

BMTS Article Digest June – July 2022

BMTS Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee Members:

The following is a compilation of articles that may be of interest to BMTS Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee members. This and past digests can also be accessed from the Pedestrian & Bicycle Advisory Committee page at <http://bmtsonline.com/about/committees>.



Pedestrian & Bicycle Information Center (PBIC) Messenger e-Newsletter

Go to <http://www.pedbikeinfo.org/newsroom/newsletters.cfm>.

Subscribe to the new monthly PBIC Messenger. Send news for future issues to editorial team member Linda Tracy.

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Go All Out Broome County is your simple guide to hundreds of places and thousands of acres in your own backyard or just down the road. Easily locate hidden gems and local favorites then map your next outdoor adventure in Broome County. Go to www.GoAllOutBroome.com.



See the **Two Rivers Greenway Pedestrian & Bicycle Monthly Counting Reports** at <http://bmtsonline.com/data/bikeped-counts>.



The City of Binghamton is making repairs and safety improvements to 21 intersections to improve pedestrian safety.

Binghamton Mayor Jared Kraham announced the upgrades around the Parlor City during a stop June 14 at one work zone in a high-traffic area on Clinton Street near a local hardware

store where crews could be seen digging up the pavement and curbs along the side of the street.



Photo courtesy Binghamton City Hall

The Republican Mayor says: “This project will make Binghamton more walkable and safer for pedestrians, especially in areas that already have heavy foot traffic, like near our schools.”

The work includes new paint and signs as well as Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-accessible curbs. In addition, elevated crosswalks and rapid-flashing signage are

planned for some specific, targeted areas.

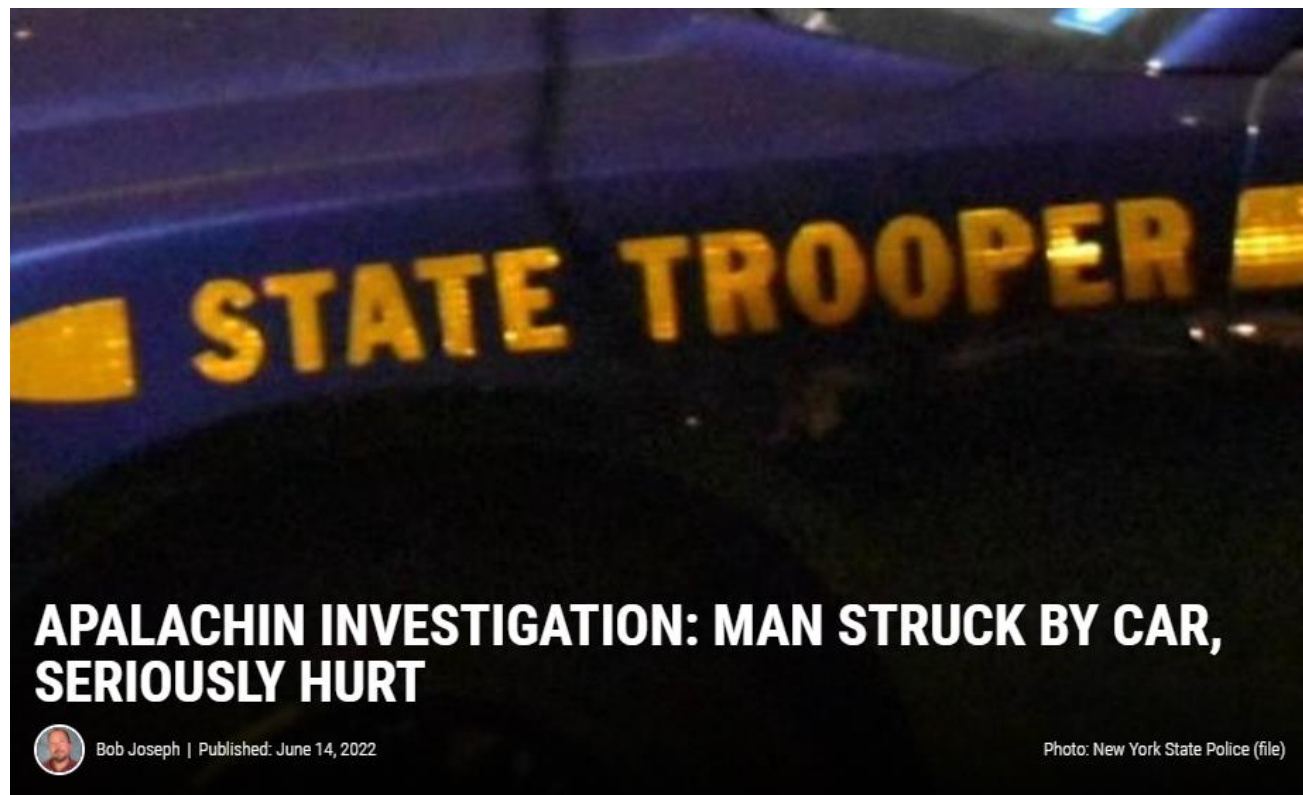
The 21 locations receiving pedestrian crosswalk upgrades are:

- Bevier Street and Brownson Street intersection
- UHS Binghamton General Hospital (two locations)
- Clinton Street between Matis Street and Holland Avenue (three locations)
- Riverside Drive and Chestnut Street intersection
- West Middle School (six locations)
- Woodrow Wilson Elementary School
- East Middle School (three locations)
- Vestal Avenue and Rush Avenue intersection
- Hawley Street between Fayette Street and Stuyvesant Street (two locations)
- Liberty Street and Pearne Street intersections

City officials say the total costs of the design and the actual construction of the upgrades are put at \$885,000. The New York State Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration are sharing \$780,000 of the project costs. The City of Binghamton is paying the other \$105,000.

A news release from City Hall indicated the work is expected to be completed in the fall.

Boland’s Excavating & Topsoil, Inc. of Conklin is doing the work on the project.



Authorities say an Apalachin woman was charged with felony driving while intoxicated shortly after the car she was driving struck and seriously injured a man.

According to New York State Police, 40-year-old Brian Paolangeli was hit by a 2013 Honda Accord on Rolling Terrace Drive in Apalachin shortly before 10 p.m. June 6.

The vehicle struck Paolangeili, who police said was "near the roadway." He sustained head and other injuries. He was taken to Wilson Medical Center in Johnson City.

Investigators said the car that hit the man was driven by 63-year-old Candy Barklow. They said the vehicle left the scene.

A Vestal police officer observed the car driving westbound on the shoulder of Route 434 less than 30 minutes later. Town police said the vehicle was pulled over and Barklow was arrested. The Vestal officer apparently was unaware of the Apalachin incident.

Barklow was cited for felony driving while intoxicated and driving on the shoulder of a roadway. She was directed to appear in Vestal town court on June 16.

State police inspected Barklow's vehicle at the Vestal police station. The investigation into the incident in which Paolangeli was struck was continuing. No information was available on possible charges in connection with the Apalachin case.

Wednesday, 22 June 2022

Endicott man who was struck by a car while walking dies

An Endicott man who was seriously injured when he was struck by a car while walking in the village earlier this month has died.

Endicott police said 59-year-old Richard Gormandy died from his injuries last week.

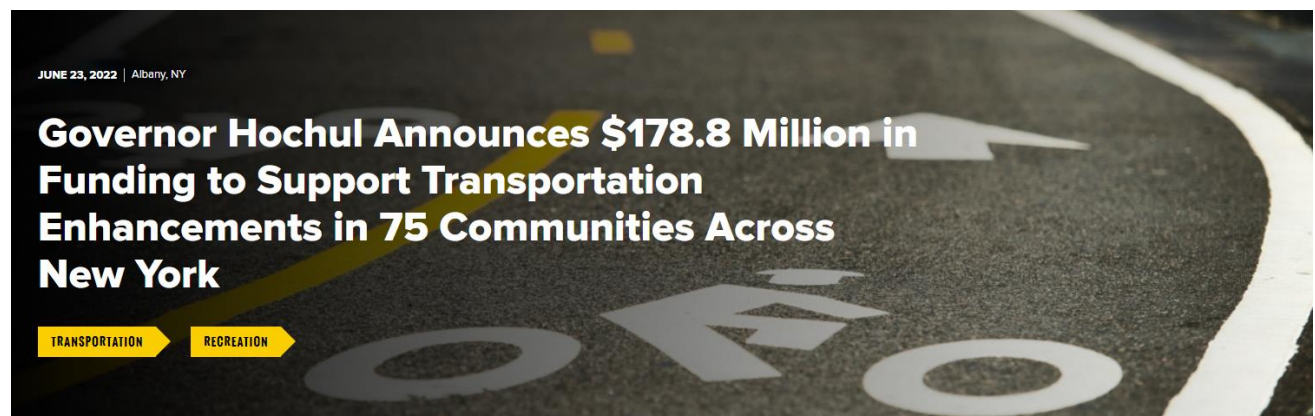
The incident happened around 1:55 p.m. on the 100 block of North McKinley Avenue in the village, police said.

A 2016 Honda Acura was traveling westbound out of the parking lot of the Apple Foods Store and struck Gormandy, who was crossing the street on North McKinley Avenue, according to police.

Gormandy was transported to UHS Wilson Medical Center in Johnson City for treatment of critical injuries following the incident.

The driver of the Honda was a 35-year-old woman from Binghamton, who was not hurt.

She is not being charged at this time, police said. The investigation into the crash is continuing.



Supports Construction of New Accessible Sidewalks and Shared Use Paths, Enhances Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety, and Facilitates Access to the Transportation System for Users of All Ages and Abilities

Projects Advance New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Goals

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced \$178.8 million has been awarded to 75 communities across New York State for projects that promote environmentally friendly modes of travel and make it easier and safer to walk, bike or hike. The funding will improve access to the transportation system for all users and advance New York State's nation-

leading agenda to fight climate change by supporting the construction of new sidewalks, shared use paths and other enhancements that facilitate the use of non-motorized modes of travel and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More than two-thirds of the projects awarded will benefit Environmental Justice Communities, thereby helping to improve connectivity, air quality and bicycle and pedestrian access for the predominantly low-and-moderate-income families living in those areas.

"As demonstrated through the recently adopted State Budget and our historic capital plan, New York continues to make unprecedented investments so we can build back stronger than ever before," **Governor Hochul said**. "We're investing in strategic initiatives across the state to improve quality of life, promote economic growth, and revitalize our communities. Most importantly, by advancing mobility alternatives, these awards will provide new opportunities and remove barriers for individuals in Environmental Justice Communities that have traditionally lacked adequate transportation access."

"New York is committed to moving projects like this forward that will not only help lower emissions using transportation alternatives, but will also mitigate traffic congestion and help improve connectivity, air quality and access for predominantly low-and-moderate-income families," **said Lieutenant Governor Antonio Delgado**. "This funding is a win for all regions across New York State, and it is another example of our commitment to making smart investments today that will benefit New Yorkers for generations to come."

The funding, which provides up to 80 percent of total project costs, is made available through the Federal Highway Administration and administered by the New York State Department of Transportation. Projects were selected through a competitive solicitation process that required awardees to demonstrate how proposed activities would contribute to increasing the use of non-vehicular transportation alternatives, reduce vehicle emissions and/or mitigate traffic congestion. Combined with project sponsor contributions, these awards will leverage nearly \$550 million in additional community investments.

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie

Therese Dominguez said, "Governor Kathy Hochul is unwavering in her commitment to improving the lives of all New Yorkers, with targeted investments in every region of the state to promote all possible modes of transportation. With a strong focus on sidewalks, recreational opportunities, and pedestrian and bike access, these projects support the increased public demand in the post COVID-19 environment for more walkable and bikeable communities. Investments like these will pave the way towards a future in line with the Governor's vision, where our communities are more connected, our transportation networks are more accessible to everyone, and our carbon footprint is smaller."

NYSERDA President and CEO Doreen M. Harris said, "In our work to achieve New York's Climate Act goals, it's imperative that we are able to ensure residents, especially those in underserved areas, have options to walk, bike or use other modes of emissions-free transportation to safely go to work and access community amenities and resources. Building out and improving shared use and bike paths helps reduce harmful emissions from communities across the state and fosters a high quality of life for all New Yorkers through fresher air, and cleaner, greener environments."

Department of Environmental Conservation Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "I applaud Governor Kathy Hochul's steadfast commitment to building stronger more resilient

and sustainable communities. This significant investment, impacting 75 communities, is another strategic step in that process that supports more environmentally friendly modes of transportation that gets more people outdoors walking and biking to reduce our carbon footprints. Additionally, these funds directly improve the quality of life of people living in disadvantaged communities that are often forgetting when it comes to community transportation and revitalization.

Senator Chuck Schumer said, "Get ready New York because thanks to the federal dollars I delivered through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law we are about to have a bike boom! This funding means better bike lines in Syracuse, more trails in gorges Ithaca, greater walkability for towns across the Finger Lakes, and so much more. I am proud to have paved the ways for these tremendous investments in greenways and expanded transportation to keep Upstate New York rolling to a cleaner, healthier, and more accessible future."

Representative Brian Higgins said, "Projects like the one along Niagara Falls Boulevard in Amherst will improve safety, investments in the Tonawandas will continue the buildout and connectivity of recreational trails, and funding for electric buses will support cleaner and healthier neighborhoods. Altogether, this nearly \$39 million investment in Western New York helps to build stronger communities and improve the quality of life for residents."

Representative Paul Tonko said, "Investments in pedestrian and bike infrastructure are vital in connecting people to their jobs, schools, and their community as a whole. These transportation enhancements in the Capital Region will help us meet critical climate goals and give us the opportunity to make our region healthier, safer, and more resilient. I'm thankful for the Governor's work supporting strong transportation improvements. I will continue to drive federal investments that grow our clean economy and advance a better future for us all."

Representative Kathleen Rice said, "I am thrilled that communities in our district have secured this funding to improve transportation. Funding these projects will not only improve street safety and the lives of commuters, but will help to reduce the overall carbon footprint on Long Island. Thank you to Governor Hochul for making Long Island a more walkable and accessible place to live."

Representative Joe Morelle said, "As we work to strengthen our local infrastructure, it is critical to prioritize projects that support multi-modal transportation options. These investments will help accommodate the needs of commuters while preserving our environment. I am proud to have helped secure this funding and will continue advocating for strategies to create safer and more environmentally sustainable communities."

Representative Jamaal Bowman said, "I am proud to join Governor Hochul today to announce these funds for critical transportation improvements in our parks and public spaces. In New York's 16th Congressional District the City of New York, Hastings on Hudson and the Village of Mamaroneck will all benefit from these improvements to make public spaces more accessible while easing traffic congestion. I look forward to seeing these projects under way and supporting more transportation efforts that will also benefit our communities."

State Senator Tim Kennedy, Chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, said, "As we continue to improve New York's infrastructure, it's imperative that we're making strategic

investments in complete street concepts that prioritize all roadway users and ensure safety and accessibility. This dedicated funding will continue to advance New York's progressive transportation and environmental agendas, and ultimately foster sustainable, innovative communities."

Assemblymember William B. Magnarelli, Chair of State Assembly Transportation Committee, said, "Investing in walking, biking and hiking trails reinforces New York State's commitment to our communities. New York continues to lead the nation by offering access to these transportation alternatives, which encourage exercise and environmentally friendly options."

About New York State's Nation-Leading Climate Act

In July 2019, New York passed the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (Climate Act), which represents the most ambitious and comprehensive climate and clean energy legislation in the country. The Climate Act's nation-leading climate and energy goals set the stage for a sweeping set of measures to reduce our carbon footprint and improve the resiliency of communities across New York. It will provide opportunities for residents and communities alike to partner with businesses, schools, and government to create a green economy and build a more sustainable future.

A list of Southern Tier projects is available [here](#).

Southern Tier - \$8.0 million

- \$2,200,000 to the City of Ithaca to construct a multi-use trail to the Black Diamond Trail to the Gateway Trail.
 - \$571,263 to the Village of Montour Falls to construct street stormwater improvements to Owego Street.
 - \$671,954 to the Village of Painted Post to construct sidewalks, a pedestrian walkway, and other pedestrian safety improvements to the Village Walking Trail.
 - **\$2,344,703 to the Town of Vestal to construct a multi-use trail along Vestal Road.**
 - \$2,191,838 to the Village of Cayuga Heights to construct sidewalks along Cayuga Heights Road.
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UPS Testing Battery-Powered Scooter In Congested Cities

The UPS scooter is being tested in New York City and several cities in Europe

By **Ken Martin FOXBusiness**

FOX Business Flash top headlines for June 14

UPS is testing a new way to navigate through congested cities and get packages to your door.

UPS unveiled a battery-powered, four-wheeled scooter to move efficiently through busy cities while also reducing its carbon footprint.



UPS worker Dyghton Anderson peddles an eQuad electric bike in a bicycle lane while delivering packages, in New York, Tuesday, July 14, 2022. Delivery giant UPS is going back to the future in its latest way to get packages to the doors of its millions ((AP Photo/Ted Shaffrey) / AP Newsroom)

It's a move toward the company trying to reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

The pedal-powered vehicle has been dubbed the "eQuad" by the company. The slimmed-down vehicle, is painted in the traditional UPS color scheme that the more traditional delivery trucks have, which have been known to upset motorists trying to get by parked trucks on narrow streets.

It's another move by the company to do its part for the environment, as it now has more than 1,000 electric vehicles and thousands more that aren't powered by traditional gas engines.

UPS worker Dyghton Anderson peddles an eQuad electric bike in a bicycle lane while delivering packages, in New York, Tuesday, July 14, 2022. The company is considering launching a fleet of pedal- and battery-powered cargo cycles for deliveries in som ((AP Photo/Ted Shaffrey))



Residents in New York City may see them making their way around town when a test run is underway.

Like the Frank Sinatra song says, if they can make it there they can make it anywhere.

"New York is a complicated city, when we look at the density," said Nicole Pilet, the industrial engineering director for UPS. "So if we can have success here in the city, then we can see how we implement in other cities throughout the U.S."

They are also being tested in several European cities.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.



CONSTRUCTION PLANNING

NYSDOT BEGINS 'ENGAGEMENT' FOR EXPRESSWAY PROJECT

July 5, 2022

The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) recently launched the public engagement process for the "transformative" Kensington Expressway project in Buffalo, New York.

The Kensington Expressway was constructed during the 1950's and '60's replacing the Humboldt Parkway. The original boulevard connected Humboldt Park with Delaware Park.



The \$32.8 billion five-year capital plan was adopted as part of the state's fiscal 2023 budget. It includes up to \$1 billion for reconnecting the east-west neighborhoods across the depressed section of the Kensington Expressway corridor.

The engagement process for this project will include a series of public meetings, while providing community members with an opportunity to learn about the various options considered for the project, and to provide NYSDOT with feedback. The input from these sessions will help inform the decision-making process for the project.

"The Kensington Expressway project represents a historic opportunity to reshape Buffalo and reconnect communities that were severely impacted by the highway's construction more than a half century ago," said Governor Kathy Hochul in a statement.

"My administration is committed to delivering on bold infrastructure projects that will help right the wrongs of the past through transportation networks designed to bring communities together, and routes that are friendlier for pedestrians and bikers," she said. "It's critical that the community has a voice in how this project proceeds and these scoping sessions will help us inform members of the public about all the options being considered and allow us to listen to their feedback."

NYSDOT will consider the comments they have received at public "scoping" session and respond to them in its Project Scoping Report due later this summer.

The agency will also launch a new website for the Kensington Expressway Project on June 29th as another forum for the public to learn about the project.

NYSDOT is currently assessing opportunities to create new open public spaces, enhance bicycle and pedestrian safety, and address noise and air pollution. It is also assessing enhancements to the local roadways to facilitate safe vehicle operations within reconnected neighborhoods.
