New York State Department of Transportation

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STATE ROUTE 17/INTERSTATE 81
INTERCHANGE RECONSTRUCTION
CITY OF BINGHAMTON
BROOME COUNTY

Project Update for the 2013 Construction Season

March 15, 2013
NYSDOT Field Office
33 West State Street, Binghamton
Purpose of Meeting
The purpose of this meeting is to provide an update of the work planned for the upcoming 2013 construction season and to solicit comments concerning this planned work. The Department will also share the progress to date with the project. Public involvement is invaluable in defining and shaping transportation projects for the benefit of the highway user, the community and the general public. The Department encourages your input on this project or any other transportation related concerns you may have.

Project Objective
The project objectives are to:

- Eliminate the operational deficiencies of State Route 17 eastbound and westbound to allow designation as Interstate 86 for this segment of State Route 17.
- Eliminate the structural deficiencies of the bridges that carry State Route 17 and I-81 over the Chenango River by replacing them with structures that are based on current design standards, which provide adequate capacity over the design life of the structure.
- Provide transportation improvements that will reduce or eliminate the potential of vehicular conflict/accidents and improve safety conditions at identified problem locations between the State Route 17/I-81 Interchange and the eastern/southern project limits.

Work Accomplished in 2012

- **New State Route 17 bridges over the Chenango River:**
  
  The Contractor has completed construction of several of the substructures that will be supporting the new State Route 17 eastbound and westbound bridges over the Chenango River.

- **New I-81 bridges over the Chenango River:**
  
  The Contractor has completed construction of several of the substructures that will be supporting the new I-81 northbound and southbound bridges over the Chenango River.

- **Prospect Mountain:**
  
  The Contractor has completed the clearing work and rock blasting work along Prospect Mountain.
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Work Accomplished in 2012 (continued)

- **New Prospect Street Connector Bridge/Mygatt Street Bridge Replacement:**

  The Contractor has completed construction of the eastbound sides of both the new Prospect Street Connector bridge as well as the new State Route 17 bridge over Mygatt Street.

- **Utility work:**

  Local utility companies worked and will continue in 2013 to relocate their infrastructure (poles, conduits, etc.) in advance of the construction work throughout the project area.

- **Drainage and concrete pavement work:**

  The Contractor worked on drainage and concrete pavement improvements along State Route 17 eastbound between the new Prospect Street Connector bridge and the new State Route 17 eastbound bridge over Mygatt Street.

- **Temporary Widening and Crossovers For Future Traffic Patterns:**

  Temporary ramps (right), widening and crossovers (see page 5) will be utilized to maintain traffic for future construction phases starting in 2013.

- **In-fill at Exit 4/Completion of Micro-pile Project:**

  Approximately 1,150 feet of the existing 2,400 foot viaduct (BINs 1013071 and 1013072) that carries the State Route 17/I-81 overlap section over State Route 7 (Brandywine Highway), the Canadian Pacific Rail Yard and Broad Avenue, is proposed to be removed and replaced with an embankment section. As part of the in-fill process, the Contractor first placed micro-piles throughout the area to be in-filled. The micro-piles are needed to support the extra loads of the embankment. Embankment was placed by filling in with a soil subbase and compacting up to a point where the construction vehicles could no longer fit under the existing bridge. The remaining in-fill work is planned this year.
Work Planned for 2013

- **State Route 17 bridges over the Chenango River:**
  
The new bridges for State Route 17 eastbound and westbound over the Chenango River are planned to be completed this year. Work includes constructing the remaining substructures, setting the structural steel, construction of bridge decks and barrier.

- **I-81 bridges over the Chenango River:**
  
The Contractor will continue construction of several of the substructures that will be supporting the new I-81 northbound and southbound bridges over the Chenango River.

- **New Prospect Street Connector:**
  
The new bridge carrying State Route 17 westbound over the new Prospect Street Connector will be constructed. Precision rock excavation will continue to be performed as part of the construction of the new Prospect Street Connector and ramps for State Route 17 westbound (see page 5). Traffic will be shifted to the State Route 17 eastbound lanes for reconstruction of State Route 17 westbound between the new Prospect Street Connector Bridge and Mygatt Street Bridge.

- **State Route 17 westbound bridge over Mygatt Street:**
  
The new bridge carrying State Route 17 westbound over Mygatt Street will be constructed. Traffic will be shifted to the State Route 17 eastbound lanes for reconstruction of State Route 17 westbound between the new Prospect Street Connector Bridge and Mygatt Street Bridge.
Visualization of completed on-and-off ramp for State Route 17 westbound with Prospect Street connector replacing existing the Exit 72 to Mygatt Street.

Visualization of completed project east of Prospect Mountain for State Route 17 and I-81 including work to be progressed in the 2013 construction season.
Work Planned for 2013 (continued)

- **I-81 southbound bridge over Chenango Street:**
  The new bridge carrying I-81 southbound over Chenango Street will be replaced. While this bridge is replaced, there will be a need for periodic closures on Chenango Street. A signed detour will be in place for Chenango Street traffic utilizing State Route 7. There will also be periodic closures of the sidewalk along Chenango Street within the work zone. During those periodic closures, a shuttle bus will be provided to accommodate pedestrians and bicyclists. Operation times and pick up areas will be announced and signed accordingly.

- **I-81 southbound:**
  I-81 southbound will be reconstructed between the Chenango River and Interchange 4. I-81 southbound and State Route 17 eastbound traffic will be shifted around this area. Two lanes of travel will be maintained utilizing a crossover recently constructed in the median of northbound/southbound in the area just west of Chenango Street.

  - The I-81 southbound off-ramp to Exit 4S will be closed; however, traffic will be detoured with a temporary ramp.
  - Due to the new alignment of the temporary off-ramp, the closure of the State Route 7 southbound ramp to I-81 southbound will be necessary. A signed detour will be in place utilizing State Route 7 southbound and Bevier Street to the on-ramp on Broad Avenue onto I-81 southbound.

- **Interchange 4:**
  There will be a new traffic pattern in the area of Interchange 4.

  - The State Route 7 southbound on-ramp to I-81 northbound will be closed. A signed detour will be in place utilizing State Route 7 southbound to State Route 7 northbound to I-81 northbound.
  - The off-ramp from I-81 northbound to State Route 7 southbound will also be closed. I-81 northbound traffic that need to go to State Route 7 southbound will be detoured via Exit 3 to Broad Avenue, then to Bevier Street and then to State Route 7 southbound.
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Work Planned for 2013 (continued)

- **State Route 17 eastbound Front Street Exit:**

  The State Route 17 eastbound Front Street exit will be reconstructed. Exit 72 for State Route 17 eastbound traffic will be closed while being reconstructed. Traffic will be detoured to I-81 northbound to access Front Street at Exit 5.

- **Prospect Street:**

  Prospect Street will be resurfaced between the Spring Forest Cemetery and Front Street. The Prospect Street/Front Street intersection will be reconstructed. Prospect Street traffic will be restricted to one lane of travel in the westbound direction only. Eastbound traffic will be restricted to local traffic only. All other eastbound vehicles will be detoured utilizing State Route 17 eastbound at Exit 71 to I-81 northbound at Exit 5.

- **Retaining walls and noise walls:**

  Construction is to begin on retaining walls along State Route 17 at the curve, just west of the merge of State Route 17 and I-81. Noise wall construction is expected to begin this year as well.

**Motivation:**

The Department is working with the Contractor to minimize inconvenience and disruption to the travelling public and encourage early completion. Several work areas within the project limits have been defined as priority areas where incentive/disincentive clauses are in place in an effort to expedite the work in a timely manner.
Contacts
General project contact information for capital project PIN 950061 (D261771) NY Route 17/I-81 Interchange Reconstruction Project can be found below.

The field office for the project is located at:
33 West State Street, Binghamton, NY 13901

Phone: 607-723-0502

Engineer-in-Charge: Rich Hyzer

Prospect Mountain Community Liaison Coordinator: Kate McPherson
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Media contact: Dave Hamburg, Regional Public Information Officer
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Contractor: L&T Construction Field Office
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Phone: 607-723-1916

On the web:
Project website - www.dot.ny.gov/prospectmountain
Facebook - www.facebook.com/prospect.mountain.project
NYS Travel Information - www.511NY.org

Communications:
“Facebook” and “Twitter” will continue to be utilized, along with press releases to local media outlets, 511NY and use of variable message signs to keep the traveling public informed on restrictions while this project is on-going.