**MARK J.F. SCHROEDER**

In his first term as the city’s fiscal watchdog, Buffalo Comptroller Mark J.F. Schroeder has saved taxpayers more than $62 million by refinancing old debt, drafted a charter amendment requiring a four-year financial plan, and performed audits that have uncovered more than a half million dollars in revenue owed to the city.

“My job is to protect the taxpayers of Buffalo, ensuring their tax dollars are spent wisely, efficiently, and in ways that will make their neighborhoods better places to live,” said Schroeder.  “In less than two years, we have been able to save the citizens of Buffalo millions of dollars through conservative fiscal management, an innovative approach toward managing debt and investments, and audits that uncover waste and fraud.”

Under Schroeder’s leadership as the chief fiscal officer of the city, Buffalo has had a record fund balance and received “Straight A” bond ratings from the three major credit rating agencies, including an A+ from Fitch Ratings, an A1 from Moody’s Investor Services, and an A from Standard & Poor’s.  He has used these ratings in the bond market to borrow funds and refinance debt at the lowest interest rates in the City’s history.

Mark J.F. Schroeder brought 25 years of private sector experience to the comptroller’s office, in addition to a decade as an elected official, a role in which he earned a reputation as an independent, tireless voice for his constituents in the state capitol and county hall.

“If Teddy Roosevelt came back to life to oppose Mark Schroeder, we’d have to think long and hard before backing TR,” said the Buffalo News, who also called Schroeder a “perpetual motion machine” with a “solid record of achievement” who “values the taxpayers’ dollar” and “stands up for what he thinks is right.”

After serving as vice president of two large corporations, Schroeder left the private sector to serve as a county legislator in 2002. Upon taking office, he founded the South Buffalo Education Center, which offers free G.E.D. classes, and the Greater South Buffalo Chamber of Commerce, which now has more than 300 members.

Schroeder was elected to the state Assembly in 2004, where he wrote “Amanda’s Law,” which requires carbon monoxide detectors in all homes.  The law was named after a teen in his district, Amanda Hansen, who died from carbon monoxide poisoning while at a sleepover at a friend’s house.  Schroeder also sponsored legislation banning text messaging while driving, a law safeguarding children from sexual predators, and a plan that would take the redistricting process out of the hands of politicians and give it to an independent panel.

Schroeder , a lifelong City of Buffalo resident, has three children – Matthew, Michael, and Allison – with his wife Kate Horan Schroeder.