



THE ASSEMBLY
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November 1, 2021

Governor Kathy Hochul
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

I write in support of the goals of the Route 9 Active Transportation Conceptual Design Plan, which include a shared use path and pedestrian and safety improvements along the Route 9 corridor in the villages of Tarrytown, Irvington, Dobbs Ferry and Sleepy Hollow.

The New York State Thruway Authority provided a \$150,000 grant for the project, which was used to produce Nelson Nygaard's (a transportation and mobility planning firm) design. Nelson Nygaard held meetings with stakeholders, and each of the villages has demonstrated support for the plan with resolutions and letters from mayors and other local officials.

The Route 9 active transportation project has numerous benefits, including:

- Safety--protecting pedestrians and cyclists
- Health-- reducing emissions as vehicle trips are displaced by walking and cycling for short trips
- Economic Development--riders and pedestrians are likely to patronize local stores and businesses; and connecting these communities to the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge Shared Use Path will put the area on the map as a tourism and day-trip destination
- Mass Transit--the plan includes improving the accessibility of Westchester's BeeLine Bus service along the corridor
- Climate goals--helping people into alternative modes of transportation is entirely consistent with and supportive of New York's leading role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

I encourage you to support this project. I ask that you assist the villages in obtaining similar support from NYSDOT, and urge NYSDOT to ensure that the project is eligible for TAP (Transportation Alternatives Program) and other funding opportunities that may become available through pending infrastructure legislation.

Very truly yours,

Thomas J. Abinanti

Cc: NYSDOT – Commissioner Dominguez