

**NOTICE OF EDPL PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
OF DESIGN APPROVAL DOCUMENT**

**CITY OF SYRACUSE, ONONDAGA COUNTY, NY
PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NO. 3755.14
SYRACUSE CREEKWALK, PHASE 2**

In accordance with the provisions of Article 2 of the Eminent Domain Procedure Law (EDPL), the City of Syracuse will conduct a public hearing which will be held in the Southwest Community Center, 401 South Ave, Syracuse, NY 13204 at 7:00 PM on Tuesday July 26, 2016 for the proposed implementation of Phase 2 of the Onondaga Creekwalk project. The project will be constructed entirely within the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County.

This project is being progressed as a Categorical Exclusion with Documentation pending FHWA approval.

Project Description

This proposed project will extend the existing Creekwalk bicycle/pedestrian facility from its current terminus in Armory Square 2.2 miles south through the Onondaga Creek corridor to Kirk Park/Colvin Street. The proposed trail will provide a main north-south connecting route through the city by which pedestrians and bicyclists can travel from multiple origins to many destinations in a safe, efficient, and aesthetically pleasing manner. This is the second phase of a three phase overall plan to complete this main route from the southern City corporation limit, north to Onondaga Lake. The project will include construction of a 13-foot wide trail, trailhead and parking areas, access points to Onondaga Creek, selective clearing of brush and trees, and planting of native tree species. There are two alternatives that are being considered. Alternative 1 would augment the existing West Street bicycle lane and meet Onondaga Creek at Temple Street. This Alternative routes the trail along Onondaga Creek from Temple to Midland Avenue, and would require property acquisition adjacent to Onondaga Creek. Alternative 2 would route the trail through the Onondaga County Trolley Lot RTF, cross West Onondaga Street at Adams Street, and follow Onondaga Creek to Temple Street. The trail would then utilize existing sidewalks along Midland Avenue. Both alternatives would utilize Lower Onondaga Park and Kirk Park on the west side of Onondaga Creek. Fishing access points and a non-motorized boat access point to Onondaga Creek are proposed as part of the project. Both Alternatives are considered feasible alternatives and meet the project objectives. The project is funded 80% from federal funds and 20% from local funds. Construction is estimated to begin in 2019.

The City of Syracuse is the lead agency pursuant to Part 15 of Title 17 of the Official Compilation of Codes, Rules and Regulations of New York State (17 NYCRR Part 15), and has the principal responsibility for carrying out and approving the proposed project, with concurrence from the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Design plans for the project have been developed by the City of Syracuse after coordination with federal, state and local agencies.

At the public hearing, engineering, traffic, environmental, and right-of-way aspects of the project will be covered briefly in the formal presentation. Further details will be available at display areas manned by staff familiar with the project. City of Syracuse and NYSDOT representatives will be on hand, and graphic displays will be available for viewing, one hour before the hearing. Any questions should be referred to staff members attending the displays.

Starting **July 1, 2016**, the project's Draft Design Report, maps, drawings and other pertinent information and written views received as a result of the coordination with federal, state and local agencies will be available during normal business hours for public inspection at the City of Syracuse, Department of Engineering, City Hall Room 401, 233 East Washington Street, Syracuse, NY 13202, and at the Southwest Community Center, 401 South Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13204. The Draft Design Report will be available online starting **July 1, 2016** on the **City of Syracuse's webpage: www.syracuse.ny.us/Creekwalk.aspx**

All interested persons will be given the opportunity to express their views concerning the economic and social effects of the action, its impacts on the environment and its consistency with the goals and objectives established by the community. The proceedings will be recorded. Persons may make oral statements and/or file written statements. Written statements submitted at the hearing or mailed to the contact listed below no later than **August 5, 2016** will be made part of the record.

On behalf of the City of Syracuse, the NYSDOT Real Estate Office will perform any property acquisitions required for the project. Tentative schedules for right-of-way acquisition and construction will be discussed. Information will also be available regarding the NYSDOT Relocation Assistance Program which provides assistance to those who must relocate if the property they occupy is acquired for this project. Procedures will be described wherein occupants of such acquired properties may qualify for moving expenses.

Those property owners who may subsequently wish to challenge condemnation of their property via judicial review may do so only on the basis of issues, facts, and objections raised at the hearing (§ 202 (C) (2) of Article 2, EDPL). Each individual assessment record billing owner ("property owner") or his or her attorney of record whose property may be acquired shall note that, under § 207 (A), a petition to seek judicial review of the condemnor's determination and findings must be filed within 30 days after the condemnor's completion of its publication of its determination and findings. Further, the exclusive venue for judicial review of the condemnor's determination and findings is the appellate division of the supreme court in the judicial department where any part of the property to be condemned is located (§ 207 (B), § 208).

Further information on this project may be obtained from:

Russell Houck, PE
City of Syracuse, Dept. of Engineering
City Hall Room 401
233 East Washington Street, Syracuse, NY 13202
Phone: (315) 448-8059 Email: rhouck@syr.gov

Please advise the City of Syracuse at the above contact information if a sign language interpreter, assistive listening system or any other accommodation will be required to facilitate your participation in this public hearing.

TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) Relay Service:

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