



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**  
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
DATE: September 24 2015

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**MINER, JOINED BY STATEWIDE ADVOCATES,  
CALL ON NYS TO INCREASE FUNDING TO  
MUNICIPAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

*Miner Makes Announcement Standing on Oak Street in  
Syracuse, the Site of a Recent Street Cave-In*

*Miner: Syracusans are New Yorkers, Too, and our State Must  
Help Us to Have a Long-Term, Comprehensive, and Sustainable  
Way to Repair our Roads, Water Systems, and Sewers.*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner today was joined by advocates from the Associated General Contractors of New York State (AGC NYS), the Rebuild New York Now coalition, and other advocates to call on the State of New York to increase funding for municipal infrastructure projects. The group held their news conference today in the 1000 Block of Oak Street in Syracuse, where a section of road has caved in.

“Every driver in the City of Syracuse has seen a record number of orange barrels and sawhorses filling our streets this year,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “Sewer and water leaks have caused cave-ins of streets all over this City. These are challenging and expensive to repair and inconvenience our residents. We need the State of New York to step up and support our communities—as they have historically done—to help us meet our infrastructure needs. Syracusans are New Yorkers too and our State must help us to have a long-term, comprehensive, and sustainable way to repair our roads, water systems, and sewers.”

“Today is the latest example of why New York State must get serious and commit the significant resources required to meet our infrastructure needs,” said **Mike Elmendorf**, President and CEO of the Associated General Contractors of New York State. “As these needs have outpaced investment for decades, our failing infrastructure threatens our communities and economic opportunity. That must change. AGC looks forward to working with our partners in state



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government to address New York’s ailing infrastructure in the next legislative session and state budget.”

This year, the City of Syracuse Department of Public Works has repaired 60 street cave-ins, with 28 jobs—including Oak Street—still in need of fixing. More are called in each day. In 2014, 158 cave-ins were repaired. Cave-ins are caused by a variety of factors; including sewer collapses and joint leaks, water main leaks, and road beds which have disintegrated due to their age.

Cave-ins take a day or two to fix, but some severe jobs require the hiring of outside contractors and up to a week to repair. The DPW has begun a program where sewer leaks are replaced by inserting a plastic liner into the pipes, thereby reducing costs, sealing leaks in and avoiding the need to dig up streets and prolong the life of a sewer main.

Mayor Miner has spent much of her administration raising awareness of infrastructure needs. She has submitted testimony to the United States Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and she has testified before the New York State Legislature joint budget proceedings about infrastructure. The Mayor has held several press conferences with the Rebuild New York Now Coalition

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