

# NYSDOT announces start of \$2.9 million project to upgrade culverts in Western New York

Project to repair or replace 12 culverts to enhance safety and resiliency along key roadways in Erie & Niagara counties

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez on Wednesday announced work has begun on a \$2.9 million project that will repair or replace 12 culverts in Erie and Niagara counties, "enhancing safety and reducing the risk of flooding along several important roadways for the movement of people and commerce in Western New York."

Culverts are structures that channel water underneath roads or sidewalks, improving their ability to withstand heavy rains and other severe weather events.

"In projects big and small, Gov. Hochul is making critically important investments in infrastructure that will strengthen our local communities and grow our economy," Dominguez said. "Addressing these culverts will allow water to flow more easily underneath some of Western New York's key roadways and make them more resilient and better able to withstand whatever Mother Nature brings - especially extreme weather events."

The project includes the repair of two large culverts on Interstate 990 in the Town of Amherst, two along U.S. Route 20 in the towns of Orchard Park and West Seneca, and one on State Route 18 in Town of Porter.

Two large culverts will be replaced State Route 277 in the Town of Cheektowaga and State Route 93 in the Town of News-

tead.

Five small culverts will be replaced on State Route 104 in Niagara County, including four in the Town of Lewiston, one in the Town of Hartland; and one small culvert will be replaced on State Route 270 in the Town of Cambria.

New York State Sen. Patrick M. Gallivan said, "The state's ongoing investment in infrastructure is critical. These projects will help protect drivers, pedestrians and property by reducing the risk of flooding. Maintaining our system of roads and bridges is important for our economy and for the quality of life of New York residents."

New York State Sen. Rob Ort said, "In recent years, we have seen several severe meteorological events in Niagara County that have caused flash flooding, the deterioration of roadway infrastructure, and dangerous travel conditions on the roads in our community. New York state has identified some of the important culverts that require repair and is committed to addressing these structures of concern. With the replacement and repair of these critical culverts, Western New Yorkers can rest assured knowing that they will be able to safely traverse roads that were once hazardous when dangerous weather enters our region."

New York State Sen. Edward Rath said, "I am encouraged to see this investment being made in our local infrastructure. Assuring

our roads and drainage are safe and functioning is critical. This investment will improve public safety and improve the quality of life for Western New Yorkers."

New York State Sen. Tim Kennedy said, "As temperatures in Western New York begin to warm up, the harsh realities of winter weather on our infrastructure are clear, and the risk of flooding becomes all too common. Through this investment, New York is demonstrating a continued commitment to strengthening our roadways and directly addressing safety concerns before they become hazardous to drivers and pedestrians."

New York State Sen. Sean Ryan said, "These critical infrastructure investments will greatly enhance public safety and quality of life for the people of Western New York. I thank the NYSDOT for prioritizing these projects to build more resiliency into our roadways."

Assemblyman David DiPietro said, "I'm glad to see this project is finally underway. Our critical infrastructure, and especially our culverts, are key to maintaining both our transportation and economic systems. Residents of Erie and Niagara counties will be able to rest assured that their culverts, roadways and sidewalks are safe and secure for years to come."

Assemblyman Michael Norris said, "Critical infrastructure investment is essential to our continued economic recovery

and is an area of state spending where taxpayers can see and feel a return. Projects such as culvert replacement extends the life of roadways and keeps them open, safe and available for the transport of goods and services. I will continue to advocate for more investment in our roads, bridges, waterways, and utility and internet connectivity, as these are cost-effective initiatives that grow our economy and improve quality of life for our community."

Assemblyman Patrick B. Burke said, "I thank Commissioner Dominguez and the New York State Department of Transportation for this crucial \$2.9 million investment that will replace a dozen culverts in Erie and Niagara counties, which will reduce the risk of flooding and therefore enhance safety for Western New York residents. Now more than ever, we need serious investment into our local infrastructure, and I commend the DOT for realizing the urgency and making this project possible."

Assemblywoman Karen McMahon said, "New York state and the Department of Transportation continue to prove their commitment to revitalizing Western New York's infrastructure. Repairing or replacing the culverts will solve critical flooding problems and ensure important roadways in Erie and Niagara counties are passable, and most importantly, safe for travel. After this impor-

tant work is completed, motorists will be able to trust that their preferred route is safe even after heavy rain or snowmelt. I thank the DOT for their recognition of the need for these improvements and look forward to the project's completion."

Assemblywoman Monica Wallace said, "As weather events become more extreme, it's vital that we upgrade our infrastructure to be able to handle more severe rain and flooding. These culvert projects will ensure that traffic can continue flowing on our major thoroughfares, despite whatever Mother Nature throws at us. I thank the Department of Transportation, Commissioner Dominguez and Gov. Hochul for their continued investments in our essential infrastructure."

Assemblyman Angelo Morinello said, "I would like to thank the NYSDOT for their recognition of the need to upgrade culverts in Niagara County. The state of New York and the Department of Transportation are true partners focused on the needs of our district."

Motorists are reminded that fines are doubled for speeding in work zones. In accordance with the Work Zone Safety Act of 2005, convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver's license.

## IN THE NEWS

### 'Nurturing in the Neighborhood' offered for children living in Falls' south end

Niagara University and the Niagara Falls Housing Authority are bringing free children and

parenting activities to residents of Niagara Falls' south end throughout the end of March.

Funded by the Health Foundation of Western and Central New York, informative, hands-on parent workshops and activities designed for their children birth through age 3 will be offered

from 10 a.m. until noon March 23-24, 30-31, at the Doris W. Jones Family Resource Building, 3001 9th St., Niagara Falls.

As parents attend workshops on early childhood learning, developmental milestones, health and wellness, early literacy, behavior management, and early childhood mental health and resilience, their children will be able to participate in activities targeted for their specific ages, arts and crafts, and stories. Healthy snacks will be provided.

To register and/or obtain more information, email [jfreedman@niagara.edu](mailto:jfreedman@niagara.edu), call 716-286-8309, or visit [www.niagara.edu/NITN](http://www.niagara.edu/NITN).

### Learn how vascular health is connected to how you feel

Submitted by Catholic Health

Some circulation problems like varicose and spider veins aren't life-threatening. Others, like deep vein thrombosis (DVT) and peripheral artery disease (PAD), can be. If you have high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, heart disease, a family history of stroke, or are 50 years old or older, you may be at risk.

Catholic Health is hosting a special Facebook Live "Way to Wellness" event, "Oh, So Vein! How Vascular Health is Connected

to How You Feel," from 7-8 p.m. Tuesday, March 29. It will feature Trinity Medical WNY vascular and endovascular center physicians Paul Anain, M.D.; Gregory Clabeaux, D.O.; Aimee Swartz, M.D.; and Roger Walcott, M.D.

The speakers will discuss what vascular disease is, signs and symptoms to be aware of, how to reduce risk, vascular conditions from DVT and PAD to varicose and spider veins, and the latest screening and treatment options available. They'll also answer questions live.

Follow on Facebook at [facebook.com/catholichealth](https://www.facebook.com/catholichealth) to receive a notification when it's time to join. Those with a question for the physicians can send it in advance through the event listing at [chsbuffalo.org/events](https://chsbuffalo.org/events).

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