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**Contact:**

Scott Cook | [scott.cook@dot.ny.gov](mailto:scott.cook@dot.ny.gov) | (607) 721-8118

Region 9 Public Information Specialist

[www.dot.ny.gov](http://www.dot.ny.gov)

**STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ANNOUNCES START OF \$16 MILLION PROJECT TO REPLACE U.S. ROUTE 11 BRIDGE OVER INTERSTATE 81 IN TOWN OF DICKINSON, BROOME COUNTY**

**Project Will Reconfigure Two Intersections and Construct a New Multi-Use Path to Enhance Safety and Improve Mobility Along Key Travel Route**

**Investment Complements “Southern Tier Soaring” - The Region’s Comprehensive Strategy to Revitalize Communities and Grow the Economy**

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez announced today that work has begun on a \$16 million project to replace the bridge carrying U.S. Route 11 (Front Street) over Interstate 81 in the Town of Dickinson, Broome County. The project will also construct roundabouts at two intersections along U.S. Route 11 and upgrade a third with new traffic signals to enhance safety and improve mobility along a well-traveled road that’s home to many stores and restaurants; and serves as an important connector for motorists traveling between Chenango County and the City of Binghamton. Additionally, a new barrier-separated multi-use path will be created along U.S. Route 11 to provide easier bicycle and pedestrian access to Dickinson’s popular commercial corridor.

“This project in Broome County is another example of how, under Governor Cuomo’s leadership, New York State continues to make important investments in our infrastructure that strengthen our communities and promote economic growth,” Commissioner Dominguez said. “These improvements will enhance travel along an important route for Southern Tier motorists and provide greater access for cyclists and pedestrians to the Town of Dickinson’s popular commercial sector, highlighting once again the intrinsic link between smart investments in transportation systems and economic vitality.”

The project will replace the existing bridge carrying U.S. Route 11 over I-81 with a modern span that will feature wider travel lanes and shoulders; and have a projected lifespan of 75 years. New roundabouts will replace the two signalized intersections at Old Front Street and the I-81 northbound on and off ramps. The traffic signal at the Bevier Street intersection will also be updated with new signals, crosswalks, and pedestrian buttons.

Roundabouts will result in more efficient traffic flow and enhance safety by reducing the types of crashes that cause significant injury and loss of life. More information about roundabouts including detailed guidance for drivers and cyclists can be found [HERE](#).

Additionally, the project calls for the construction of a half-mile-long, 14-foot-wide multi-use path that will be protected by a barricade along southbound U.S. Route 11 between Bevier Street and Old Front Street. The path will tie in with existing pathways in the area and provide bicycle and pedestrian access to the area’s popular destinations, including food markets, restaurants, entertainment and recreational facilities, and the SUNY-Broome Community College. Sidewalks will also be built along Route 11 northbound to connect with an existing sidewalk network north

of the project location. Pedestrian crosswalks and rest islands will also be added at Old Front Street.

Construction will result in changes to traffic patterns, including lane shifts and lane, ramp and intersection closures. Night and weekend work will be employed at times to minimize inconvenience. Ramp and intersection closures will not occur during Spiedie Fest. During construction, signed detours will direct pedestrian and bicycle traffic through the project area to the pedestrian bridge over I-81. The estimated completion date of the project is fall of 2022.

**Broome County Executive Jason Garnar said**, "This area is a major gateway into Broome County with thousands of motorists traveling through it every single day. Given the volume of traffic it sees, this project is important to maintaining the safety and mobility of drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians. I appreciate the Department of Transportation's continued commitment to improving roads and bridges throughout the County."

**Town of Dickinson Supervisor Michael Marinaccio said**, "I am extremely excited about this project that involves the I-81 Bridge Replacement, two effectively designed roundabouts that will maintain traffic flow and increase safety and the continuation of the All Purpose Trails for pedestrian safety and quality of life. Thank you, New York State DOT."

### **Accelerating Southern Tier Soaring**

Today's announcement complements "Southern Tier Soaring," the region's comprehensive blueprint to generate robust economic growth and community development. The State has already invested more than \$7.4 billion in the region since 2012 to lay for groundwork for the plan – attracting a talented workforce, growing business and driving innovation. Now, the region is accelerating Southern Tier Soaring with a \$500 million State investment through the Upstate Revitalization Initiative, announced by Governor Cuomo in December 2015. The State's \$500 million investment will incentivize private business to invest well over \$2.5 billion – and the region's plan, as submitted, projects up to 10,200 new jobs. More information is available [here](#).

Motorists are urged to slow down and drive responsibly in work zones. Fines are doubled for speeding in a work zone. Convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver license.

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### **Scott Cook**

Public Information Specialist

### **New York State Department of Transportation, Region 9**

44 Hawley St, Binghamton NY 13901

(607) 721-8118 | cell (607) 591-0165

[scott.cook@dot.ny.gov](mailto:scott.cook@dot.ny.gov)

[www.dot.ny.gov](http://www.dot.ny.gov)