Walking Tour of the RTS Transit Center and Bike-Share Program

Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority (RGRTA)’s Regional Transit Service (RTS) will take attendees on a tour of the Transit Center located at 60 St. Paul Street along Mortimer Street in Downtown Rochester located 2 blocks from the conference location at the Hilton Garden Center. The newly constructed Transit Center opened in November 2014 and the tour will provide an inside view of one of the major improvements to the City’s public transportation infrastructure. The walking tour will also include a look at the new bike-share program launched by Zagster in July of this year and how the operations of both transit and bike-share programs work together in the City of Rochester.

I. History:

Public transportation had been available in Rochester since 1825 – with the earliest bus lines in operation by 1905.

On August 1, 2014 RGRTA welcomed Ontario County to the family. RGRTA oversees public transportation in Monroe, Genesee, Livingston, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne and Wyoming counties and has a standing reputation for efficiency and customer satisfaction.
A Brief History of Rochester Transit

1860: Horse Car Traveling on Mt. Hope Avenue
1880: Boarding a Horse Car on West & North Ave
1915: A Jitney Bus Packed with Riders
1889: First Electric Street Car on Lake Avenue
1923: First “Trackless Trolley” Cars Arrive
1950: Rochester Transit Corporation Welcomes New Bus Fleet
1945: Subway Passengers at City Hall Station
1941: Rochester Replaces all its Street Cars With Buses
1923: First Spike is Hammered for the Rochester Subway
1938: Rochester Transit Corporation Launches Bus Service
II. RTS Transit Center Construction Information:

- Bergmann Associates served as the architect/engineer of record on the design-build project team with constructor The Pike Company.
- The $50 million, 87,000 sq. ft. RTS Transit Center opened on budget and ahead of schedule on November 28, 2014.
- RTS Transit Center Wins 2016 APWA Project of the Year Award (Genesee Valley Chapter, NY Chapter, and National)
III. Bike-Share Program – Zagster

Zagster and the City of Rochester have partnered to launch bike sharing in Spring 2017 (7.22.17) for downtown and beyond.

The first implementation phase will place stations throughout downtown, in surrounding neighborhoods, along Rochester’s trail system, and near major institutions and employment centers throughout Rochester.

Growth Plan:

- Phase 1: 250 bikes
- Phase 2: 350 bikes
- Phase 3: 500 bikes