

BMTS Article Digest November - December 2021

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>.

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Come out and play in Broome County

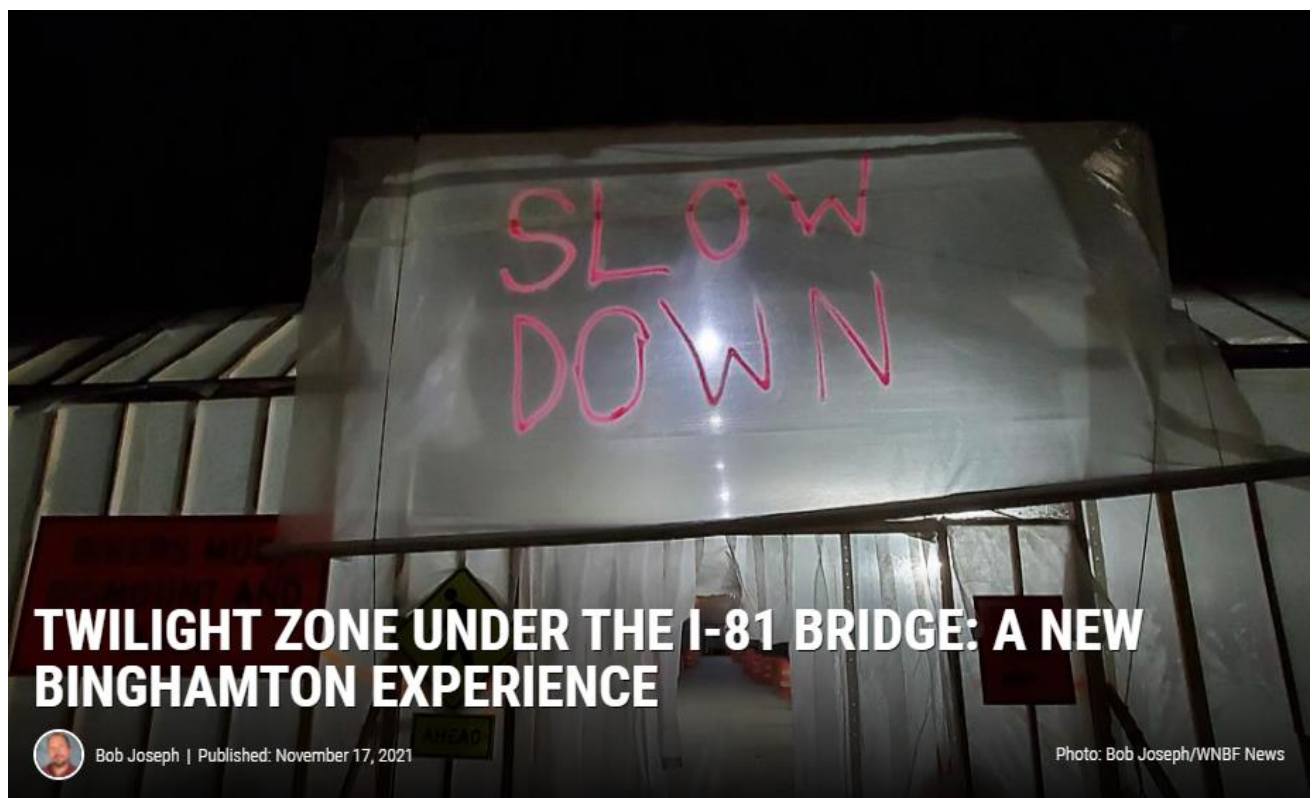
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See the **Two Rivers Greenway Pedestrian & Bicycle Monthly Counting Reports** at <http://bmtsonline.com/data/bikeped-counts>.



A Binghamton work zone by day turns into a warm and strange "Twilight Zone" at night, open only to brave pedestrians who dare to venture into the sealed area beneath Interstate 81.

At least \$3.5 million is being spent to shore up the sinking bridge over Chenango Street on the city's North Side.

The massive construction job has closed the street to through traffic but people are still welcome to walk through site to get between neighborhoods.

Machinery continues to operate overnight, creating a somewhat eerie and surreal experience.

A scrawled message warns the curious to "Slow Down" and an arrow points to an opening with the directions: "Enter Here."

Signs advise bicyclists that they "must dismount and walk" through the well-illuminated tunnel filled with equipment and scaffolding. Most people with bikes disregard the directive.

A massive heater keeps the passageway toasty warm even on subfreezing nights as cars, trucks and other vehicles pass overhead on I-81.

A Department of Transportation representative says the construction project now is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News

What's Under that Binghamton Interstate Bridge?



All appeared calm at 5:45 a.m. on November 17, 2021.
(Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News)





"Dismount and walk." (Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News)

Two bicyclists decided the rules don't apply to them. (Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News)



Although two bicyclists were seen, no pedestrians were observed during our brief visit. (Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News)

Chenango Street remains closed to vehicular traffic between Bevier and Frederick streets. (Photo: Bob Joseph/WNBF News)



NEWS

Endicott receives \$10 million for revitalization

by: Jackie Gillis

Posted: Dec 8, 2021 / 05:11 PM EST

Updated: Dec 8, 2021 / 05:11 PM EST

ENDICOTT, NY – The second time is the charm for Endicott as it is one of 2 communities in the Southern Tier receiving 10 million dollar Downtown Revitalization Initiative grants from the state.

NewsChannel 34's Jackie Gillis joins us in the studio with what the Village intends to spend this on.

Over the past 10 years, 600 million dollars have been invested into the Village.

With this new grant, Endicott wants to create new food and entertainment opportunities, improve connectivity, and increase mixed-use space.

Prior to winning this 10 million dollar grant, the Village was awarded 6 million dollars from the Greater Binghamton Fund.

That money will go towards fixing up Washington Avenue, adding lights, cameras, and fixing parking lots. Endicott Trustee, Nick Burlingame says the Avenue has a vibrant history, and it's finally coming back.

"Over the years the downtowns have really suffered and we're making a big push to bring them back, more shops, eateries- anything that can bring life back to the avenue and other downtown sectors within the Village," says Burlingame.

The announcement that Endicott had been chosen for this D-R-I was made by New York State Parks Commissioner Erik Kulleseid this morning inside the Endicott Visitors Center.

Mayor Linda Jackson says this money will be used for many things, one hope is to make people more aware of the technology the Village has to offer.

"We're hoping to start building a clientele for our downtown area. This will be great for the people that are coming for Ubiquity Solar and Imperium Manufacturing of Lithium Batteries and as well as BAE, all their new employees will have a place to live," says Jackson.

Jackson says the plan is to add an apartment complex with 15 apartments for working men and women. I

In addition to that, Jackson says she wants to add another micro-brewery, a winery, and an ice rink.

“It will be an outdoor rink for the kids to practice, as well as figure skating. Then in the summer it’s going to be a farmers market,” says Jackson.

This is the 2nd time the Village has applied for DRI funding.

Jackson says she just couldn’t believe it when she found out they had been selected and can’t wait to start making real change come spring time.

“We’re just hoping that people will realize, Endicott really is a destination. It was the birth place of IBM, that is known world-wide. You can’t get much better than that for a little Village with 12,000 people and 3 square miles,” says Jackson.

Governor Hochul said in a statement that she cannot wait to see what the future holds for the residents of the Village.

Endicott now joins Elmira, Watkins Glen, Oswego and Hornell, which were the Southern Tier Region’s winners in the first four DRI rounds.

The second city was to be named the other Southern Tier recipient of \$10 million from DRI, this afternoon.
