



Department of Transportation

Reconnect Rochester Rally Remarks

Hi everybody, I'm Cody from Reconnect Rochester.

Chris Reeve, NYSDOT's Regional Director for Region 4, was excited to speak with you all tonight, but unfortunately, he can't make it due to a scheduling conflict, so I'm going to read his remarks for him.

Hello everyone,

The New York State Department of Transportation is committed to meeting the active transportation needs of *all* community members. NYSDOT always looks for new opportunities that improve access and mobility for all types of transportation users—including drivers, pedestrians, and cyclists—in their transportation projects.

Some of the features NYSDOT most commonly incorporates are sidewalks, paved shoulders, bicycle lanes, crosswalks, and traffic calming measures, all to provide safer options.

NYSDOT's regional team frequently meets with Reconnect Rochester staff and other advocates to discuss *YOUR* goals and if they are feasible for NYSDOT's projects.

In fact, NYSDOT has an upcoming meeting scheduled to discuss the specific ideas shared at this event tonight.

Throughout Monroe County, NYSDOT has undertaken several recent projects with significant active transportation improvements that enhance safety for all users.

NYSDOT's project on State Route 204 (Brooks Ave) is a great example of NYSDOT investing in the Rochester community's multimodal needs. NYSDOT coordinated with the Town of Gates and local businesses to close sidewalk gaps and improve bus shelters.

NYSDOT is also constructing a five-foot minimum shoulder through the corridor by widening and restriping the shoulder, as well as installing a refuge island and other enhancements to create a crossing of Route 204 (Brooks Ave) at the Canal Trail.

Back in 2021, NYSDOT implemented a road diet and invested \$950,000 into sidewalk improvements along Empire Boulevard between Culver Road and Helendale Road,

modifying the configuration to two lanes, a two-way center turn lane, and five-foot shoulders.

And right now, at the intersection of Routes 33A and 259, NYSDOT is adding 1,200 feet of new sidewalk, new bicycle lanes, wider shoulders, and more.

NYSDOT also has two projects with safety improvements currently in the design phase.

The first project, involving Route 18 over Northrup and Smith Creeks in Greece, is going to incorporate recommendations from the Town of Greece's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan to provide sidewalks and wider shoulders.

The second project currently in the design phase concerns Route 286 (Browncroft Blvd) from the City of Rochester to Qualtrough Road, which proposes adding sidewalks, bike space and a new pedestrian crossing.

All that brings us to NYSDOT's 2050 Strategic Master Plan, which is prioritizing active transportation statewide. NYSDOT isn't just providing more transportation options to communities. NYSDOT is working tirelessly to make sure those options are safe for everyone.

Thank you to everybody here for your dedication to creating a transportation system that is safe for ***everyone.***