



STEVEN OTIS
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June 24, 2016

Dear I-95 Neighbor,

I am writing to update you on the status of the proposed New England Thruway (I-95) Reconstruction Project. As you know, the New York State Thruway Authority recently held a Public Information Session and Hearing for residents in neighborhoods that could be impacted by the reconstruction of a section of the New England Thruway (I-95) between milepost NE14 (I-287 Interchange) and milepost NE15 (Bryam River) in the City of Rye and Village of Port Chester.

The Thruway Authority has referred to this as the “Last Mile” Project, as it is the only section of I-95 between the NYC line and the Connecticut border that has not been updated with road and safety improvements since its original construction in the mid-1950’s. The purpose of the project is to reconstruct approximately one mile of roadway, including exit and entrance ramps and bridges to modernize it to current design standards and address existing safety deficiencies.

Having knowledge of the issues involved with this project from my days as Mayor, I have already weighed in with Thruway Authority staff regarding a number of the issues raised at the June 9th meeting. Senator Latimer and I were both concerned about the public comment process and the short window provided for expressing concerns about the project. Accordingly, we asked for more time and additional avenues for residents to comment.

I am pleased to report that:

- the deadline for public comments has been extended to June 30, 2016.
- the Thruway Authority will continue to field questions or comments on aspects of the design beyond June 30th. This is especially valuable, as the final design of the project has not been completed, and the Thruway will continue to consider your comments before finalizing the plan.

• the Thruway Authority has established a webpage regarding the “Last Mile” project. This is another point of contact to obtain background information, share comments or questions and get answers from Thruway Authority staff. See <http://www.thruway.ny.gov/oursystem/last-mile/index.html>

I will continue to share the concerns I have heard from residents. In every way that I can, I am advocating for changes that will minimize neighborhood impacts during construction and with the design of the final plan.

Please continue to share your views with the Thruway Authority and keep me apprised of the issues affecting you. My district office is walking distance from the project. I have been to the locations involved before and am happy to return with you if that would be beneficial to address any specific issues you may have.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve".

Steven Otis
State Assemblyman