

## **BMTS Article Digest March – April 2026**

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>.



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## **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](#).

## **FREE Webinars**

Go to <https://www.pedbikeinfo.org/webinars/>.

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## Come out and play in Broome County

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](http://www.GoAllOutBroome.com).



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



Upcoming Webinar

**On Every Block: Turn Sidewalk and Ramp Hazards into Safer, More Accessible Communities**

**Wednesday, April 22 at 1:00 PM EST**

[Save Your Seat](#)

Cracked sidewalks, poor lighting, and non-compliant ADA ramps are not minor issues. They are some of the most common sources of risk for municipalities today.

Without clear visibility into asset conditions and priorities, small issues are easy to miss and even harder to manage proactively.

Join us for a webinar to learn how to take control of walkability across sidewalks, ramps, lighting, and more.

**You will walk away with strategies to:**

- Reduce risk and prevent complaints with more proactive maintenance
- Stay ahead of ADA requirements with better tracking and accountability
- Prioritize repairs using real asset data, not guesswork

[Save Your Seat](#)

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The City of Binghamton released [a new update on the Binghamton Plaza redevelopment effort](#), including the launch of our project website!

As the planning process advances, your voice will continue to be a key part of this process. Today, you can take three actions to stay engaged and help guide the direction of redevelopment:

- **Visit the project website:** [engagemksk.mysocialpinpoint.com/binghamton-plaza-plan](https://engagemksk.mysocialpinpoint.com/binghamton-plaza-plan)
- **Add your ideas to the [Vision Board](#)** and tell us what you want to see on the site
- **Share the link with neighbors, friends, and other engaged residents** who want to stay informed and be part of shaping the future of the North Side.

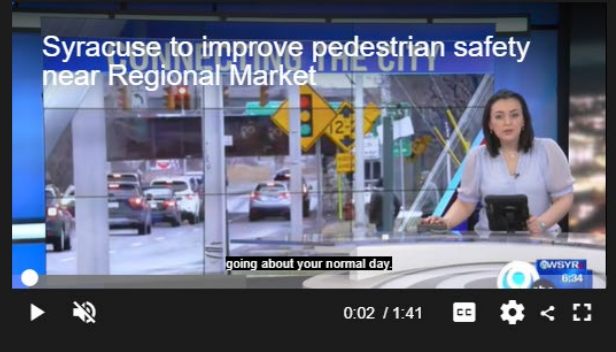
Thank you for staying involved and for helping spread the word!

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LOCAL NEWS

# Syracuse proposes a \$3 million dollar project near Regional Market to improve pedestrian safety

by: Keleigh Arrington  
Posted: Mar 8, 2026 / 08:54 PM EDT  
Updated: Mar 8, 2026 / 09:02 PM EDT



Residents walking alongside the streets near the CNY Regional Market.

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (WSYR-TV) — City officials are moving forward with a multimillion-dollar plan to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety near some of Syracuse’s busiest corridors, including the Regional Market, the Regional Transportation Center and NBT Bank Stadium.

The City of Syracuse Department of Engineering held its first public meeting Thursday to discuss the Regional

Transportation Center and Regional Market Area Mobility Improvement Project, a plan aimed at making it easier for people to walk or bike through the streets. The project focuses on improving safety and accessibility along Park Street, NBT Bank Parkway, Tex Simone Drive and Hiawatha Boulevard.

*The blueprint of the RTC & Regional Market Area Mobility Improvements Project.*

Project leaders say the effort is meant to address safety challenges in an area where many residents rely on walking or biking to get around.



“There are a lot of people that either walk or bike to the regional market that don’t have availability of vehicle to get here,” said Tim Faulkner, a project manager with Fisher Associates. “So, it was important to the city to prioritize that.”

The proposed improvements include 8- to 10-foot-wide shared-use paths, new sidewalks, upgraded traffic signals, ADA-compliant curb ramps and protected bike lanes. One of the biggest changes would come along NBT Bank Parkway, where planners are proposing a “road diet.” The plan would reduce the number of travel lanes and use the extra space for bike lanes and pedestrian infrastructure.

Faulkner said the goal is to make it easier for people to travel without relying on cars.

“How can we get around without using our cars as much?” Faulkner said.

The improvements are part of a roughly \$3.5 million project funded through a New York State Department of Transportation grant, along with state and local support.

Community members attending the meeting shared firsthand experiences navigating the area without a vehicle.

“I’ve been on my bike, and I’ve been walking and I’ve been yelled at by cars with the right of way to do so,” said Syracuse resident Liz Radil. “I think a lot of it comes down to culture and understanding that roadways are public shared spaces.”



*Community members joined the first public meeting to discuss the RTC & Regional Market Area Mobility Improvements Project.*

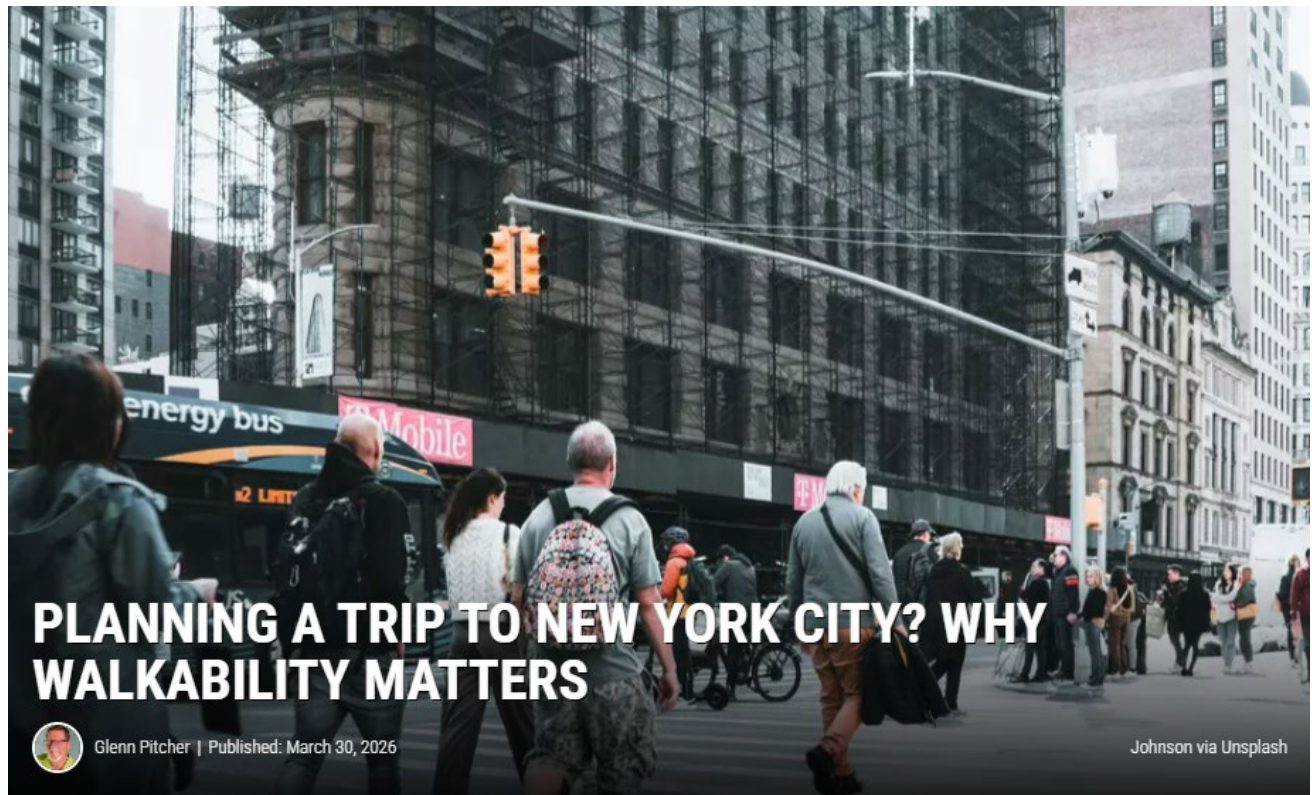
City leaders say improving access could benefit both residents and local businesses that depend on foot traffic.

“Understanding that the way that the public gets here and gets away from here is very important to the overall customer experience,” said Bill Fisher, CEO of the Regional Market.

Project managers say they will continue gathering feedback before finalizing the design. Construction could begin as early as next year, with the project expected to be completed by the end of 2027.

For now, city leaders say the goal is simple: make the corridor safer for the people who use it most.

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When you're planning a trip to a big city, one of the first questions many travelers ask is how easy it will be to get around. Do you need to rent a car, or can you explore the city by walking and using public transportation?

A new study that looked at cities around the world tried to answer that question, and the results may surprise people who are planning a visit to New York City. They analyzed 90 cities worldwide to see how easy they are to navigate without a car. They looked at several factors that affect how convenient it is to move around a city.

These included how close people are to restaurants, stores, and essential services, the number of car-free spaces, overall safety levels, public transportation costs, and how many people commute by walking, biking, or public transit. Using this information, researchers created a walkability score out of 100 for each city.

### **New York City Ranks Highest in the U.S.**

Among the cities in the United States, New York City ranked the highest, but when compared globally, it came in at number 61 overall. According to the study, about 53% of people in New York City live near essential services like shops and restaurants. The city also stands out because over 70% of commuters get around by walking, biking, or using public transportation.

## The City's Walkability Score

Even with those strong numbers, New York City's overall walkability score was 41.18 out of 100. Safety ratings and other infrastructure factors helped with the final ranking. While the city performs well in some areas, these other factors kept it from ranking higher worldwide.

## What This Means for Visitors

Although New York City did not rank near the top globally, it still stands out as one of the easiest cities in the United States for visitors to explore without a car. With its extensive subway system, walkable neighborhoods, and countless attractions close together, many travelers find they can easily experience the city on foot or by public transportation.

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March 12, 2026

## HOW A BOLD 1890S EXPERIMENT LED TO ONE OF THE NATION'S MOST EXTENSIVE GREENWAY NETWORKS-AND WHAT IT CAN TEACH US TODAY.

Contributed by: Erica Schneider

If you've ever pedaled along the Empire State Trail or one of New York's many spectacular greenways, you're part of a movement that has deeper roots than many people realize. Long before modern greenways, long before rail-trail conversions, and decades before the automobile took over American roads, New York State built one of the most ambitious bicycle infrastructure networks in the world.

Yes, New York had a 2,000-mile bicycle highway system by the year 1900.

**READ THE FULL ARTICLE**

at

<https://www.ptny.org/new-yorks-forgotten-2000-mile-bike-network-and-what-it-can-teach-us-today/>

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# Drivers in Cortland County must now keep a three-foot distance when passing cyclists, construction workers & others



(MGN | MGN Image (Credit))

By [Madeline L. Adams](#)

Published: Apr. 1, 2026 at 4:25 PM EDT | Updated: 16 hours ago

CORTLAND COUNTY, N.Y. (WBNG) -- Drivers in Cortland County are now required to provide a minimum of three feet of space when passing certain people on the road, which the county defines as “vulnerable road users.”

“Vulnerable road users” include cyclists, pedestrians, emergency service providers, roadside construction workers and more.

If a driver is unable to safely provide three feet of space, it is their responsibility to wait to pass until it can be done safely.

Drivers are encouraged to remain alert, reduce speed and only pass if it is safe to do so, and if the distance requirement can be met.

Legislator Beau Harbin says that Cortland County is the fifth county in the state to implement such a law.

“This distance, which for reference is about width of a door in our homes, gives everyone who shares the road a bit of space to help keep them safe,” said Harbin. “This local law demonstrates our commitment, as a community, to safer and more inclusive streets in Cortland County.”

See the [full legislation here](#).

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