Nelcome

Town of East Greenbush / Town of North Greenbush / CDTC US Route 4 Corridor Study Public Meeting #1 Monday, March 27, 2023 6:30pm







- **1. Welcome and Introductions**
- **2. Project and Schedule Overview**
- **3. Existing Conditions Overview**
- **4.** Mini-Visioning Session
- **5. Next Steps**



Introductions

Project Sponsors

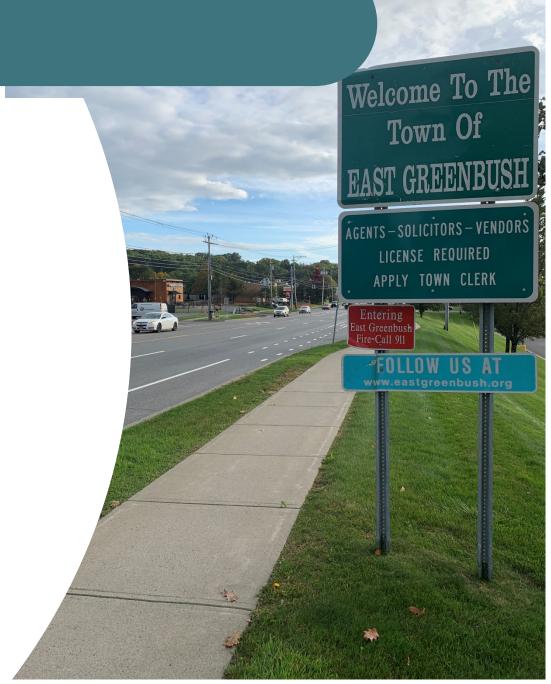
Town of East Greenbush / Town of North Greenbush / CDTC

Grant Program

Community and Transportation Linkage Program (CDTC)

Consultant

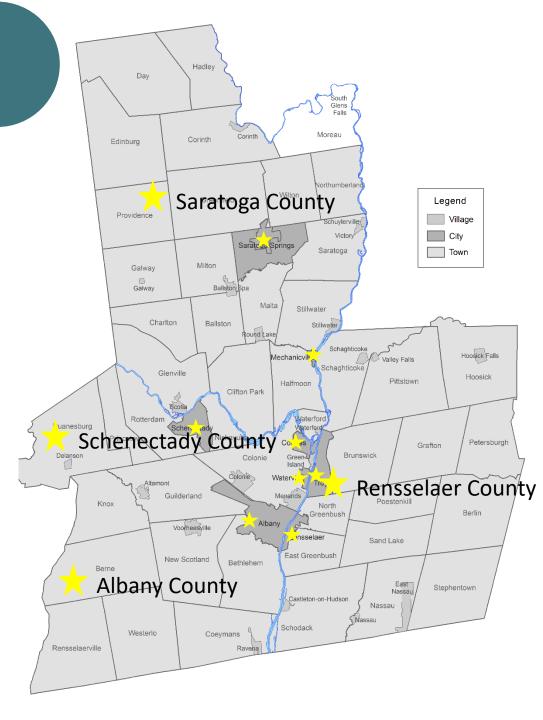
MJ Engineering & Land Surveying, P.C.





- Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
 - A transportation policy-making and planning organization
 - Allocates federal transportation funding resources
- Members include:





Introductions

Study Advisory Committee (SAC)

Anna Feltham (Town of East Greenbush) Dan Fiacco (Town of East Greenbush) Colleen Lallier (Town of East Greenbush) Joe Bott (Town of North Greenbush) Michael Chaires (Town of North Greenbush) Linda VonDerHeide (Rensselaer County) Mark Saunders (NYSDOT Rens. Co Residency) Brian Kirch (NYSDOT Region 1) Chris Bauer (CDTC) Chaim Simon (CDTC) Ethan Warren (CDTA)



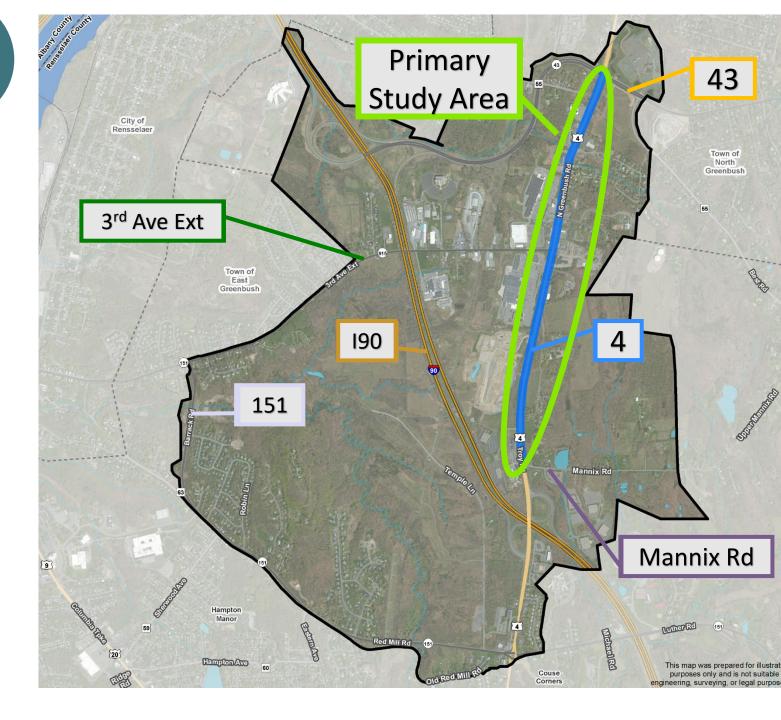
The primary study area is the US Route 4 Corridor, from Mannix Rd in the Town of East Greenbush, to NY 43 in the Town of North Greenbush.

LEGEND

- Primary Study Area
 Secondary Study Area

 Secondary Study Area
 River/Stream
- County Boundary
- City/Town Boundary
- ----- Railroad
- Interstates
- ── US Routes
- ✓ State Routes
- ∼ County Routes

Areas of Interest	Estimated Acreage
Primary Study Area	32.95
Secondary Study Area	2410.38



The secondary study area is the larger area of consideration and includes the areas where the impacts of current and future land uses will be evaluated.

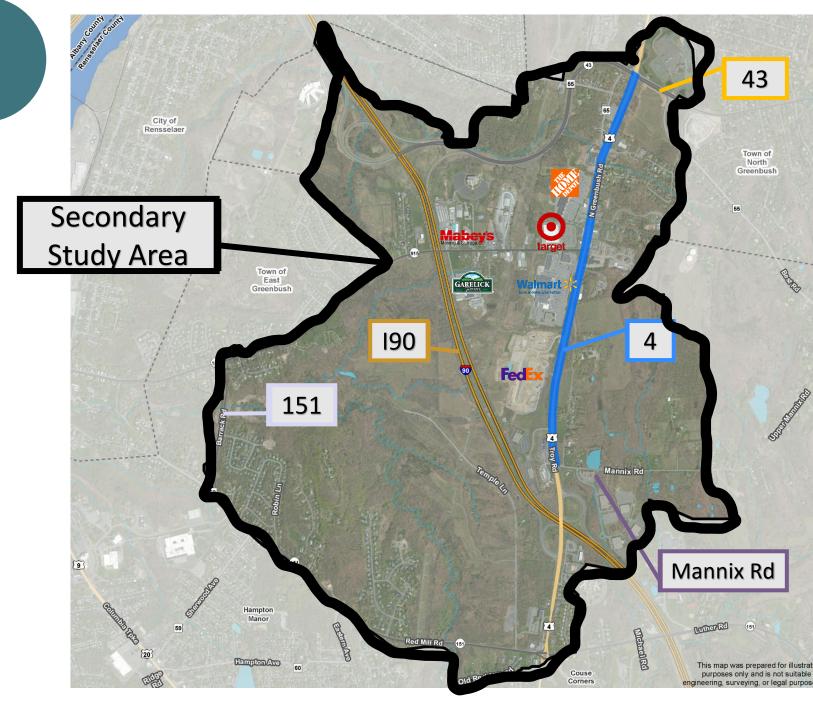
LEGEND





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Primary Study Area
 Secondary Study Area
 County Boundary
 City/Town Boundary
 Railroad

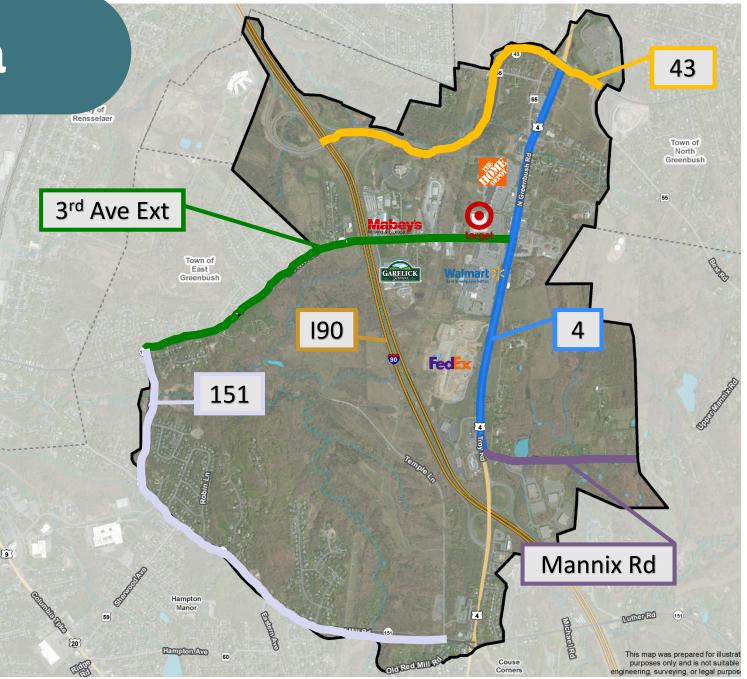
∼ Interstates

── US Routes

🔷 State Routes

∼ County Routes

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[Getting to know you!]

Go to pollev.com/mjplanning518

or

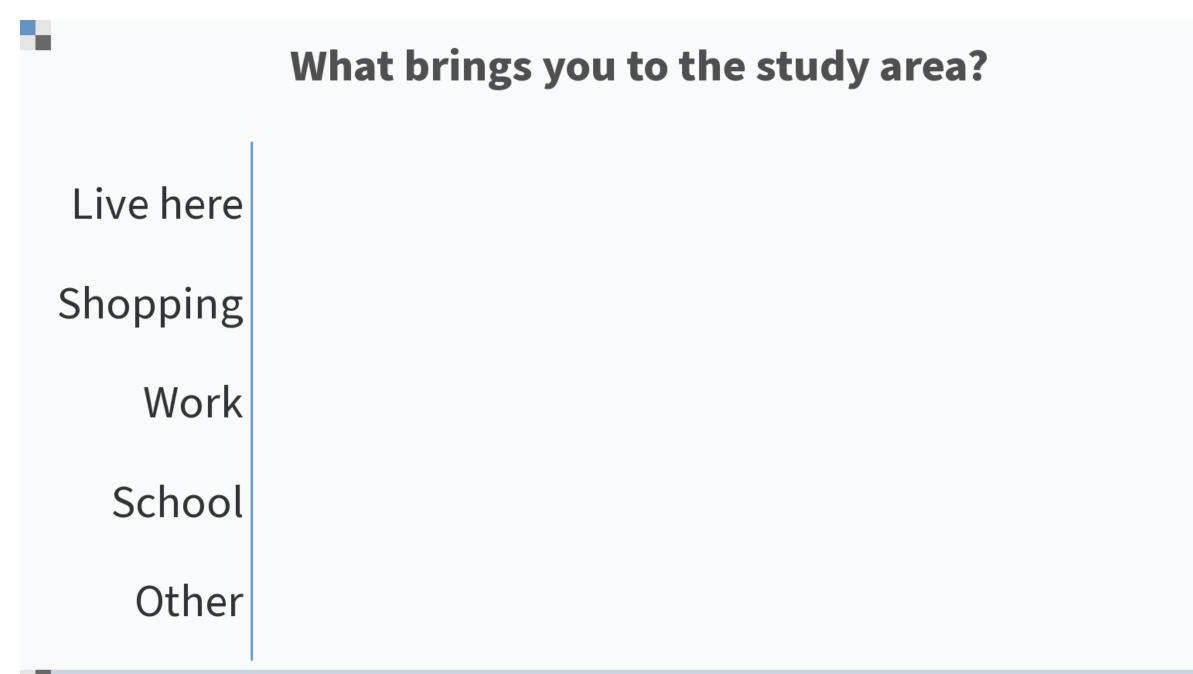
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or

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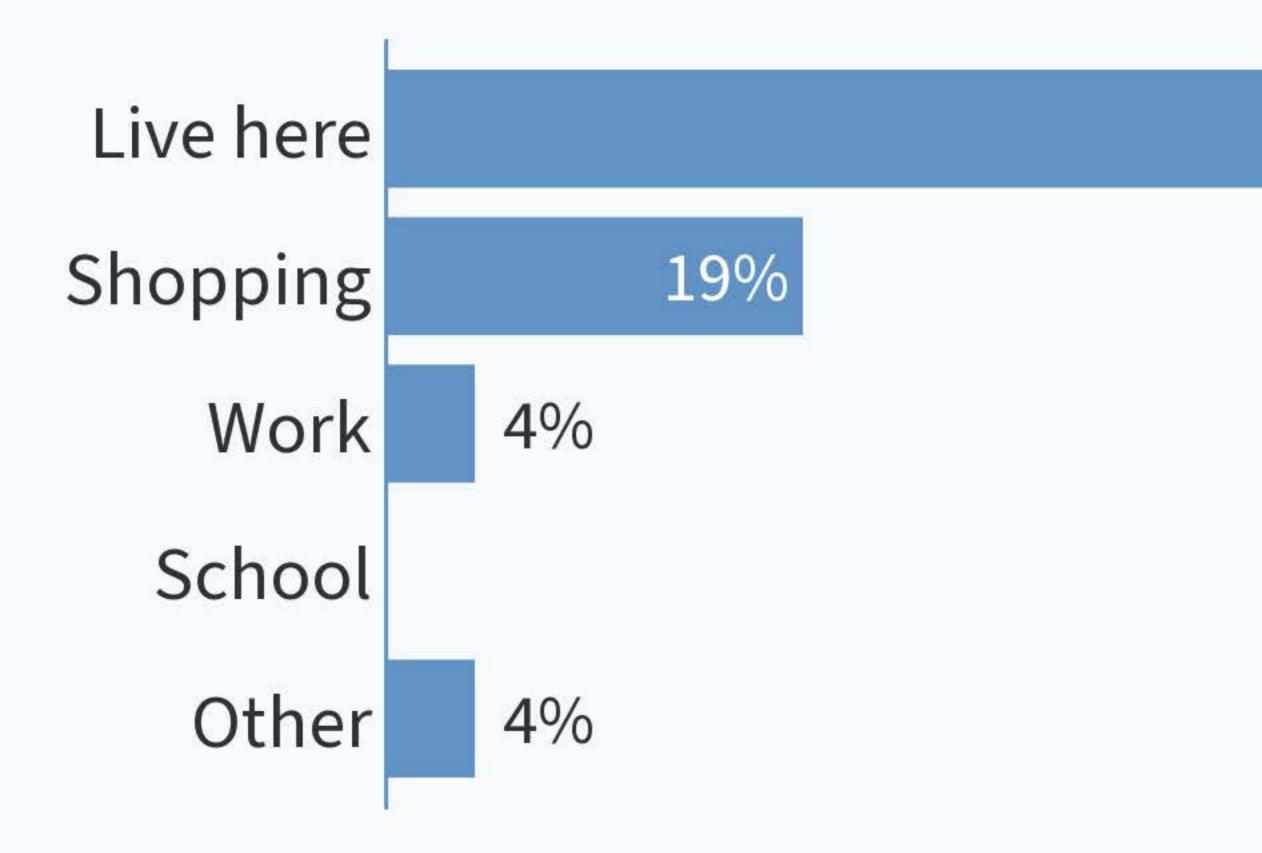




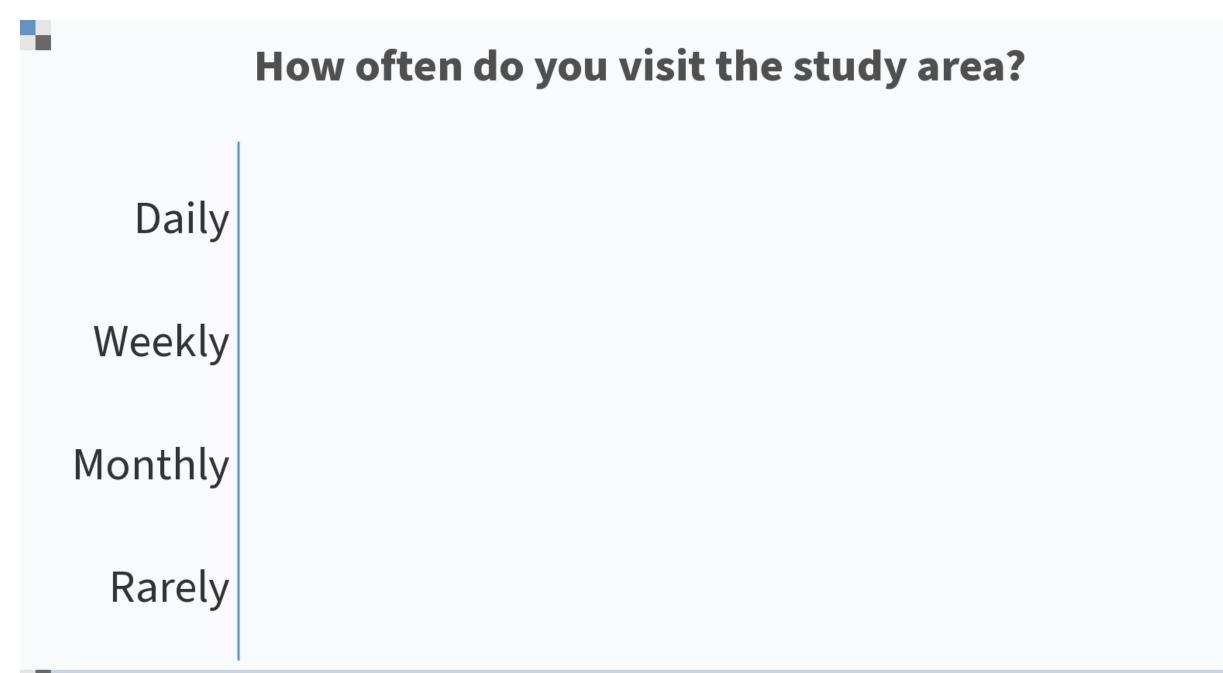


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What brings you to the study area?

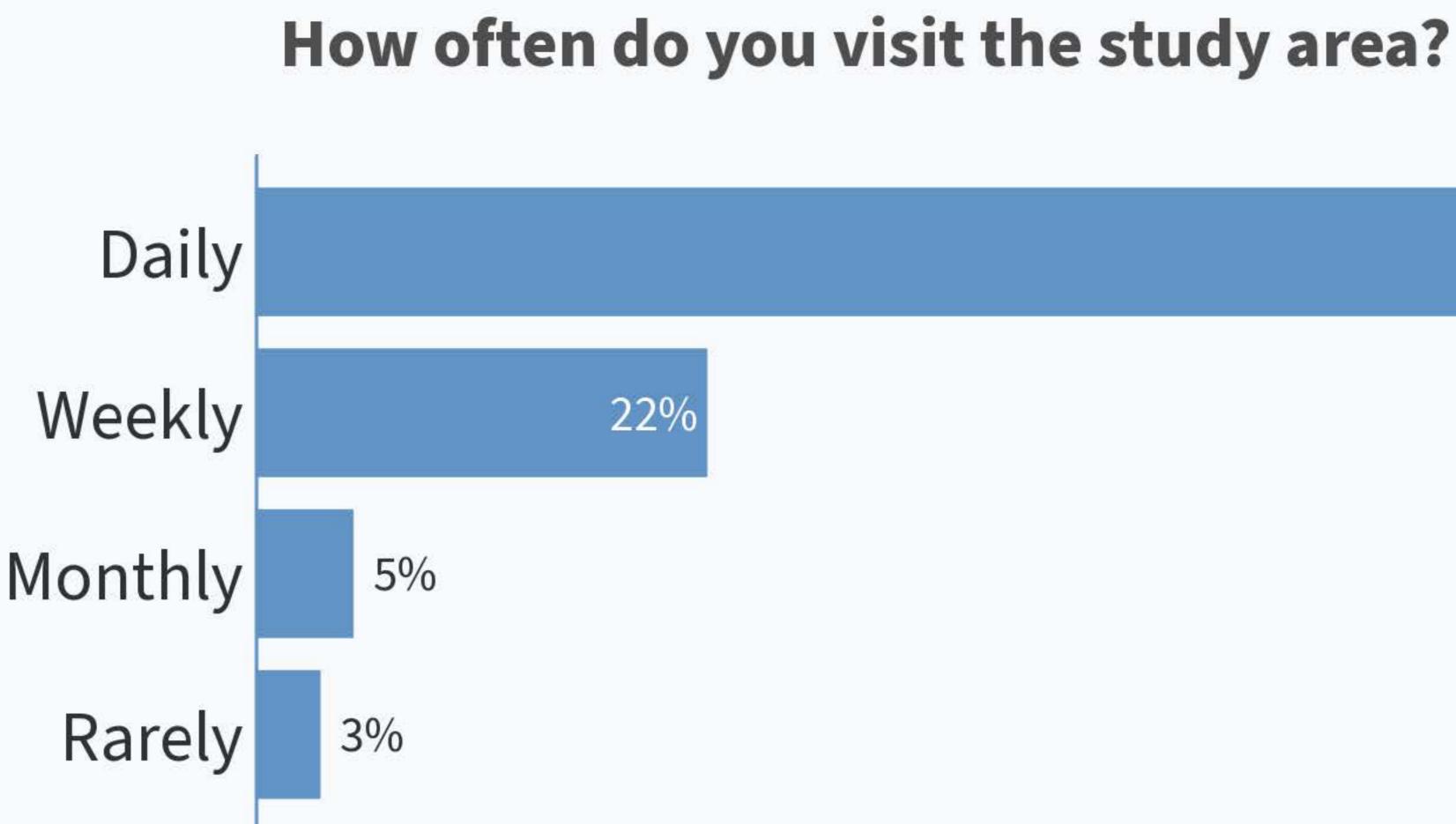






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How far do you travel to reach Route 4?

Less than 5 minutes

5-10 minutes

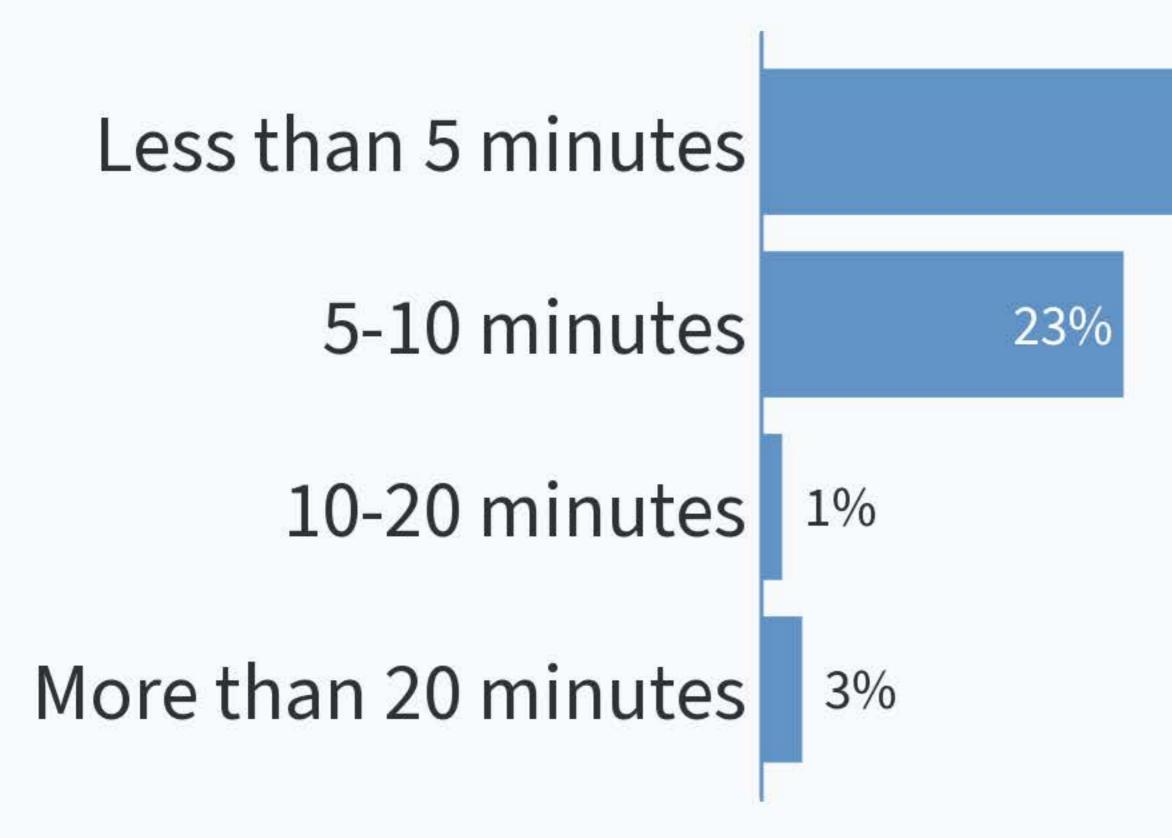
10-20 minutes

More than 20 minutes

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

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How far do you travel to reach Route 4?







1. Welcome and Introductions

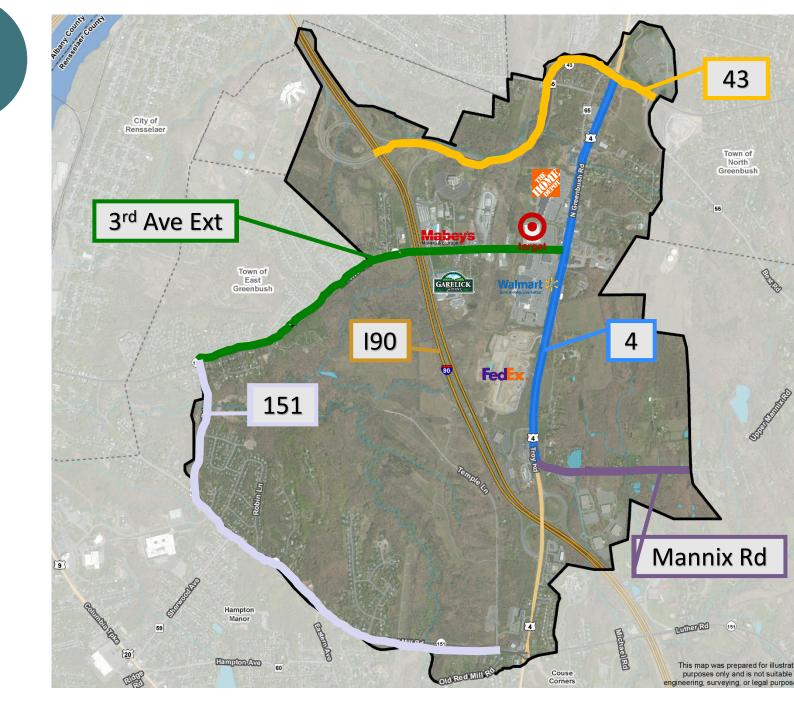
2. Project and Schedule Overview

- **3. Existing Conditions Overview**
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The **primary study area** is the US Route 4 Corridor, from Mannix Rd to NY 43, in the Town of East Greenbush and the Town of North Greenbush and the surrounding land uses.

The **secondary study area** is the larger area of consideration and includes the areas where the impacts of current and future land uses will be evaluated.



Project Area Overview

- US Route 4 is a key corridor with a variety of largescale commercial and retail establishments in the Town of East Greenbush and the Town of North Greenbush
- In 2006, the Town of East Greenbush and CDTC completed the Route 4 Corridor Study, a Linkage Study
- US Route 4 is owned and operated by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT)
- Coordination with NYSDOT will be critical throughout the entire process



Project Overview: Objectives

Study Objectives

- > Address current traffic operational deficiencies
- Identify improvements needed to accommodate future anticipated growth
- Make recommendations to improve the transportation systems along the corridor
- Examine alternative corridor profiles and develop a preferred Corridor Concept Plan for the US Route 4



Study Overview: Objectives

Study Objectives

- Assist the Towns to pursue goals of enhancing the US Route 4 corridor
 - Improve mobility
 - Reduce traffic congestion
 - Promote economic development
 - Improve safety
 - Create a connected and integrated multi-modal transportation network



Project Schedule & Scope

KEY MILESTONES:

Notes:

- Task 3 Public Input occurs throughout effort
- SAC Meetings at key milestones

Fall/Winter 2023 TASK 2: EXISTING CONDITIONS INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT

PUBLIC INPUT

Summer/Fall 2022

INITIATION/COORDINATION

Winter/Spring 2023 TASK 4: FUTURE OPERATIONAL ANALYSIS

Summer 2023

TASK 5: DRAFT US 4

CORRIDOR STUDY

Use the final study for grants and other funding opportunities

Fall/Winter 2023 TASK 6: FINAL US 4 CORRIDOR STUDY & IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Tasks Initiated / In Progress

Establishment of SAC
 Kick off Meeting
 Field walk (October 26, 2022)

Draft Existing Conditions Memo

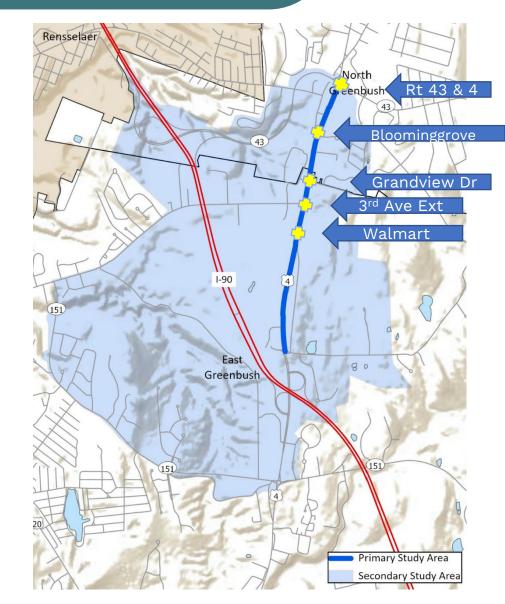
- > Project Website
 (www.nyroute4study.com)
- Community Survey
 Live since February 5, 2023
 Over 700 responses (as of 3/27)



Tasks Initiated / In Progress

Turning movement counts conducted

- ≻ May 24, 2022
- ≻ June 1, 2022
- ≻ 5 Intersections
- Collected Turning Movements, Pedestrian Movements & Traffic Signal Timing
- Existing data collection
 Relevant studies or reports
 GIS mapping data
 Traffic data

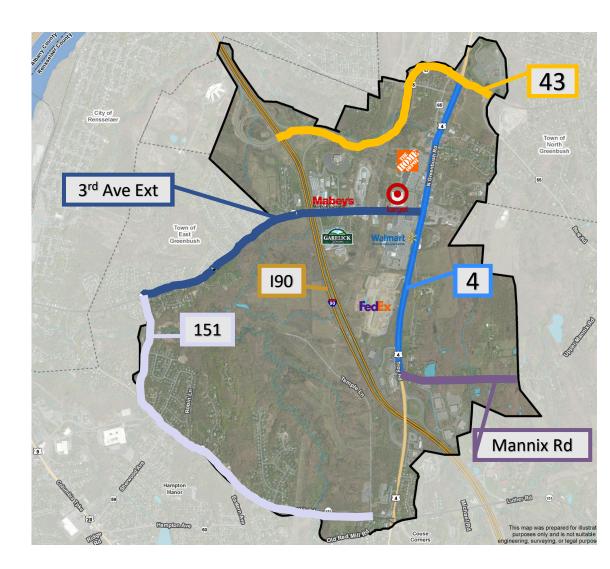




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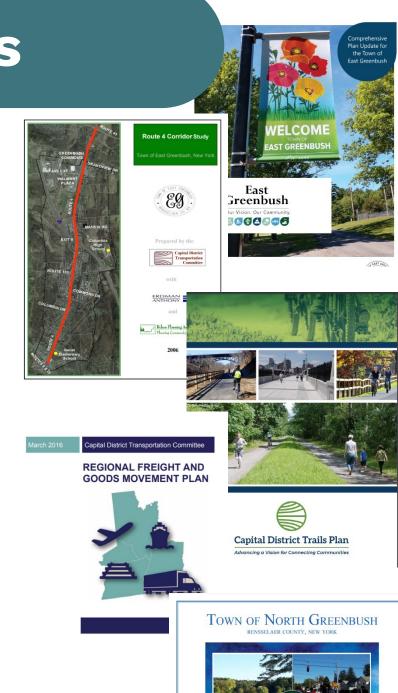


- Introduction/Background
- Identifies the Study Area
- Previous Plans/Relevant Documents
- >Highlights of Existing Conditions Memo
 - ≻ Land Use & Zoning
 - Pedestrian Accommodations
 - >Traffic Data/Crash History
 - Traffic Conditions



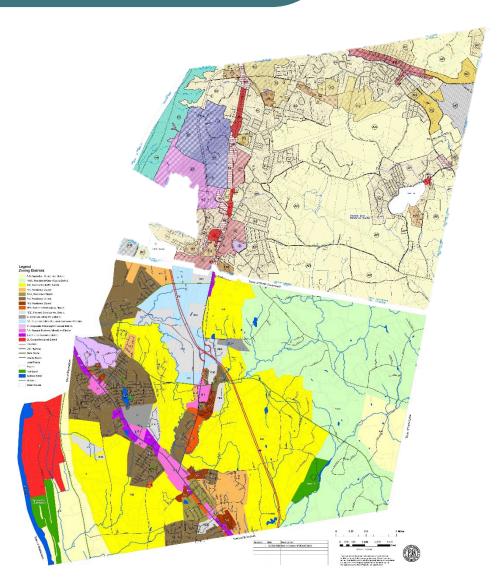
Relevant Planning Documents

- ➢ Route 4 Corridor Study (2006)
- Town of East Greenbush Comprehensive Plan and Appendices (2021)
- Town of East Greenbush Zoning Code (dated 2008; Zoning Update presently in development)
- Western East Greenbush Final Generic Environmental Impact Statement (2009)
- > Town of East Greenbush Complete Streets Policy (2019)
- > Town of North Greenbush Comprehensive Plan (2009)
- > Town of North Greenbush Zoning Code (rev. 2016)
- Town of North Greenbush Route 4 & 1-90 Connector Corridor Land Use Planning Study (2006)
- CDTC's Regional Freight Plan (2016)
- > CDTC's Capital District Trails Plan (2018)
- > Other completed and planned changes in the Towns'
- Industry best practices and contemporary thought concerning efficient corridor management



Land Use versus Zoning

- Land use describes what the land is currently being used for
- Zoning describes the types of land uses that are allowed as established by local zoning laws
- Land use and zoning are a direct reflection of the community character that exists today

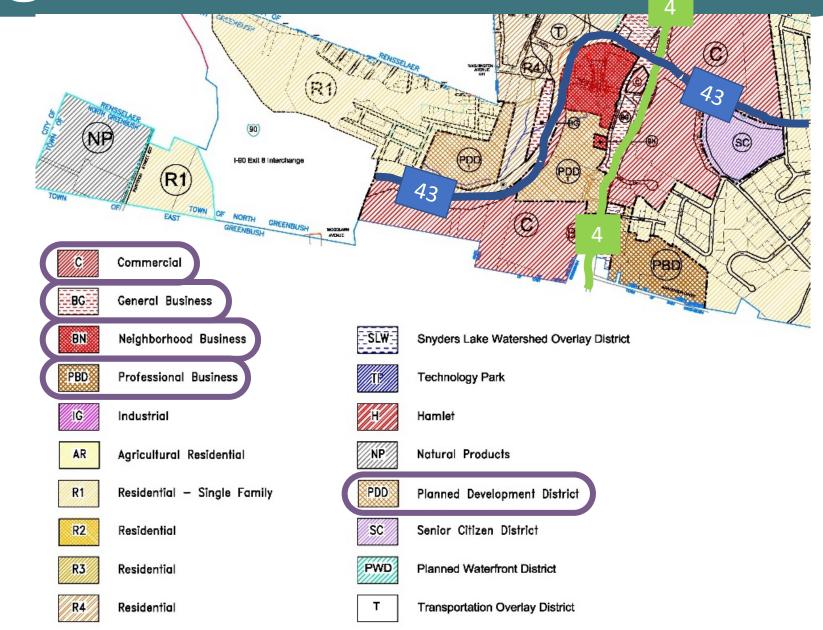


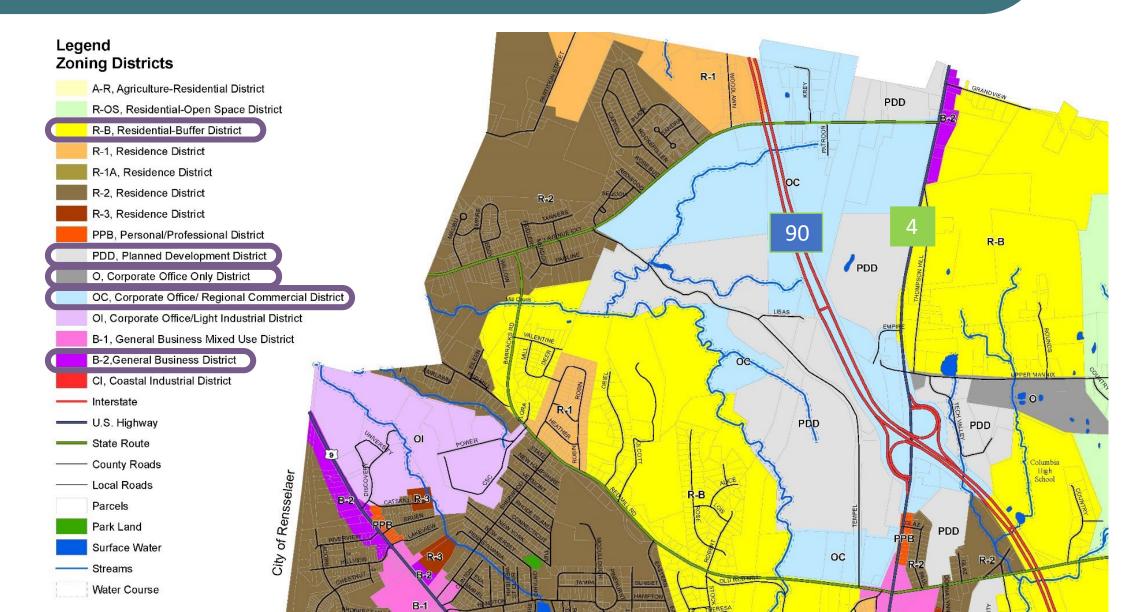
Zoning North Greenbush

- C, Commercial
- BG, General Business
- BN, Neighborhood Business
- PBD Professional Business
- PDD Planned Development District

East Greenbush

- R-B, Residential-Buffer District
- PDD, Planned Development District
- O, Corporate Office Only District
- OC, Corporate Office/ Regional Commercial District





Greenbush East

Pedestrian Accommodations

- Sidewalks and Crosswalks
 - Concrete sidewalks are available along parts of Rt 4
 - Striped pedestrian crosswalks are available at various locations
- In general, the study area has limited to no pedestrian amenities, such as benches, trash receptacles, or pedestrian lighting





Corridor - Traffic Data / Crash History

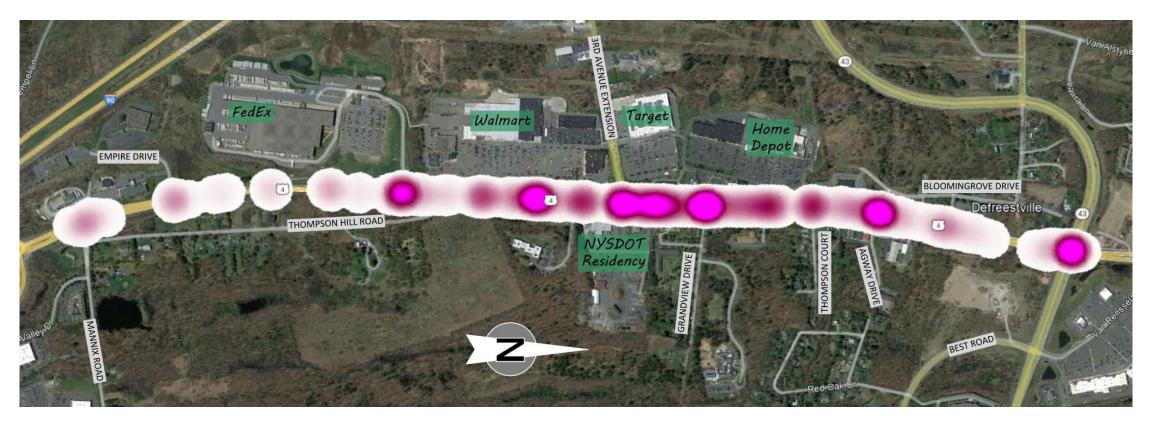
- Most recent five years of available data June 6, 2017 to May 30, 2022
- During this five-year period,
 428 crashes were recorded.
- The data received was for the roadway, connecting roads, and intersections along the US Route 4 corridor.

Collision Type Summary		
Collision Category Type	Quantity	
Head On	6	
Left Turn (Against Other Car)	8	
Overtaking	30	
Rear End	205	
Right Angle	71	
Right Turn (Against Other Car)	2	
Right Turn (With Other Car)	1	
Sideswipe	9	
Unknown	1	
Other	95	
Total	428	

Collision Type Summary		
Collision Type	Quantity	
Collision with Animal	13	
Collision with Bicyclist	1	
Collision with Motor Vehicle	394	
Collision with Pedestrian	3	
Collision with Fixed Object	14	
Overturned	2	
Collision with Other	1	
Total	428	

Crash Severity Summary		
Crash Severity Type	Quantity	
Property Damage	335	
Injury	93	
Fatality	0	
Total	428	

Traffic Data / Crash History



LEGEND

Sparse

Dense

Corridor - Intersections

- >Most recent five years of available data June 6, 2017 to May 30, 2022
- > During this five-year period, **237 of** 428 crashes occurred at intersections.

coursion Type Summary		
Intersecting Roadway	Quantity	
Mannix Road	2	
Empire Drive	4	
Thompson Hill Road	11	
North Greenbush Square & Rensselaer County Plaza (Walmart Plaza)	73	
3 rd Avenue Extension	49	
Grandview Drive & Greenbush Commons (Home Depot/Target Plaza)	24	
Thompson Court	10	
Bloomingrove Drive & Agway Drive (Stewart's/CVS)	27	
NY Route 43	37	
Total	237	

Collicion Type Summar

Traffic Volumes

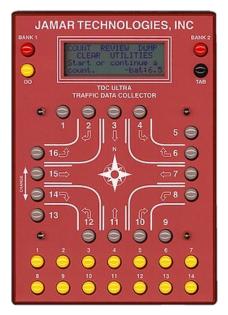
- Traffic volumes were collected using Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATRs) and turning movement counts (TMCs)
- Two ATRs collect 24-hour traffic volumes
 Three days between Tuesday April 5 to Thursday April 7, 2022
 Obtain Average annual daily traffic (AADT)
- The locations of the ATRs:
 Between I-90 Exit 9 and 3rd Ave. Ext.
 AADT = 15,304
 Between 3rd Ave. Ext. NY Route 43
 AADT = 18,917



Traffic Volumes continued

- > TMCs collected at five (5) intersections
 - 1. NY Route 43
 - 2. Bloomingrove Drive and Agway Drive
 - 3. Grandview Drive/Home Depot Plaza
 - 4. 3rd Avenue Extension
 - 5. Rensselaer County Plaza Driveway
- ≻ Midday 11:30 am 1:00 pm
- ▶ PM 3:00 5:00 pm
- Intersections 1, 2, 3, and 5TMCs on Tuesday, May 24, 2022
- Intersection 4
 - TMCs on Wednesday, June 1, 2022





Existing Conditions Overview

Existing Traffic Conditions	
 NY Route 43 Bloomingrove Drive and Agway Drive Grandview Drive 3rd Avenue Extension Rensselaer County Plaza Driveway (Walmart) 	Lo
	NY R
	Bloor Drive a C
	Grand
 <u>Level of Service (LOS)</u> Measure of the flow of traffic 	3rd Ext
 Letter grade system A = Best F = Worst 	Renssel Plaza (Wa

Overall Intersection LOS	
Location	2022 Study (MIDDAY / PM Peak)
NY Route 43	D (51.2) / E (69.4)
Bloomingrove Drive and Agway Drive	D (39.5) / E (40.5)
Grandview Drive	E (62.6) / D (44.5)
3rd Avenue Extension	D (51.2) / C (27.9)
Rensselaer County Plaza Driveway (Walmart)	<mark>C (23.1)</mark> / B (14.3)

Existing Conditions Overview

Existing Traffic Conditions





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Mini-Visioning Session

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Describe what you like best about the corridor in 1-2 words.

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Response Not albany Retail Access to I-90 Shopping My vet is here Social opportunities Direct connections Shopping Handy Trees Retail options Businesses Fish Fry Local jobs Shopping Things to do No Traffic! (Midnight to 6AM) Restaurants Roundabouts Always plowed Amenities Getting off it Shopping variety retail options Services Shopping! Close to home Shopping Connects the two towns Convenience Highway access Easy drive- not curvy or hilly Wide lanes Access to interstates Shopping Convenience to shopping Convenient stores Potential Shopping Retail Options Traffic Circle Nothing. Traffic is a nightmare. Hoosick Road all over again. A gen pollev.com/mjplanning518 Convience OK When traffic is light Shopping and access to I-90 Accessibility Convenience One-stop shopping Shopping Shopping Turning lane New businesses Stores view View Nice access to a number of businesses Commercial options Sales tax Shopping Variety Nothing Shopping Convenient shopping Proximity to interstate Not much Close to everything! Nothing Needs work Access Convenience Businesses Not much Nothing Shopping options Nothing Store variety Nothing at-all Nothing Retail services Nothing Nothing The view. Nothing Nothing

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Describe the biggest challenge(s) or issue(s) within the corridor in 1-2 words.

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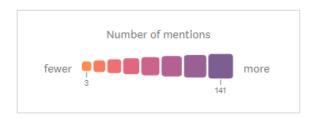
jams expansion much around enough disconnected streets viable u-turns drivers rd left transit wide one one of ave flames development shopping pedestrian of the lanes of the l error 🔮 눧 topography spot a Swide heavy b bed pedestrian delays driving turn 1300 safety Dikespeed intersection speeding poor Sdangerous make townslights safety Dikespeed intersection speeding poor Sdangerous make townslights trafficking to trial of geeseirregular trial of geeseirregular trial so gove unfriendly bikers rude pollution flow of gove unfriendly timed outdated location unfriendly

Community Survey Question 19:

Please identify the top 2 concerns or challenges to the study area.



corridor amount backups rush hour flow route Walmart intersection need Rt congestion Home Depot Traffic jams safety road heavylanes Traffic flow Traffic CongestionHigh hours rte Traffic flow Traffic congestionHigh Excessive area manymuch much traffic Gridlock busy driving Increased terrible going





What would you like to see changed on the corridor in the future?

Start the presentation to see live content. For screen share software, share the entire screen. Get help at pollev.com/app

Response Parallel roads to reduce traffic A lot **Turning lanes!** Repeat the questions from audience please Multi-use paths Predictability End to end sidewalks Left turn from 3rd Ave to Rt 4 Left turn signals Add bus Architectural guidelines for new development Sidewalks Left turn signals Lower speed Better link to HVCC Left turn signals Turning lanes w turning lights Left turn signals Left turn signals Keeping green trees in Greenbush Left turn signals More lanes Per bike connections Lower speed limits **Traffic lights** Signal timing Left turn signals Bike lane Signal progression Safety Fewer distractions to drivers Roundabout at 4/43 interchange Second lane Bus stops Roundabout or parallel corridor or both! No driving in turn lanes Not a one lane northbound **Bypass** More trees Keep traffic on corridor Additional lanes **Benches** Service roads Left turn signals Add more lanes Dangerous

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Shared use trails More lanes Widened lanes or added lanes Bus service between EG and Troy Multi modal Bike lane More lanes More lanes Another lane Left turn signals Parallel corridor Roundabout at 3rd Ave and Rt 4, more sidewalks Bus needed More lanes Add more lanes **Reroute riad** Parallel corridor Better bus service More sidewalks and crosswalks **3rd Ave Roundabout Fix intersections** Better light timing **Remove lanes** How to navigate a roundabout Only one entrance into Walmart Pedestrian bridges (over road) Speed enforcement Better turning Ability to walk dog Turn signals More Lanes More pedestrian friendly Protected bike lane Improve traffic flow Expand bus service Walkable Increase traffic capacity Better transit buses Safer Bus service More biking lanes and sidewalks Roundabouts Law enforcement Roundabouts Wider road Wildlife corridor bike friendly Less congestion

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5 lanes Dedicated bike lane Sidewalks Limit expansion Sidewalks widen road Sidewalks Boulevard Add bike lanes, add level crossings Alternate Road Sidewalks Safetv More roundabout **Turning lanes** Safety Safety Sidewalk Turn signals Signal timing Second lane NB Less development Sidewalks better flow North bound traffic flow Sidewalks More roundabouts Add more lanes Alternate connections Bike ped Traffic Add bus LessTraffic Parallel corridor

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Next Steps

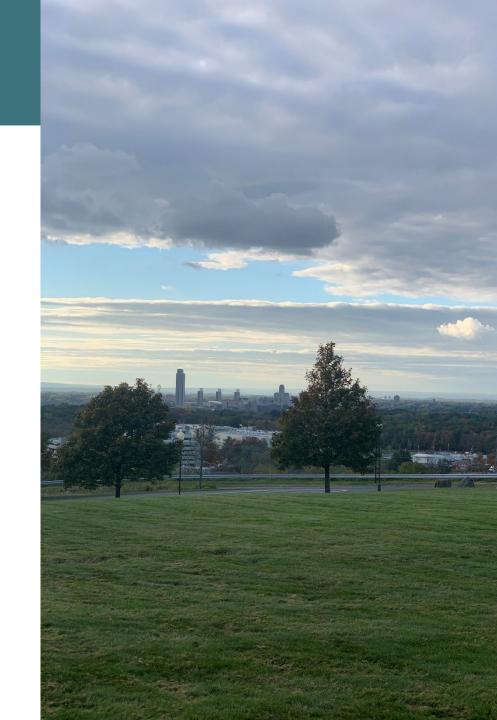
➢Outstanding Data Collection

➢Future Operational Analysis

Survey Summary - TBA
(700+ Responses)

➤Stakeholder Meetings

➢Public Workshop #2 − TBA





Thank you!

Comments or Questions?

Project website www.nyroute4study.com

Q&A "How To"

- To ask a question live, use the
 - "Raise Hand" feature
 - If on a telephone:
 - *9 to raise hand
 - *6 to mute/unmute
- OR submit your questions through the Q&A!



- Following the meeting, written comments can be submitted on: nyroute4study.com
- A recording of the meeting will be posted on the Project page at nyroute4study.com/meetings