acquisitions and planning studies, and initiated design and construction of numerous inner harbor infrastructure improvements related to the Canal Side project, such as water features, parking structures and other substantial mixed-use development.

Before joining ECHDC, Mr. Dee was a Principal at Cannon Design, where he served as director of the company's construction services group. In such capacity, he oversaw the firm's construction management division and had responsibility for owner's representative services, including cost estimating, value engineering, project scheduling, bidding and contract negotiations.

During his 28-year tenure at Cannon Design, Mr. Dee supervised or was involved with many of Western New York's most prominent public and private construction projects, including the Buffalo Federal Courthouse, the Erie County Public Safety Campus, the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport, HSBC Atrium Office Complex, HSBC Arena and the Erie Community College Flickinger Field House. Such projects included significant coordination on the federal, state and local government levels.

A native Buffalonian, Mr. Dee grew up on the City's south side before receiving a bachelor's degree and MBA from the State University of New York at Buffalo. A member of the Leadership Buffalo Class of 2003, Mr. Dee possesses a professional construction management license, is affiliated with the American Association of Cost Engineers and Society of American Value Engineers, and formerly served on the Darwin Martin House board of directors.