SEQRA DETERMINATION OF NO SIGNIFICANT EFFECT (DONSE)
NOTICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION
NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (PIN) 5812.72
INTERSECTION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS
US ROUTE 20 (EAST MAIN ST) AT NY ROUTE 60 (BENNEDT RD)
VILLAGE OF FREDONIA, TOWN OF POMFRET, CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY

DETERMINATION

This notice is a “negative declaration” for the purposes of Article 8 of the New York State Environmental Conservation Law. The New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT), being the agency having principal responsibility for carrying out or approving the project within the State, is the lead agency pursuant to Part 15 of Title 17 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of New York State (17 NYCRR Part 15).

The project is identified by NYSDOT as PIN 5812.72 and involves measures to address the high number of accidents at the intersection and adjacent segments of US Route 20 and NY Route 60 in the Village of Fredonia, Town of Pomfret, Chautauqua County, New York. Specifically, the project will construct raised medians along three approaches (US 20 east and west approaches and NY 60 north approach) to the intersection, a modified two-lane roundabout, and new Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible sidewalks and curb ramps.

The NYSDOT has determined that this project is a SEQRA Non-Type II Action in accordance with 17 NYCRR Part 15.14. This project was also progressed as a Class II Action (Categorical Exclusion) in accordance with the Federal Highway Administration’s (FHWA) regulations in 23 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 771.117(c) as being one of the project types described as “projects that take place entirely within the existing operational right-of-way” and does not involve any of the unusual circumstances identified in 23 CFR 771.117(b).

A Final Design Report/SEQRA Environmental Assessment (FDR/SEQRA EA) was prepared and circulated for review and comment in August 2018. A Public Information Meeting was held on April 12, 2018 at the Opera House at the Fredonia Village Hall. Additional public meetings were held previously on December 7, 2016 and February 17, 2017. Stakeholder meetings were held on March 15, 2017, March 31, 2017 and June 27, 2017. Meetings with Town, Village and County representatives were held in October 2016, November 2016 and February 2017. Comments received during public outreach activities and during the review period for the FDR/SEQRA EA have been considered and are addressed in the FDR/SEQRA EA.

The proposed Project will improve connectivity for pedestrians within the project limits and across US Route 20 and NY Route 60 by providing new sidewalks within the project limits to allow pedestrian access to those businesses which currently lack sufficient pedestrian access. All pedestrian facilities provided will be designed to be compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and NYSDOT policy and requirements.

Access to each business will be maintained and there will be no right-of-way takings as a result of this project. The raised medians will require vehicles to enter/exit the driveways with right turn
movements; left turns will be prohibited. This will result in improved safety for the ingress/egress of motorists at adjacent businesses by reducing the number and severity of crashes in the project limits. Travel time for motorists approaching the driveways of the eight businesses adjacent to the proposed raised median and roundabout was evaluated under the existing and proposed conditions. The results of this evaluation show that changes in travel time to the eight businesses are considered minor in nature. Based upon the findings and considerations noted in the Project's September 2018 FDR/SEQRA EA, NYSDOT concluded that there is no potential for significant adverse social effects or significant adverse economic effects to the local businesses, as a result of this Project.

Based on review of federal and state databases, only the state and federally listed threatened northern long-eared bat (Myotis septentrionalis) (NLEB) was found as having the potential to occur within the project area. The Project may require the removal of five (5) trees. The project is not within 0.5 miles of a known NLEB hibernacula or 1.5 miles of a known summer roost location or forage habitat. An IPaC review resulted in a USFWS determination of "No Effect, No Suitable Habitat." Additionally, NYSDOT has made a "No Effect" determination for state listed endangered or threatened species for this project. NYSDOT concludes that there is no potential for significant adverse impacts on threatened or endangered species as a result of the project.

One historic property was identified adjacent to the Project. The Project was assessed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and it was determined that the Project would have No Effect on historic properties (no historic properties affected). The State Historic Preservation Office provided written concurrence with the No Effect finding based on the understanding that the mature trees currently in front of the Nation Register eligible property are to remain in place. The Federal Highway Administration concurred with the finding that the Project would have No Effect on historic properties on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

The NYSDOT has determined that this project will not have a significant effect on the environment as set forth in 17 NYCRR Part 15.11. This determination is based upon the findings and considerations noted in the project's September 2018 FDR/SEQRA EA.

Further information on this project may be obtained from:

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Date