



By Regular Mail

September 7, 2021

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor, New York State
Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

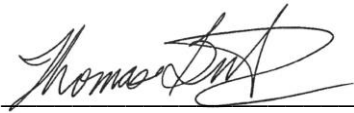
We are Mayors of four Rivertowns who began working together in 2016 to study traffic, safety, and pedestrian and bicycle access conditions in connection with our shared Route 9 corridor, the primary connector road for our Villages. In 2016 the Villages of Hastings-on-Hudson, Dobbs Ferry, Irvington, and Tarrytown received a \$150,000 grant from the NY Bridge Project's Community Benefits Program to create solutions that support local economies and tourism and complement improved waterfront access and riverfront redevelopment. The result of this collaboration was The Route 9 Active Transportation Conceptual Design Plan, finalized in 2019.

The Plan outlines specific improvements to Route 9 (Broadway) to improve access and safety for all users. The goal is finishing the sidewalk network, making crosswalks safer, adding protected biking lanes, where possible, improving motor vehicle lane geometry and bus stop enhancements. Building the project will promote the historic, cultural, and natural resources of the area and enhance access to the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. The result will be significant health and economic enhancements for Rivertowns' residents, merchants, and visitors. These corridor safety improvements will unlock additional benefits such as: people getting out of their cars for local trips (there are 23 schools on and near Route 9); independence for people who can't drive; equity by opening affordable transportation options for low income households; exercise incorporated into daily routines, interactions that build community cohesion; increased patronage to local businesses; links between our 4 downtowns and tourist destinations; filling in a big missing link in the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail; cutting pollution and promoting climate smart communities.

We all recognize that the process of developing the plan will be an iterative process with guidance from each Village particularly as to their unique geometry and needs but are excited as a group to work together on moving the project forward. The process of developing the Plan involved extensive public outreach, including five open-house sessions and two online engagement periods. A website was created and continues to be updated and maintained to share information with and receive comments from the general public. The public input will continue as we move from conceptual design to implementation.

We respectfully request your support for this project, and specifically that you use the power and influence of your office to assist us in obtaining high-level support and engagement from NYS DOT, along with a Department of Transportation liaison tasked with helping us through the various processes necessary to build our project. Beyond critical technical and logistical assistance, the Department's support will position our Villages to jointly apply for funding such as the 2021 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) in an effort to turn conceptual plans into design documents, engage in public participation processes and design iterations, and ultimately to implement the resulting designs. Thank you.

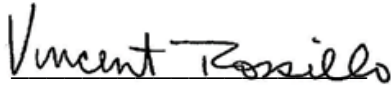
Respectfully,



Thomas Butler
Mayor, Tarrytown
One Depot Plaza
Tarrytown, NY 10591-3199



Brian Smith
Mayor, Irvington
85 Main Street
Irvington, NY 10533



Vincent Rossillo
Mayor, Dobbs Ferry
112 Main Street
Dobbs Ferry, NY 10522



Nicola Armacost
Mayor, Hastings-on-Hudson
7 Maple Avenue
Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706