

## NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AUTHORITY

### NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY<sup>1</sup> OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (DEIS) FOR THE WILLIAMSVILLE TOLL BARRIER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PROJECT IDENTIFICATION NO.: FHWA-NY-EIS-06-01-D

The New York State Thruway Authority is developing a draft design report/ draft environmental impact statement (DDR/DEIS) to study alternative ways of resolving existing Thruway traffic congestion attributable to the existing Williamsville Toll Barrier (WTB), and to study the environmental and socio-economic consequences of the identified alternatives. The WTB Improvement Project alternatives studied include the no-build, improvement and relocation alternatives. The study corridor for the WTB Improvement Project extends from its western terminus just west of the existing WTB at milepost 419.69 to its eastern terminus at NYSTA Interchange 48A at milepost 401.72. The total length of the project's study corridor is 18 ± miles, extending through the Towns of Amherst, Cheektowaga, Lancaster, Clarence and Newstead in Erie County, passing in close proximity to the Town of Alden in Erie County, and terminating in the town of Pembroke in Genesee County.

A draft design report/ draft environmental impact statement (DDR/DEIS) for the project has been developed by the Authority after coordination with Federal, State and Local agencies.

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared which assesses the project's effect on the quality of the human environment in accordance with the provisions of Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 P.L. 91-190 (NEPA). Copies of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement are available for review and copying during business hours at the offices of the NYSTA Buffalo Division Director, New York State Thruway Authority, 455 Cayuga Road, Suite 800, Cheektowaga, N.Y. 14225-0121; the County of Erie DEP, 95 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202; FHWA Division Engineer, Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building, Clinton Avenue and North Pearl Street, Albany, New York 12207; and at the following other public locations:

Alden, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 3311 Wende Road
Alden, New York	Alden Ewell Free Library, 13280 Broadway
Amherst, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 5583 Main Street
Cheektowaga, New York	Town Clerk, 3301 Broadway
Cheektowaga, New York	Cheektowaga Public Library Anna M. Reinstein Branch, 2580 Harlem Road
Clarence, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 1 Town Place
Clarence, New York	Clarence Public Library, 3 Town Place
Lancaster, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 21 Central Avenue, NY
Lancaster, New York	Lancaster Public Library, 5466 Broadway
Newstead, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 5 Clarence Center Road

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<sup>1</sup> NOTE: The project under consideration may include construction which affects wetlands covered by Executive Order 11990 of the President of the United States dated May 24, 1977, "Protection of Wetlands."

Newstead, New York	Newstead Public Library, 33 Main Street
Pembroke, New York	Town Clerk's Office, 1145 Main Road
Pembroke, New York	Corfu Free Library, 7 Maple Avenue
Williamsville, New York	Amherst Public Library Williamsville Branch, 5571 Main Street

Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement should be sent in writing to Christopher Waite, Chief Engineer; New York State Thruway Authority; 200 Southern Boulevard; Albany, N.Y. 12209-2098, phone: 518-436-2810, by ~~August 21st, 2006~~ **October 6th, 2006**.