



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: May 16, 2016

CONTACT: Alexander Marion
Press Secretary (315) 448-8044

**MINER JOINS *INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK* 2016,
NATIONAL EFFORT RAISING AWARENESS OF
INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES AFFECTING SYRACUSE**

Infrastructure Week – May 16th-23rd, 2016 – is a week-long series of events Raising awareness about how #InfrastructureMatters to our country’s economy, health and safety, and communities.

Miner: Syracuse Understands that Infrastructure Matters to our Businesses, Neighbors, and Entire City

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner announced today that the City of Syracuse will participate in *Infrastructure Week* 2016, a national effort to raise awareness of the importance of infrastructure in our communities.

“In Syracuse, we understand that Infrastructure Matters to our businesses, to our neighbors, and to our entire City. I’m pleased to join Mayors from across the country, as well as leaders in business, government, academia, and the labor movement, to discuss the ongoing importance of infrastructure issues in our communities,” said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. “I look forward to using this week to continue the conversation we have started locally on the importance of generating smart, effective ways to address the infrastructure challenges facing the City of Syracuse.”

“We are thrilled that Mayor Miner and the City of Syracuse are joining *Infrastructure Week*. The dire state of America’s infrastructure is one of the most pressing issues facing us as a nation, and the benefits of a healthy infrastructure system are far-reaching and long-lasting,” said **Zach Schafer**, executive director of *Infrastructure Week*. “During *Infrastructure Week*, we are bringing together minds from the public and private sectors to encourage lawmakers to continue investing in infrastructure and transportation at the federal, state and local level.”

On Monday, Mayor Miner will join leaders from across the nation for the *infrastructure week* kickoff event in Washington, DC. There, the Mayor will speak on a panel called “Leading the Way: Achievements and Lessons from America’s Cities” with Mayor Sly James of Kansas City, Missouri and Mayor David Condon of Spokane, Washington about the challenges they face when addressing infrastructure issues in their communities. Also



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attending the kickoff day will be Richard Trumka, President of the AFL-CIO, Thomas Donahue, President and CEO of the US Chamber of Commerce, and Jeh Johnson, the Secretary of Homeland Security.

Mayor Miner began the week by [publishing an op-ed](#) on Medium.com discussing the week's theme, Infrastructure Matters. Throughout the week, the City of Syracuse will be posting on its social media platforms information about the work being done by City departments and the Mayor's Office of Innovation in support of infrastructure. To join this conversation, people can follow the City's [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) accounts and by using the hashtag #InfrastructureMatters.

The Mayor has made addressing infrastructure challenges a major priority of her administration. Last year, Mayor Miner announced \$10 million in funding from New York State to address water infrastructure and help invest in new technology that would help detect leaks before they become catastrophic. The Mayor has taken her message to a statewide and national audience, meeting regularly with members of Congress and the New York State legislature to push for more infrastructure funding.

Mayor Miner has created a new Office of Innovation and tasked its staff with investigating new strategies to addressing infrastructure challenges. The Office of Innovation, announced in December 2014, was made possible with a three year, \$1.35 million grant from Bloomberg Philanthropies. Syracuse was one of fourteen cities selected in 2014 as part of the Bloomberg Philanthropies' Innovation Teams (i-teams) program. The first area of study being undertaken by the Syracuse i-Team has been infrastructure, where staff have investigated new technologies for addressing street and water infrastructure issues and helped develop improved policies for construction notification and coordination.

More information about *Infrastructure Week* can be found here: <http://infrastructureweek.org/>

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