

# GENESEO ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN



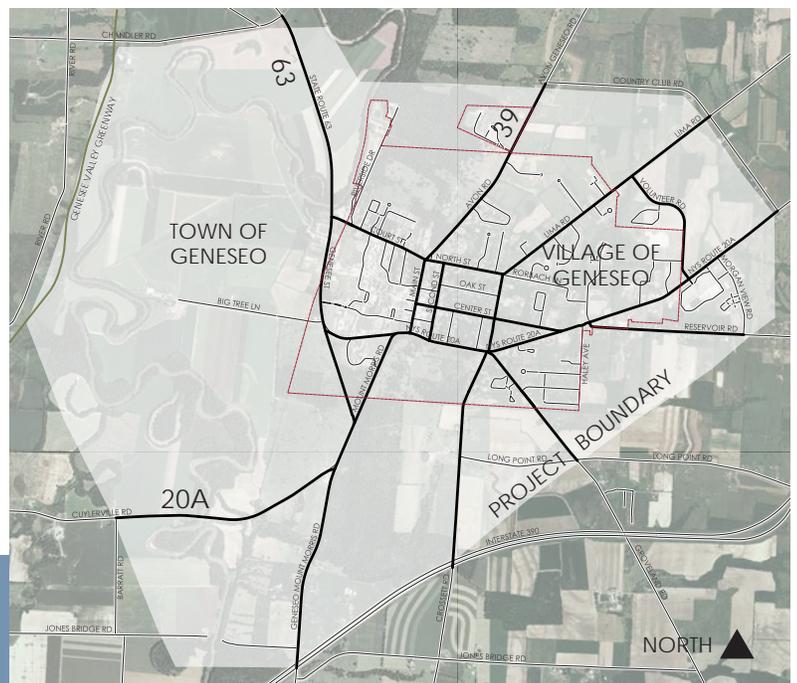
## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### PROJECT PURPOSE

Initiated by Livingston County, the Genesee Transportation Council, and the Town and Village of Geneseo, the Geneseo Active Transportation Plan proposes enhancements to the pedestrian, bicycling, and public transportation networks throughout the Town and Village of Geneseo. Supplementing previous active transportation planning efforts within the region, this Plan recommends specific facility, programmatic, and policy improvements, creating an implementable 'blueprint' for making Geneseo a more walkable and bikeable community.

### PROJECT AREA

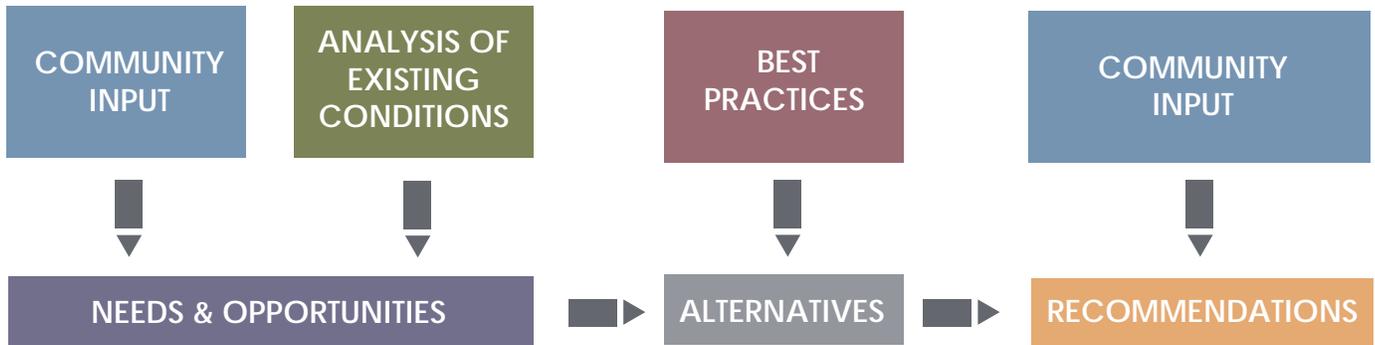
This Plan studies approximately nineteen miles of roadway within the Town and Village of Geneseo, including all State- and County-owned roads. The Plan also examines connections to several off-road trails, including the Genesee Valley Greenway, which currently runs along the Genesee River to the west of the Village of Geneseo.



*The Project Area encompasses New York State Routes 39, 63, and 20A*

## PROJECT APPROACH

This project approaches active transportation planning through a comprehensive lens, recognizing the importance of creating physical, social, and regulatory frameworks to generate a more connected, equitable, and accessible community. The recommendations within this plan have accordingly been developed through an extensive process that has included multi-faceted community engagement, a detailed inventory of existing conditions, and an application of national and local best practices. In general, the recommendations seek to balance short-term, highly feasible projects with larger, longer-term projects that will require more extensive coordination to implement.



## BENEFITS OF ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Active Transportation refers to all forms of non-motorized transit, which most commonly include walking, jogging, and bicycling. Promoting active transportation has wide-ranging benefits for a community and its residents.



**HEALTH** *Increasing physical activity through walking or biking has significant benefits for both physical and mental health.*



**ENVIRONMENTAL** *Promoting active transportation leads to a reduction in vehicular travel, lessening the amount of pollutants that are emitted.*



**SOCIAL** *Providing active transportation infrastructure promotes social equity by reducing the need to own a vehicle, and also creates opportunities for socialization.*



**ECONOMIC** *Walkability and Bikeability have a significant impact on a community's 'livability,' increasing property values and connectivity to businesses.*

## INVENTORY & ANALYSIS: KEY TAKEAWAYS

- » Throughout the project area, vehicles typically drive 4-7 Miles Per Hour above the posted speed limits.
- » There have been twenty active transportation-related crashes within the project area over the past ten years, primarily within the central core of the Village of Geneseo.
- » There are currently no on-road bicycle facilities within the project area, and based on the nationally-recognized Bicycle Level of Service model, only half of the project roadways feel safe and comfortable for the majority of bicyclists.
- » Based on the Pedestrian Level of Service model, nearly all of the streets within the central core of the Village are comfortable for pedestrians, while nearly all of the other roadways feel uncomfortable and unsafe for pedestrian use.
- » The hill on the west side of the Village of Geneseo has 5-7% slopes throughout, which can pose challenges for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- » Based on community input and time-lapse camera deployment, the intersection of Crossett Road, NYS Route 20A, Groveland Road, and Temple Hill Street represents the greatest active transportation safety concern within the project area.

### COMMUNITY INPUT

*Throughout the project, community input was gathered through a variety of methods:*

- » Two Public Meetings
- » Five Project Committee Meetings
- » Four Stakeholder Meetings
- » Online Community Survey



## NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Based on community input and the analysis of existing conditions, the following needs and opportunities categories were identified for the project area:

- » *Priority Intersections*
- » *New & Enhanced Crosswalks*
- » *On-Road Bicycle Facilities*
- » *New Sidewalks*
- » *Connections to the Genesee Valley Greenway*
- » *Additional Trails*
- » *Policies & Programs*



## RECOMMENDATIONS

### INTERSECTIONS

- » Design and implement roundabout at the Crossett Road / Groveland Road / NYS Route 20A / Temple Hill Street intersection.
- » Remove free-flow right turn lane, and implement new sidewalk and crossings at Center Street / NYS Route 20A intersection.
- » Install new crosswalks, curb ramps, sidewalks, and on-road bicycle facilities at NYS Route 20A intersections with Megan Drive / Reservoir Road and Volunteer Road / Genesee Valley Plaza.
- » Tighten curb radii and reduce pedestrian crossing distance at North Street / Court Street / Avon Road / Main Street and North Street / Lima Road / Rorbach Lane / Highland Road intersections
- » Add crosswalks and sidewalks, and tighten turn radii at Main Street / NYS Route 20A intersection.



### CROSSINGS

- » Implement new crossings at Avon Road near the Genesee Central School District, and NYS Route 20A at the intersection with Country Lane.
- » Enhance existing mid-block or minor intersection crosswalks along North Street, Court Street, and Avon Road through potential curb extensions, additional signage, and reflective posts.
- » If roundabout is not installed at Crossett Road / Groveland Road / NYS Route 20A / Temple Hill Street intersection, continue evaluating feasibility of installation of Rapid Rectangular Flashing Beacon at existing crosswalk at Prospect Street and NYS Route 20A.



### BEAR FOUNTAIN ALTERNATIVES

- » *Continue evaluating seven alternatives for preferred intersection treatment around Bear Fountain Statue at Center Street and Main Street. Initial community feedback indicated a strong preference for keeping the fountain in its current location, and feedback was mixed regarding implementing a raised speed table, curb extensions, gathering space, or pedestrian refuge island.*



- » Where feasible, implement new and/or enhanced crossings along Main Street through curb extensions, vertical elements, and additional signage.

## BICYCLE FACILITIES

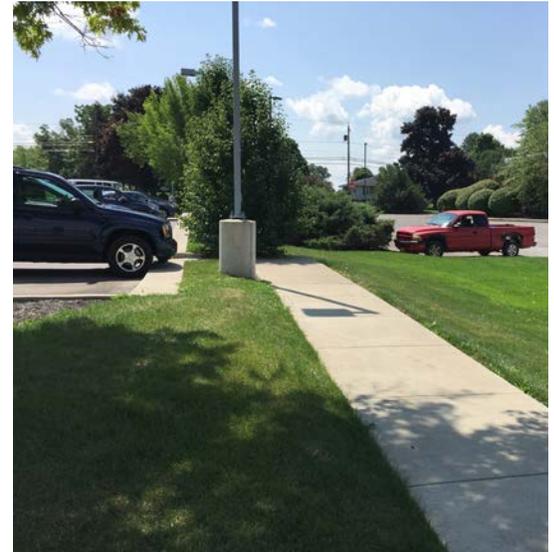
- » Explore widening of roadway shoulders for additional bicycling space on Lima Road, Reservoir Road, and sections of Mt. Morris Road and Genesee Street.
- » Mark bike lanes along sections of North Street and Main Street; continue coordination with NYSDOT regarding potential bike lane treatments along sections of Avon Road and NYS Route 20A with sidewalk.
- » Consider implementing buffered shoulder treatment on sections of Cuylerville Road.
- » Install Shared Use Markings on key low-speed roadways within the Village of Geneseo, including Center Street, Second Street, and Highland Road.
- » Consider designating Rorbach Lane as a Bicycle Boulevard, and installing a new gate that prohibits vehicles yet allows bicycles to pass through on the pavement.
- » Implement bicycle parking at key destinations throughout Town and Village of Geneseo.

## SIDEWALKS

- » Construct new sidewalks along NYS Route 20A, beginning with the north side of the street.
- » Explore design alternatives for constructing new sidewalks along Lima Road and Volunteer Road.

## CONNECTION TO GENESEE VALLEY GREENWAY

- » Continue coordination with all stakeholders to create multi-use connection to Greenway via Big Tree Lane.
- » Consider adding sidewalks along Mary Jemison Drive and repaving Big Tree Lane.
- » Construct multi-use pathway between Geneseo Airport and Genesee River below existing electrical lines.
- » Pursue permitting, funding, and design feasibility studies for construction of multi-use bridge over Genesee River to connect new pathway to Genesee Valley Greenway.



## ADDITIONAL TRAILS

- » Construct new multi-use pathway along west side of Avon Road between Westview Crescent and the Geneseo Central School District.
- » Continue coordinating with private property owners and developing plans for off-road connecting pathways between the Walmart plaza, Lima Road, and Volunteer Road.
- » Continue examining feasibility of new pathways near Jaycox Creek, and along the railway bed to the west of the Village of Geneseo.
- » Coordinate with recommendations from Livingston County Wayfinding Study, implementing bicycle and pedestrian wayfinding signage near key destinations.

## POLICIES

Land Use Policies and Design Standards can help create an environment that is more conducive to active transportation through promoting connectivity, denser development, and streetscapes that feel more inviting to pedestrians. Regulatory tools recommended in this plan include:

- » Lane use regulations that encourage sidewalk construction between buildings and roadways, and promote development that is closer to the street.
- » Commercial district regulations that promote mixed-use activity centers and pedestrian-scaled development.
- » Potential adoption of a Unified Development Ordinance between the Town and Village of Geneseo to promote consistent application of standards, simplify development review process, and provide for better communication.

## GENESEO SCHOOL ZONE IMPROVEMENTS

- » *A suite of recommendations around the Geneseo Central School District on Avon Road will enhance multimodal safety and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school more often. Recommended improvements include a formalized off-road path, new crossings and signage, a potential school speed limit below 40MPH, and green infrastructure to manage stormwater runoff.*



## PROGRAMS

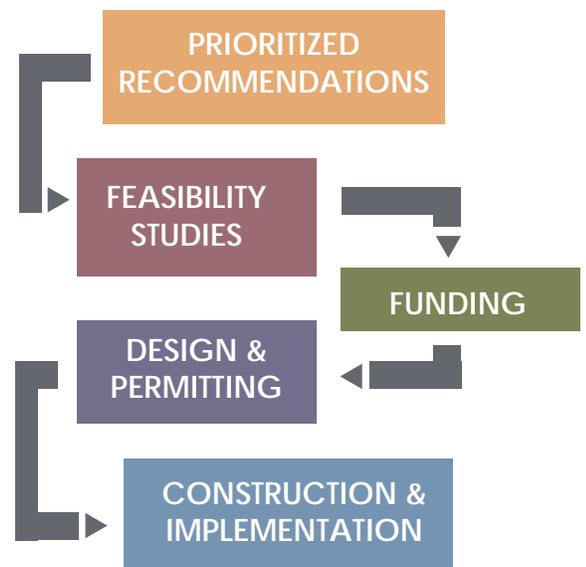
- » Continue developing maintenance procedures that ensure sidewalks and shoulders are cleared of debris, ponding, and snow.
- » Create additional educational opportunities about active transportation for all roadway users, particularly for children, through partnerships with the Geneseo Central School District, the Cornell Cooperative Extension, local driving schools, SUNY Geneseo, and RTS.
- » Adopt and partner with national and local active transportation-related programs, including National Bike Month, Bicycle- and Walk-Friendly Community Designation, and the Bike Light Campaign.
- » Continue enforcement of active transportation-related infractions, including vehicular speeding or bicycling without a light.
- » Renew efforts to pursue Bike Share program in partnership with SUNY Geneseo.

## PUBLIC TRANSIT

- » Continue coordinating with RTS to implement seating or shelters at key bus stop locations throughout the project area.

## IMPLEMENTATION & NEXT STEPS

As a high-level planning document, the Geneseo Active Transportation Plan provides a guide for enhancing active transportation within the Town and Village, but does not identify all of the specifics needed to implement each individual project. However, the Plan does provide a detailed ‘matrix’ for prioritizing the implementation of each recommendation, factoring in community preferences, expected use, cost of construction, level of improvement to safety, and other environmental considerations. While all recommendations will directly improve the experience of walking and bicycling in Geneseo, those receiving the ‘Priority’ ranking are expected to have the most significant impacts. The Plan also provides an overview of a wide variety of Federal, State, regional, and private funding sources geared towards active transportation projects.



### SELECT PRIORITY PROJECTS:

- » Roundabout at Crossett Road / Groveland Road / NYS Route 20A / Temple Hill Street.
- » School zone improvements, including off-road pathway, crossings, and pursuit of school zone speed limit.
- » Bike lane along North Street
- » New sidewalks along NYS Route 20A and Volunteer Road
- » Connection to the Genesee Valley Greenway via Big Tree Lane