

Chamber of Commerce Newsletter

Article: Centerway Bridge Rehabilitation and Trail Project

The \$4 million project to rehabilitate the Centerway Pedestrian Bridge and construct a biking and walking trail is beginning to gain momentum.

The Centerway Bridge and Trail Project is a key element of the City's pedestrian transportation system, and involves rehabilitation of the Centerway Bridge and creation of formal trails for walking and biking as called for in the City's Master Plan.

The project involves rehabilitating the City's historic arch bridge across the Chemung River that serves as the major pedestrian/bicycle connecting the north and south sides of the City's residential community, three major tourism destinations, and the community's major retail district all of which attract more than a million people annually.

The construction of the walking and biking trail provides City residents and visitors with well constructed paths for pedestrians and bicyclists, and eliminates the current use of informal walking and biking paths that are unsafe.

The project is being funded with grants awarded to the City of Corning from the Federal Highway Administration and New York State Department of Transportation, and resources from Corning Intown District Management Agency (CIDMA).

The City of Corning recently entered into a grant contract with the NYS Department of Project, which authorizes the City to proceed with the project.

Phase 1 of the project involves conducting an environmental assessment of all involved properties and preparing a preliminary engineering design. The City plans to hire an engineering firm this summer. The preliminary engineering design is expected to be complete by the end of 2007.

Phase 2 involves final engineering design and construction, which is expected to be complete by the end of 2008.

The rehabilitation of the pedestrian bridge will involve excavation of the existing structure, removal of concrete parapet and structure concrete, installation of steel underdrain piping and epoxy coated rebars, and application of asphalt and concrete pavement, a membrane waterproofing system and epoxy protective coating.

The trail component of the project involves the creation of a 2.5 mile bicycle trail along the north side of the Chemung River and through the Northside of the city. The trail system will begin at the railroad underpass on Baker Street and terminate at the west end of Williams Street Park.

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Chairman of the Chamber's Transportation Committee