ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE

HON. JOSEPH C. LORIGO
10TH DISTRICT LEGISLATOR
MAJORITY LEADER

September 7, 2017

Mr. Jeffrey P. Bezos
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Amazon
410 Terry Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109

Dear Mr. Bezos:

In addition to world famous chicken wings, the Buffalo Bills and Sabres, and great skiing, Western New York is home to more than 1 million caring individuals who make up the fabric of our community, and we want to be the second home of Amazon. We are innovative, open to new ideas, generous, and understand the value and potential of education and job training initiatives.

I am pleased to share a snap shot of our history and our future. From its earliest days, Western New York and Buffalo have championed the pioneer spirit and thrived in our label as underdogs. Hard work and a strong work ethic created such jewels as the Erie Canal. Buffalo was the center of commerce and transportation that has helped to build our nation and the world. It can be said that all roads lead through Western New York. Today, Buffalo's location is within a resonable drive to over 45 million people and our proximity to Toronto and other significant Canadian markets make Western New York a perfect gateway to the international marketplace.

We are an easy destination for visitors, boasting some of the least expensive airfares available. We are served by Amtrak and have recently constructed a new train station in Niagara Falls. We also enjoy the grandeur of two great lakes and the multitude of year round activities associated with one of the largest fresh water supplies in the world.

Western New York is home to many innovative inventions and products. Western New York companies have created or produced medical devices including Wilson Greatbatch's heart pacemaker, Moog's aircraft components, and global food producer Rich Products pioneers and innovators of frozen dairy and bakery product lines.

However, what really make this region special are our people. We are diverse and celebrate our heritage, yet we celebrate what unites us as Western New Yorkers. We believe in families, and providing opportunities to prosper, and contribute to the well-being of others. As a community, we support a world class Albright Knox Art Museum, world renowned architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright, and a public park system that is second to none. We are home to the Roswell Park Cancer Institute and a brand new $270 million John R. Oishei Children's Hospital that opens this November. We root passionately for our Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres. We also enjoy some of the lowest cost of housing anywhere in the country.

Education is important to us. We invest annually in improving educational outcomes for all. Our collegiate education assets boast world renowned institutions like the SUNY-University at Buffalo. Erie Community College is in the midst of building a $30 million S.T.E.M building to expand its workforce development initiatives producing a versatile and talented workforce for companies including Amazon which is opening a local distribution facility here.

We believe in values that respect the earth and are good stewards of our resources. We are builders, pioneers, innovators, and we want to partner with Amazon to help your organization grow further into the 21st century. I personally invite you to visit Buffalo and Western New York, join me for a tour, and see for yourself what makes this region special. Please come visit and see how we can work together to make Western New York Amazon's "HQ2."

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Lorigo
Majority Leader
Erie County Legislature