

real solutions, real jobs, and a real vision. They want a vision for America. A vision for America. And like the movie, they are desperate for a new day.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. HIGGINS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 65th National Preservation Conference, which will be held in my community of western New York next week.

Over 2,000 people from across the country and around the world will converge in Buffalo to be immersed in our considerable and remarkable architecture. What makes this conference unique is that our community's historic preservation assets are the very reason the conference is being held there.

The centerpiece will be the numerous buildings, homes, parks, and neighborhoods that were remarkable upon their construction and will help grow us in the future. This conference will provide international validation to what many in western New York have long known and understood: that our ability to thrive lies in recapturing the potential of what we have built in the past. And we are doing just that.

Buffalo is home to the Nation's first park and parkway system, designed in the 19th century by the famed landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. The 1,200-acre parklands are some of the very best in the world. The Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy is leading a multimillion dollar effort to restore the parks so western New Yorkers can visit and appreciate and enjoy them for decades to come.

Meanwhile, we are meticulously restoring buildings integral to our architectural legacy. These include the Darwin Martin House and Graycliff Estate by Frank Lloyd Wright; the Guaranty Building by Louis Sullivan; the Buffalo Psychiatric Center by Henry Hobson Richardson; and the Hotel Lafayette by one of America's first female architects, Louise Blanchard Bethune.

These efforts are not just examples of historic preservation. They represent a new confidence that we can take charge of our own future by reclaiming our past.

Mr. Speaker, historic preservation efforts in Buffalo and western New York also demonstrate the importance of partnerships between the Federal Government and the private sector. Without these partnerships, many preservation projects would never get off the ground.

Federal tools like the historic preservation tax credit and the new markets tax credit bring builders, investors, and development professionals together, and they have the capacity to turn around entire communities.

In Buffalo, \$64 million of new market tax credit investments have occurred

since 2005. This investment has leveraged projects totaling over \$141 million in our community. The new markets program has encouraged the redevelopment of the Oak School Lofts, Ellicott Commons, the Electric Tower, the Webb Lofts, Ashbury Hall, AM&A's Warehouse Lofts, 567 Exchange Street, the Larkin at Exchange complex, the Erie Lackawanna Train Station in Jamestown, and the Innovation Center at the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus. All of these projects involved either a restoration of a historic, vacant building, or new construction in an economically distressed area.

I support legislation that would extend the new markets program and authorize it at \$5 billion or more a year. And I support extending the historic preservation tax credit because I have seen in Buffalo how cost effective and successful these programs can be.

Older industrial areas like Buffalo will be able to compete and succeed in a globalized economy if their leaders develop a culture of innovation and create new economic opportunities while taking advantage of the unique aspects of the past. Buffalo and western New York are ready to meet that challenge.

I congratulate those who have led the effort to host this important conference, especially Bob Skerker and Catherine Schweitzer, and the hundreds of western New Yorkers who will make this conference a success.

To the conference attendees and visitors from all around the world, I would say our community is honored to host you and proud to show off our unique architecture and historic assets. I promise you will not be disappointed.

INVESTING IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE) for 5 minutes.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, thank you very much for yielding to me this morning.

I wanted to share with my colleagues an important challenge that we have. And I think some would say how obvious with 9 percent unemployment, which I think we should be honest with ourselves and realize that it has been an accident that has been long in coming. Almost as if one slowed down on a rainy day and looked as if one was following the prudent rules of the road and decided to, in a moment's notice, not only speed but speed through a stop sign, an accident waiting to happen. We have of course, had spending without accountability in two wars, Iraq and Afghanistan, preceding this administration; and, of course, tax cuts for the top 1 percent of the population, many of whom acknowledge that where there is opportunity and benefit, there must be sacrifice and contribution.

And if we were to engage them in a reasoned discussion, we would find out, of course, that they would be willing to invest in America. I don't call it tax-

ation. None of us enjoy getting that bill that deals with taxes, but we do understand the value of investing in America.

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Yesterday, we debated three trade bills. All of them are my friends. I have had the opportunity to engage with the communities represented by South Korea, Panama, and Colombia. Let me say in particular on Panama, my grandfather worked on the Panama Canal. The evidence is not his words to me, since he died before I was born, but it is the evidence of his name being printed in the annals of the Panamanian history of the canal right there at the canal site that I have visited on many occasions. What an emotional moment to see his name arise as one who helped construct and build in the 1900s amongst all the devastation, the mosquitoes, and disease. He survived and helped build the Panama Canal. So we have a longstanding relationship with them. We have a longstanding relationship with the canal.

But the trade bills, for me, should answer one question—and I respect those who voted for it: Will it have an infusion of opportunity for those who have lost their jobs? Unlike some comments by Presidential candidates running for this job, I don't believe if you're unemployed and if you are not rich, it is your fault. There are college graduates who are unemployed today. There are skilled artisans and those who are in the trades who are unemployed today. There are returning veterans—young men and women—who led almost multinational companies in terms of the jobs that they had in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan. How do I know? Because I have visited them and seen them in operation. If you are over the logistics of moving equipment and moving men and women, and you're 25 years old, I can assure you that you know how to work in a large corporation.

There's no evidence that these bills being passed at this time will in fact bring down the unemployment. I believe our chief responsibility is to find work for the American people.

One of the challenges of the language of the trade bill is the question of protecting our intellectual property. Intellectual property creates jobs. It protects the genius of America. Of course, all of us through our history books have known about the origins of the telephone and we know the origins of the lightbulb and some of the geniuses that we've known in our early history. Many of us have heard of George Washington Carver, who did a lot with the peanut.

America knows how to invent. We know how to do research. I have the privilege of having in my jurisdiction and surrounding areas the Texas Medical Center, where some of the most outstanding research is being done on cancer, which seems to be an epidemic in this country.