



Parks & Trails
NEW YORK

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Astrid C. Glynn
Commissioner
New York State Department of Transportation
50 Wolf Road
Albany, New York 12232

Dear Commissioner Glynn:

Infrastructure projects can provide a powerful boost to our economy – putting people back to work and rebuilding and preserving the fabric of our nation. As a stimulus package takes shape in Congress, transportation projects will be a significant part of this funding. We urge you to ensure that the transportation dollars coming to New York are invested in a 21st Century transportation system – one that supports multiple transportation options, including walking and biking.

In particular, we strongly recommend that New York's transportation infrastructure funds be directed to seven Canalway Trail projects, located in nine counties and representing an infusion to the economy of almost \$25 million. These seven projects will refurbish and provide a safer and more inviting experience for 22 miles of existing trail, build 43 new miles of trail and bring the Erie Canalway Trail within 64 miles of completion. As the attached chart illustrates, these projects are ready to go; design and advance detail plans are complete for each one.

The Canalway Trail is fast becoming a premiere tourist destination for cyclists and other outdoor enthusiasts as well as serving as the backbone of a statewide trail system. An investment in the Canalway Trail now will generate hundreds of much-needed jobs at this critical time, help establish the Canalway Trail as one of the longest and most attractive multi-use trails in the nation, and, most importantly, provide enduring economic, public health, tourism, and quality of life benefits for more than one million New Yorkers living in upstate cities, villages and towns.

Thank you for your assistance with this important issue, and for your continued service to the people of the State of New York. If you have any questions or need more information please call me at (518) 434-1583.

Sincerely

Robin Dropkin
Executive Director

cc: Karen Rae, Policy and Planning Division



Project	Location	Length	Total Project Cost	Funds Requested	Status	Impact
New trail construction	Utica - Oneida County and Town of Schuyler and Village of Frankfort - Herkimer County	6 miles	\$4,100,000	\$4,100,000	Final Design Report and Advance Detail Plans complete.	30 miles of continuous trail in central New York from Rome, Oneida County to Frankfort
New trail construction	Town of Amherst – Erie County, Town of Pendleton and City of Lockport – Niagara County	8 miles	\$4,453,000	\$4,453,000	Final design Report and Advance Detail Plans complete.	Links existing Trail segments in Amherst and Lockport to create over 100 miles of Canalway Trail in western New York.
New trail construction	Village of Newark, Village of Clyde and Towns of Arcadia, Lyons and Galen – Wayne County	15 miles	\$3,100,000	\$3,100,000	Final Design Report and Advance Detail Plans complete.	Extends the existing Trail east through Wayne County to Clyde, creating more than 125 miles of continuous trail in western New York.

Project	Location	Length	Total Project Cost	Funds Requested	Status	Impact
New trail construction	City of Ilion, City of Little Falls, Village of Mohawk, and Town of German Flats – Herkimer County	8 miles	\$6,394,000	\$250,000 matching funds \$6,144,000 available from SAFETEA-LU	Final Design Report and Final Plans complete.	~50 miles of continuous Trail in the Mohawk Valley from Ilion to Amsterdam, Montgomery Cty.
Trail resurfacing	Village of Canastota, Towns of Lenox and Oneida, Madison County, Towns of Verona and Rome and City of Rome, Oneida County	20 miles	\$2,637,000	\$582,000 matching funds \$2,055,000 available from SAFETEA-LU	Final Design Report and Final Plans complete	Improves an older section of trail.
Existing trail refurbishment	City of Schenectady to Town of Niskayuna, Schenectady County	2 miles	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	Final Design Report and Advance Detail Plans complete	Improves and widens a popular and heavily used section of Trail
New trail construction	Cayuga-Seneca Canalway Trail, City of Geneva-Ontario County, Town of Fayette and Village of Waterloo –Seneca County	6 miles	\$2,300,000	\$2,300,000	Draft Design Report complete	Creates new trail along Seneca-Cayuga Canal linking Finger Lakes communities to Seneca Lake State Park