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**MAYORAL CANDIDATE LISA AUSTIN  
TO INTRODUCE KEYNOTE SPEAKER TERRY SCHWARZ  
AT 2017 GREATER ERIE AWARDS**

(Erie, Pa) April 25, 2017 – Mayoral Candidate Lisa Austin and Co-Founder of Civitas, All Aboard Erie, Innovation Erie and Preservation Erie will introduce urban planner Terry Schwarz on Thursday, April 27 (5:30pm-8:00pm) at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Greater Erie Awards at the Masonic Temple Ballroom, 32 W. 8th Street, Erie, Pa.

Sponsored by Preservation Erie as a part of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, the 2017 Greater Erie Award recipients include the Benedictine Sisters of Erie for the Studio at St. Mary's, to Erie Insurance for the adaptive reuse of the Parade Street former PA National Guard Armory, and to the owners of the beloved Lawrence Park Dinor (where Austin launched her first campaign for public office).

On behalf of Preservation Erie, Lisa Austin invited Terry Schwarz, the Executive Director of the Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative (CUDC) to speak at the 2017 Greater Erie Awards because of Schwarz's urban design work – especially Schwarz's Shrinking Cities Institute formed to understand and address the loss of population in urban centers in Ohio. Schwarz's observations on Cleveland and other cities, will be helpful as we embrace the Emerge 2040, Buki and other plans, and collectively address the disinvestment and loss of Erie's middle class.

In addition to Schwarz, Austin has helped to bring many acclaimed thinkers and doers to Erie including planner Toni Griffin, "town-shrink" Dr. Mindy Thompson Fullilove, former C.N.U. Director and Milwaukee Mayor John Norquist, architect Charles Warren (the John Nolen scholar), transit specialist Dr. Daniel Hess, architect Vern McKissick, architect Richard Olaya, architectural photographer Bill Lebovich, architect Duncan Stroik, rail-promoter Ken Prendergast, architect Ellis Schmidlap, "Place-economics" author Donovan Rypkema, planner Tomans Hylton, Tom Leary - Society of Industrial Archeology and Adrian Fine of the National Trust.

Preservation Erie was launched from Lisa Austin's living room in 2005, when she brought together local stakeholders, including the author of "Lost Erie" (John Claridge) to curtail demolition of viable historic structures and to prevent shortsighted "placeless" development. Officially founded in 2007, the group's mission is "to promote, preserve, and enhance the distinctive character of greater Erie through community-based planning, design, and historic preservation."

While many mayoral candidates have announced support for urban design, since 2005, Austin has been collaboratively working to create a vibrant, safe, connected, walkable and beautiful city. To learn more about Austin's advocacy, please visit [www.austinfoerie.com](http://www.austinfoerie.com).

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