STAGE 2 PROJECT:
3-TIERED TOURIST KIOSK SYSTEM

PROJECT GOAL
The project involves the deployment of a system of information kiosks along the corridor to assist travelers in advance with trip planning and provide real-time information regarding specific destinations to help them make decisions during their trips to and stays in the Adirondack region. The program would help promote the recreation and tourism industries that are vital to the region’s economy.

EXISTING PROGRAMS
Several organizations promote tourism and economic development activities in the region, including the Adirondack North Country Association, the Lake Placid/Essex County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Adirondack Regional Tourism Council, the Warren County Tourism Department, and Lakes to Locks Passage, Inc. In addition, Route 73 has been designated a State Scenic Byway and a National Scenic Byway.

PROPOSED PROJECT COMPONENTS
• A 3-tiered system of information kiosks. Tier 1 Kiosks would be located at rest areas along I-87 to allow travelers to receive real-time information regarding destinations in all tourism promotion areas accessible from the I-87 corridor. Tier 2 Kiosks would be located at gateways to tourism promotion areas and provide information on destinations within the tourism promotion area that the kiosk services. Tier 3 Kiosks would be located at tourism and recreational destinations and would be used both as the primary source of user-level information received at Tier 1 and Tier 2 Kiosks and to provide travelers with real-time information regarding other destinations within that tourism promotion area.

The system would be implemented in two phases, with one site developed for each tier location during Phase 1, and additional sites developed during Phase 2. Proposed Phase 1 sites include the Glens Falls Rest Area (Tier 1), Northway Exit 30 to Route 73 (Tier 2), and the Adirondack Loj Trailhead or the Garden Trailhead in Keen Valley (Tier 3).

RELATION TO SHORT-/LONG-TERM PLAN
This type of traveler assistance is consistent with both the Smart/Safe Traveler and Smart Freight goals of the corridor’s overall Strategic Plan.

REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS, AGENCY COORDINATION
The program would require coordination with the property owners and managing parties of locations where kiosks are placed, including various State agencies, counties, towns, tourism promotion agencies and chambers of commerce, and private vendors. New York State Department of Environmental Conservation permits may be required, and kiosks placed within the Adirondack Park would be subject to Adirondack Park Agency review.

ESTIMATED COST
Phase 1 of the system would cost approximately $750,000 to $1 million to implement.