

TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Albany County - New York

OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR

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John Clarkson
Town Supervisor

April 7, 2017

Dear Bethlehem Community Members,

The upcoming Delaware Avenue Hamlet Streetscape Enhancement construction project will begin in early May. Initially this will involve survey and stake-out work, equipment mobilization, and minor disruption in preparation for construction, which will begin in June. The purpose of the project is to implement design improvements that will help strengthen Delaware Avenue's main street character and provide for safe and convenient travel and access for all users including pedestrians, bicyclists, drivers and transit users.

Conceived a decade ago, the \$3.1 million project makes enhancements to Delaware Avenue from Adams Street to Elsmere Avenue, and portions of Kenwood Avenue and Adams Street. These enhancements consist of new sidewalks, crosswalks, curbing, on-street parking, new road pavement, street trees and decorative lighting fixtures. Infrastructure improvements under the roadway will include new storm drains and a water line replacement. The project reflects the work of the many committee members and residents who participated in the planning and design process over the last decade.

Construction is projected to extend to the end of 2017; minor restoration work and landscaping may be necessary in the spring of 2018. As with all major construction projects, traffic and travel will be impacted so I ask for everyone's patience during the construction phase. Beginning in June construction will occur Monday through Friday generally from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm and this portion of Delaware Avenue will only be open to one lane of traffic in one direction. All other times of the day, the road is expected to be open to two-way traffic. When Delaware Avenue is down to one lane, travel will be one way -- either eastbound towards Albany or westbound towards Town Hall. At these times, detours will be provided for travel in the opposite direction, using either Hudson Avenue, or Kenwood Avenue (during non-school hours). Enclosed please find the detour route maps based on travel direction of road closure. Pursuant to State law, access along Delaware Avenue will also be maintained for pedestrians to walk to businesses.

Following construction, this section of Delaware Avenue will have safer sidewalks and crosswalks, new lighting, and well defined on-street parking that will improve travel conditions for all users, and be a more inviting roadway to conduct shopping and errands. It's a civic, transportation and economic development improvement all in one. New landscaping and trees will complete the picture, helping to beautify the roadway, provide shade, and calm traffic, reflecting the historic character of this important corridor.

You can keep completely up to date on the project by signing up to receive email and/or text notifications via the "[Notify Me](#)" portal by subscribing to the "News Flash - Main (Home Page) News", by liking our [Facebook page](#), by following our [Twitter account](#), or by visiting the [project website](#); all found on the Town website: www.townofbethlehem.org. If you have any questions or wish to discuss the upcoming construction activity, please contact the Town of Bethlehem Call Center at 439-4955 x0.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Clarkson".

John Clarkson