



Welcome!

Central New York Forward Project

Public Scoping Meeting

PIN 3807.95



Department of
Transportation

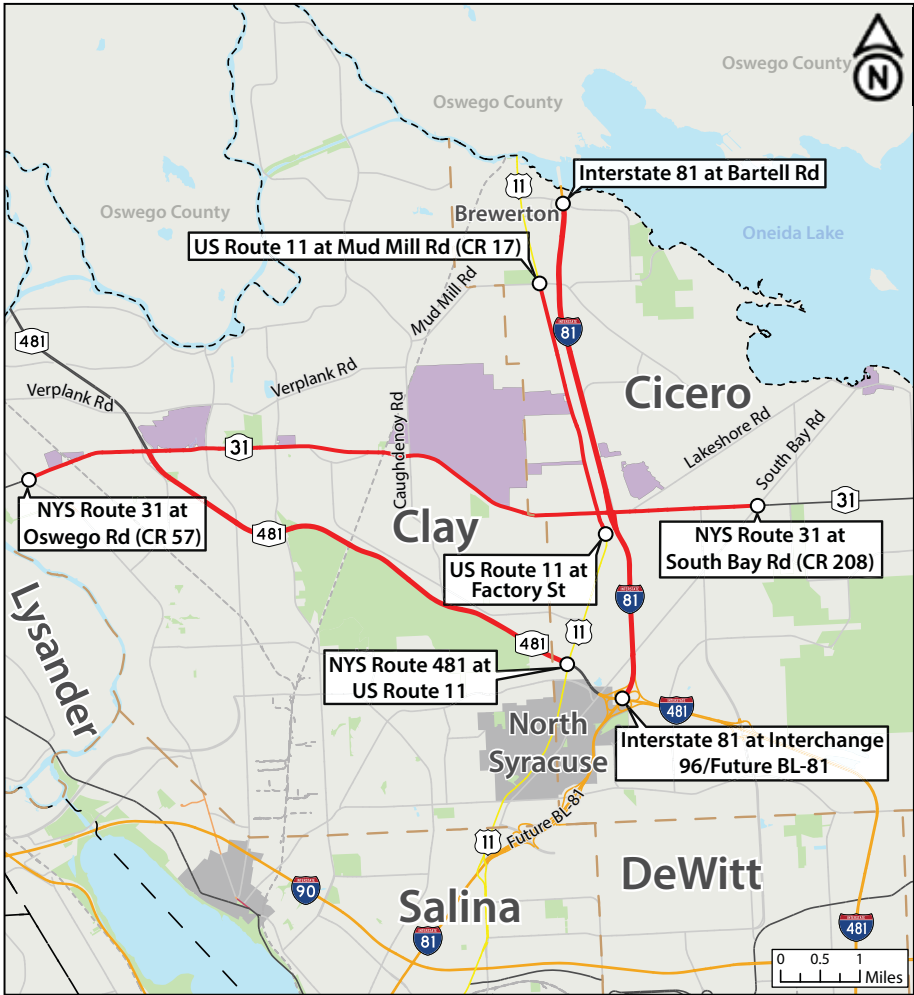


U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

Where do you live and work?

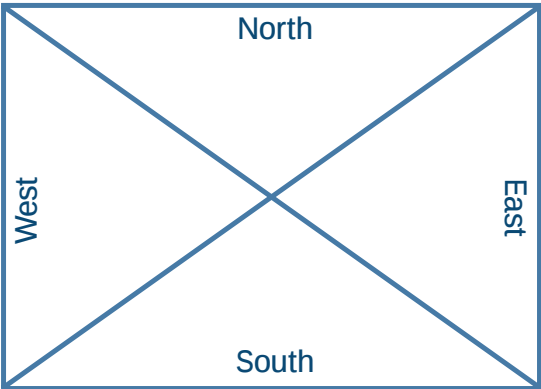
Place dots on the map where you live and work.

Blue Dots = Live Pink Dots = Work



**Red outlines represent the project limits.*

I live and/or work off the map to the:



Community Outreach Center Location and Hours

The Community Outreach Center is located in the Town of Clay Highway Department Building and is staffed by project team members. At the Outreach Center, you can:

- ◆ Get project updates
- ◆ Ask questions related to the project
- ◆ View project documents
- ◆ Provide input

Address:

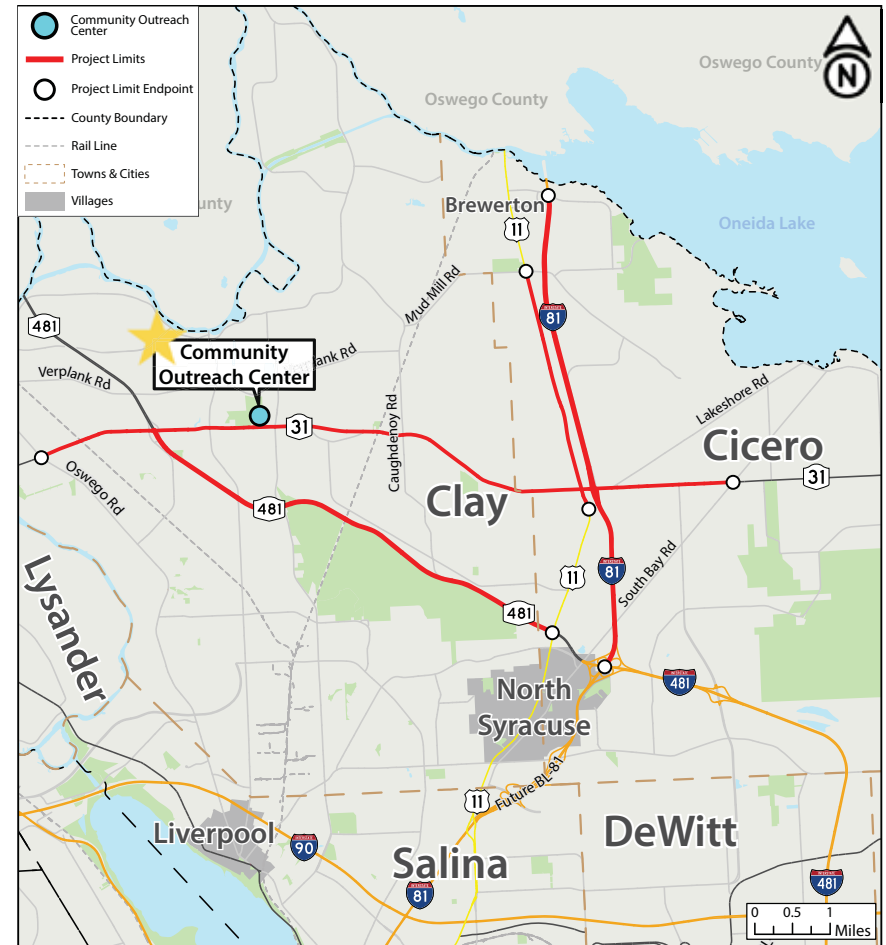
Central New York Forward Project
Community Outreach Center
4483 State Route 31
Clay, NY 13041
(315) 715-4011

Office hours:

Tuesdays:
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM
Thursdays:
3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

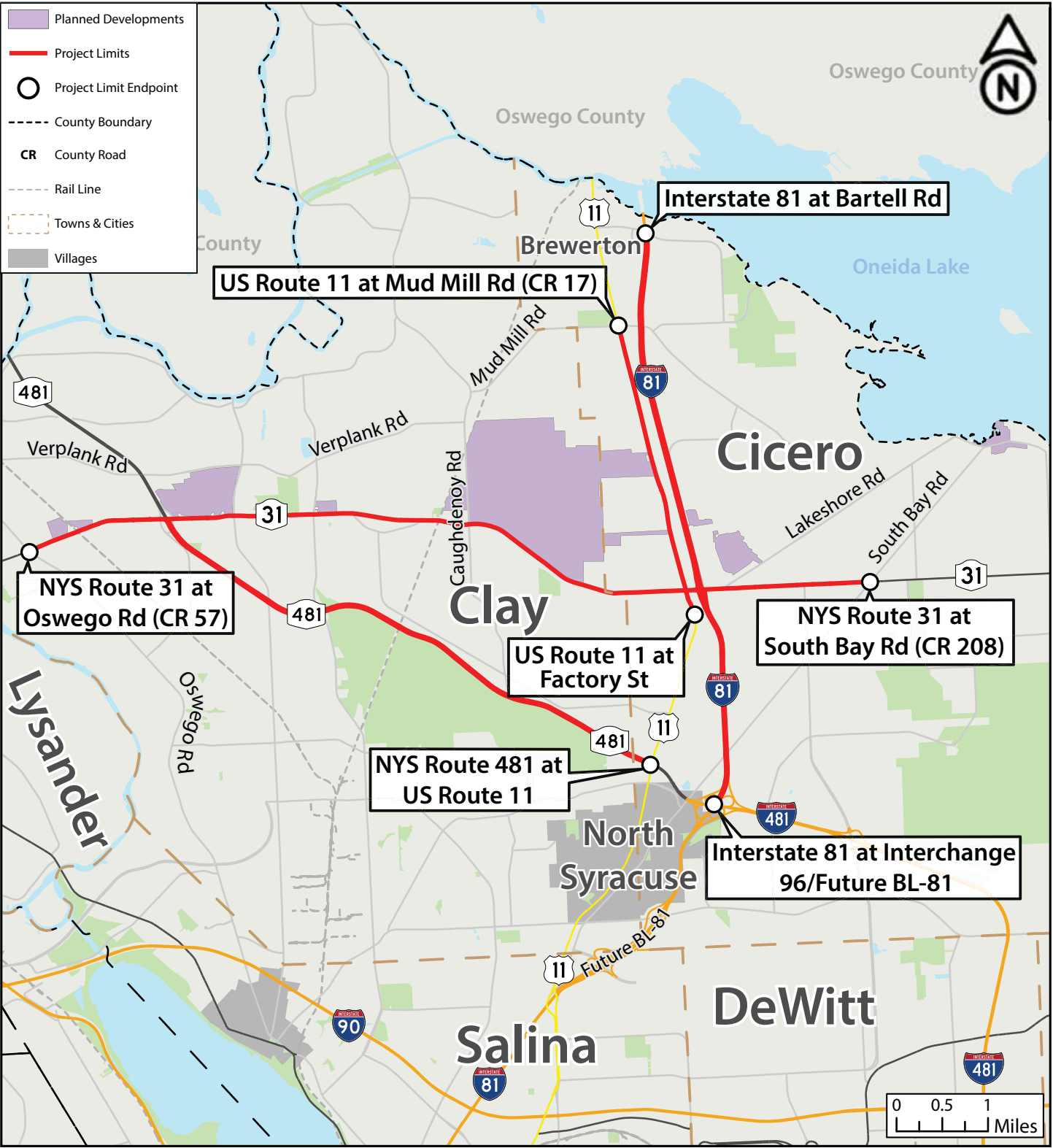


Town of Clay Highway Department Building



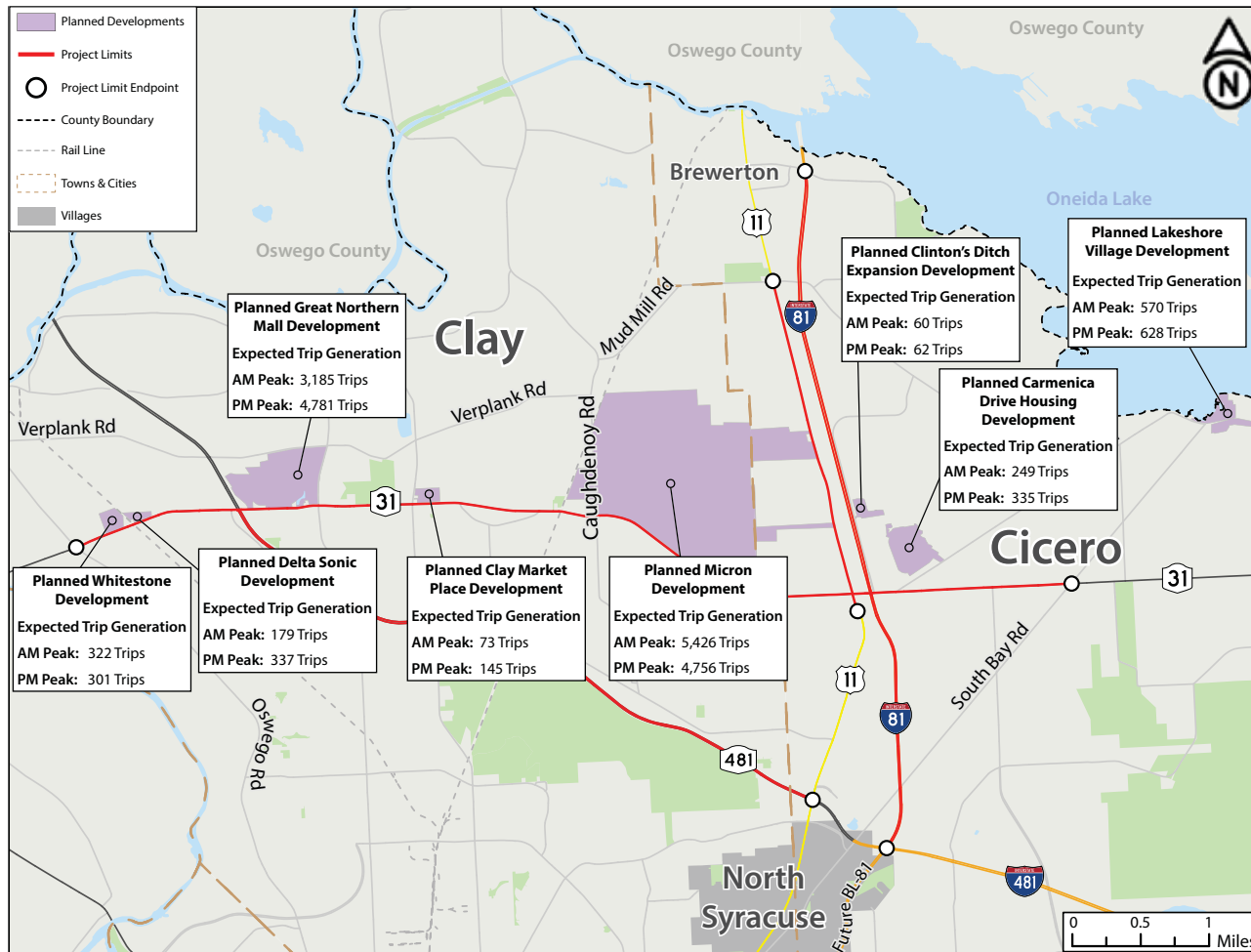
*Red outlines represent the project limits.

Project Location



Project Needs: Address Traffic Operational Issues

Traffic growth due to planned development and changes in land use



Data sources: NYSDOT CLEAR Crash Data Viewer; Synchro; Vissim (2024)

- ♦ AM Peak and PM Peak trip generation refer to the number of vehicular trips generated by a site during the busiest times of the day.
- ♦ AM Peak refers to trips generated by a site typically by people traveling to work or school.
- ♦ PM Peak refers to trips generated by a site by people returning home or making post-work trips.

Project Needs: Address Traffic Operational Issues

Existing and Future Traffic Operations



Existing Traffic Operations

- ◆ Peak travel periods experience recurring congestion and speed reduction along the corridors and intersections.

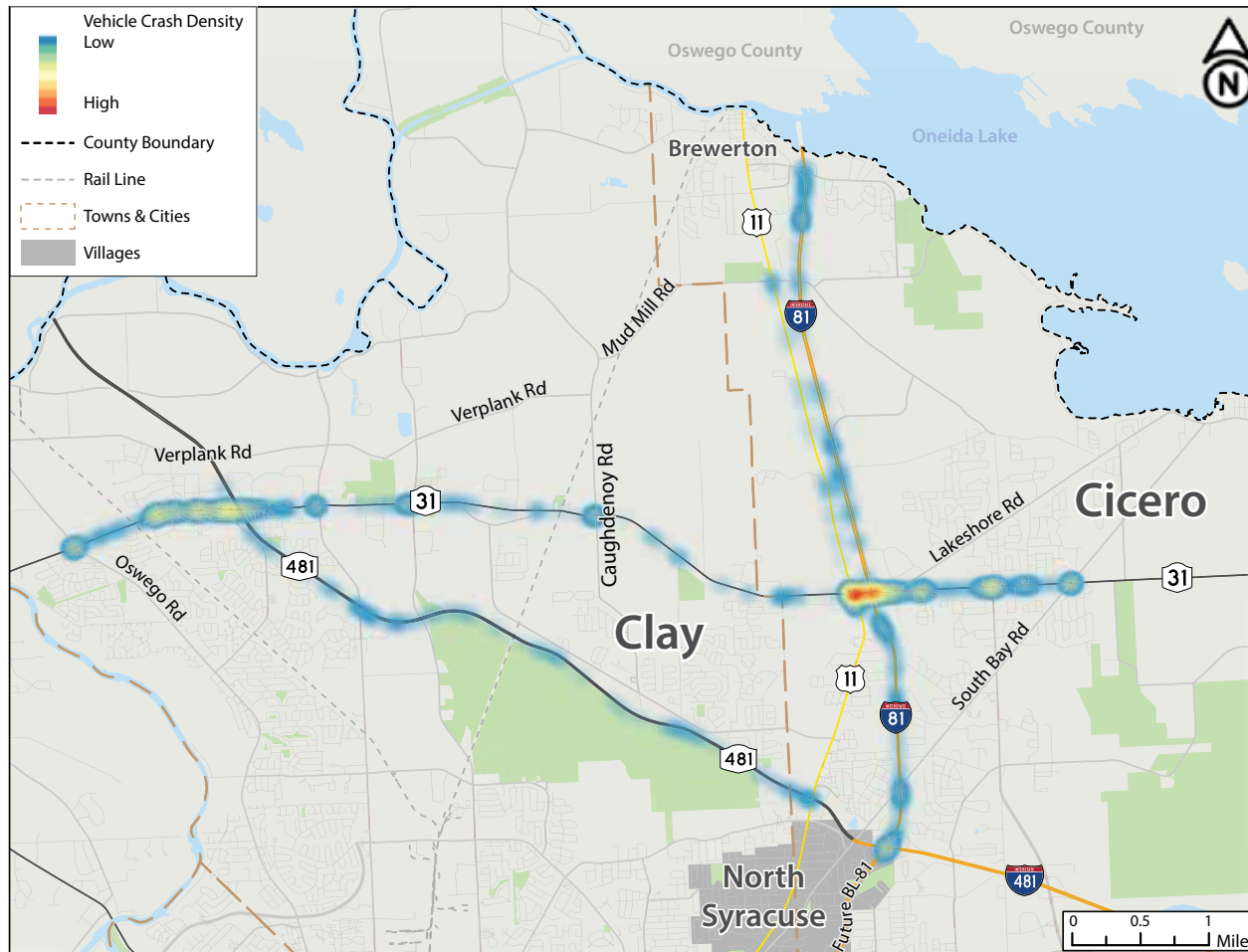


Future Traffic Operations with No Improvements

- ◆ Congestion and speed reduction are anticipated to worsen due to potential increase in traffic growth associated with planned economic development/land use changes.

Project Needs: Address Traffic Operational Issues *Safety*

Existing Vehicle Crash Density Map

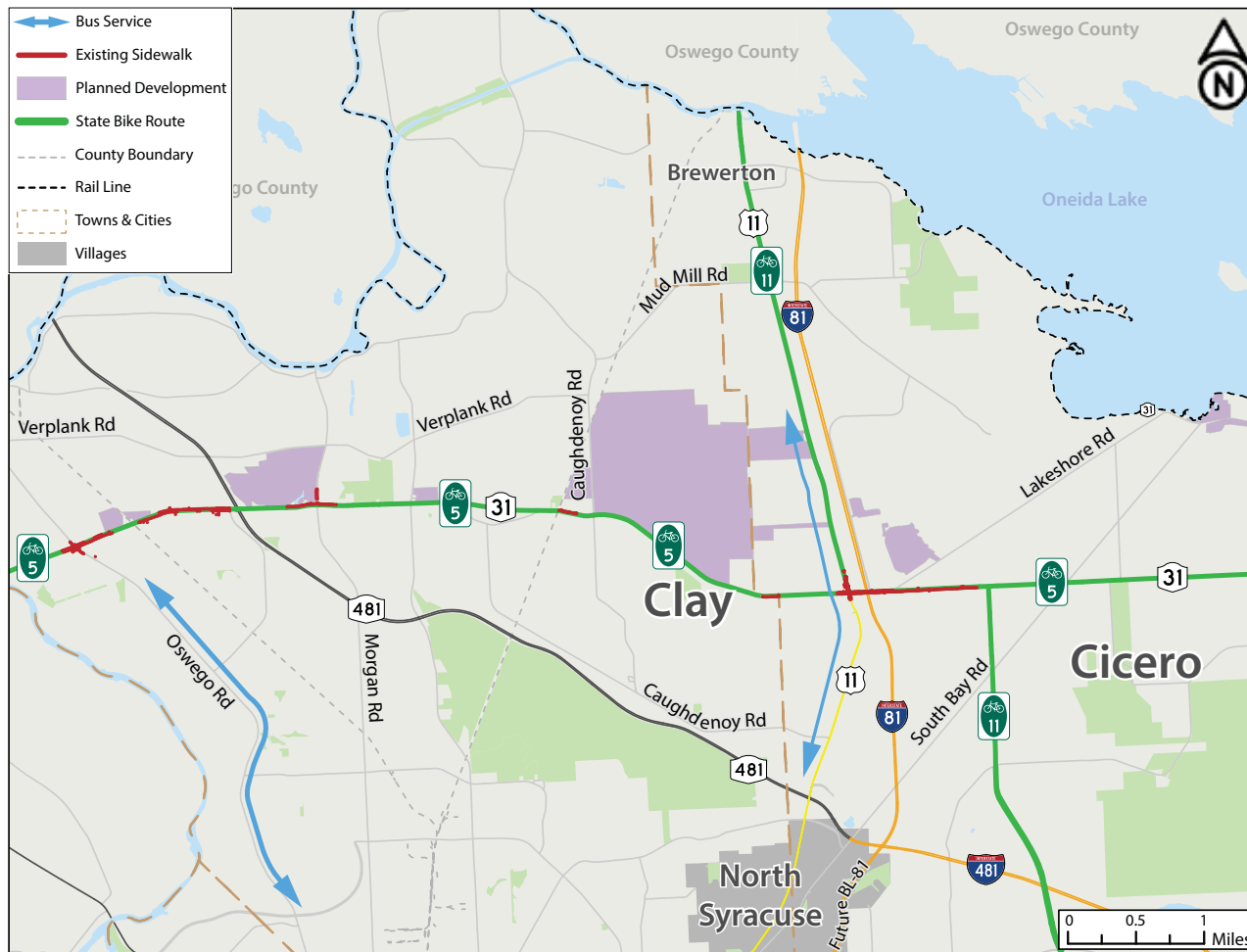


- ◆ Intersection and roadway segments in the project area perform worse than other comparable facilities in New York State.
- ◆ Congestion and speed reduction are anticipated to worsen due to forecast traffic growth associated with planned economic development/land use changes.
- ◆ High crash density locations (shown on the map in red) are attributed to congestion, mostly at driveways and intersections.
- ◆ Total traffic crashes in the project area from 2021-2024: 1,285

Project Needs: Improve Multimodal Transportation Features

Bus Service, Bike, and Pedestrian Routes

Existing Bus Service, Bike Routes, and Sidewalk Locations



Items to be considered include:

- ◆ Studies identify growing need for improved multimodal transportation features.
- ◆ Limited infrastructure for pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users.
 - Sidewalks with limited crossings
 - Lack of signage for bicycles
 - Infrequent bus service
- ◆ Planned development will increase need for improved features.

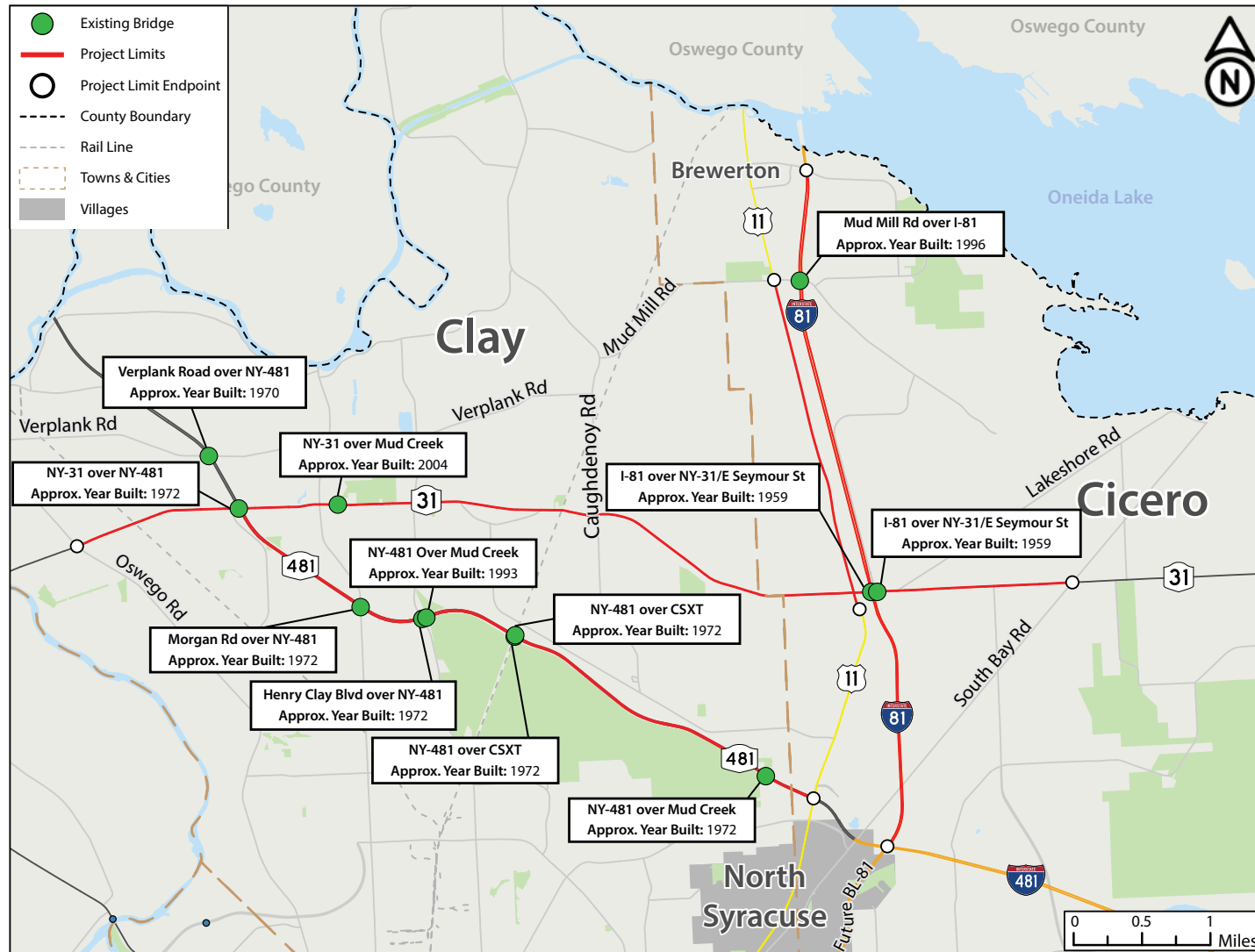
Project Needs: Address Truck Traffic and Access in Residential Areas

- ◆ Project area businesses generate truck traffic that routes through residential neighborhoods to access regional transportation corridors.
- ◆ Truck traffic is expected to increase, creating a need to improve truck access while minimizing impacts to residential areas.
- ◆ The project will evaluate ways to reduce commercial truck traffic on residential streets and improve connectivity to the state highway system.



Existing Truck Routing at Pardee Road

Project Needs: Address Aging Bridge Infrastructure



Bridges within the project limits were constructed as early as 1959 and are approaching the end of their expected service life.

Project Purpose and Objectives

Project Purpose

The purpose of the project is to address existing and reasonably foreseeable transportation needs, including multimodal, within the project limits on NYS Route 31, on U.S. Route 11, and at the interchanges of NYS Route 31 with NYS Route 481 and Interstate 81.



NYS Route 31 at Interstate 81 Interchange

Project Objectives

The following objectives have been identified to further refine the project purpose:

- ◆ Improve traffic operations and safety to accommodate and address potential traffic growth associated with planned economic development/land use changes.
- ◆ Reduce commercial truck traffic on local residential streets and improve accommodations for truck traffic on the state highway system within the project limits.
- ◆ Improve multimodal transportation features for public transit users, pedestrians, and bicyclists within the project limits.
- ◆ Address the aging bridge infrastructure within the project limits.

Preliminary Project Schedule



Environmental Considerations

The potential social, economic, and environmental effects of the project will be assessed for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Key topics during the environmental review process include the following:



Farmland



State & Federal
Regulated Wetlands



Historic Resources



Water Resources &
Stormwater Management



Traffic Noise



Parks & Recreation Areas



Air Quality



Ecology & Wildlife



Social Considerations



Land Use



Visual Resources



Hazardous Waste &
Contaminated Materials



Economic Considerations



Construction Effects

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process

NEPA is a federal law that provides for a decision-making process to consider the effects of federally funded or permitted projects on the human environment.

NYSDOT is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project to comply with NEPA.
The NEPA process:

- ◆ Provides for early and continuing opportunities for public involvement and input throughout project development.
- ◆ Requires that lead agencies consider public and agency input about the potential effects of a project on social, economic, and environmental conditions.



State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

17 NYCRR Part 15

SEQRA is a state law that requires state and local agencies to incorporate social, economic, and environmental factors into their decision-making processes.

SEQRA involves an evaluation of the same topics as NEPA, with some additional considerations, including:

- ◆ Energy and Greenhouse Gases
- ◆ Cumulative Effects
- ◆ NYS Smart Growth Public Infrastructure Policy Act
- ◆ Complete Streets



NYS Route 31 and NYS Route 481 Interchange

The EIS will be prepared to comply with NEPA and supplemented as needed to comply with SEQRA.

Scoping and the Environmental Review Process



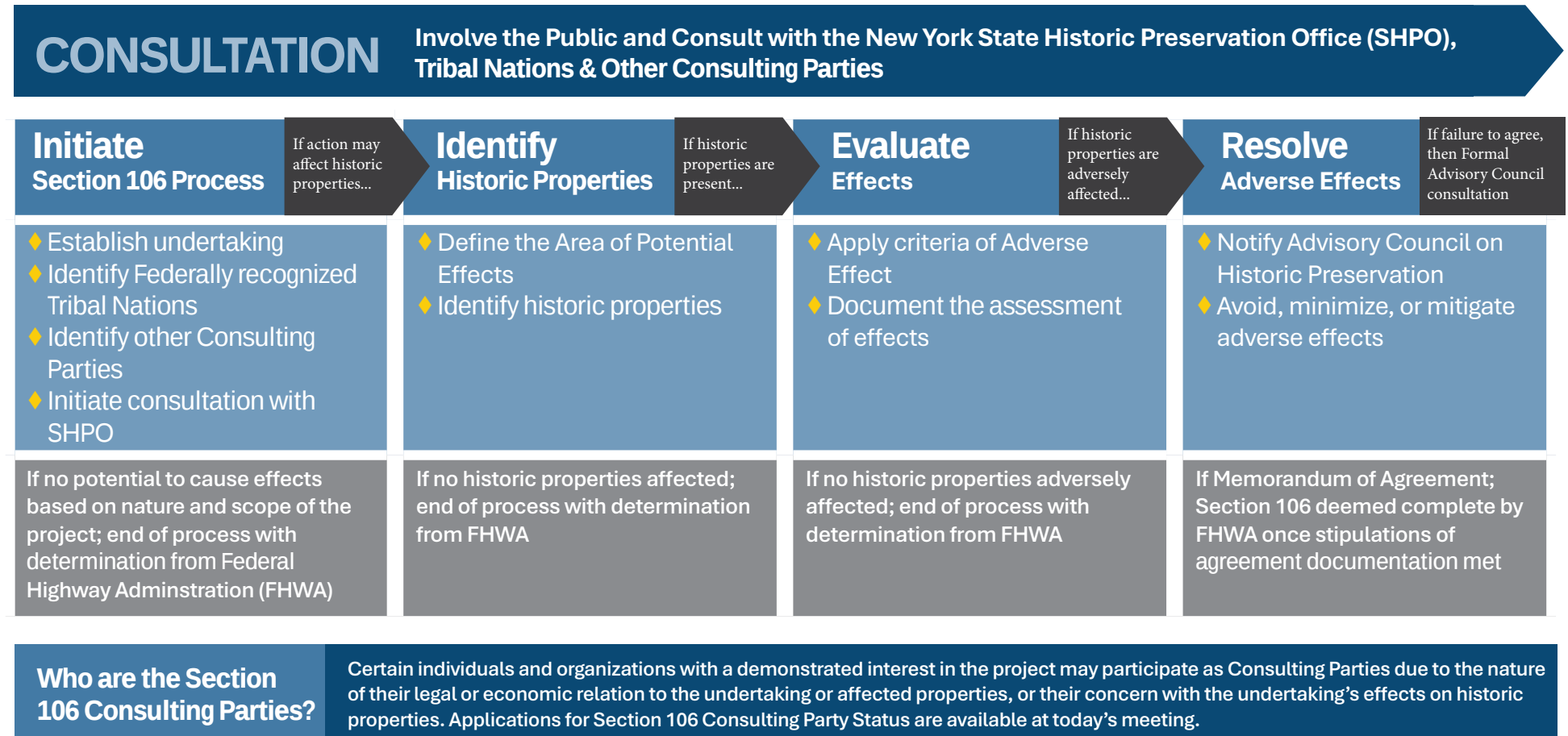
NYS Route 31 at Dell Center Drive Intersection
November 2025

Scoping is an early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed for a project.

- ◆ This public scoping meeting provides an early opportunity for NYSDOT to provide information about the project and receive public and agency input.
- ◆ During the environmental review process, NYSDOT will assess and document the potential social, economic, and environmental effects of the project.
- ◆ NYSDOT will provide meaningful opportunities for public participation throughout the project.

Section 106 Process

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their actions on historic properties that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.



No Action (No Build) Alternative



NYS Route 31 at NYS Route 481 Interchange
November 2025

Evaluation of a No Action (No Build) Alternative is required under NEPA and serves as a baseline condition against which the potential effects of the reasonable alternative(s) are assessed.

- ◆ The No Action (No Build) Alternative assumes that no improvements would be made to the project area other than those already programmed for construction and routine maintenance.
- ◆ The No Action (No Build) Alternative would not address the identified needs within the project area or meet the stated purpose and objectives for the project.

Concept 1



This concept includes:

- ◆ Improved transportation features for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users
- ◆ Improvements to existing bridges and roadways
- ◆ Capacity upgrades along NYS Route 31 and U.S. Route 11

Concept 2



This concept includes:

- ◆ Improved transportation features for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users
- ◆ Improvements to existing bridges and roadways
- ◆ Capacity upgrades along U.S. Route 11
- ◆ Improved access between NYS Route 481 and existing / planned developments

Concept 3



This concept includes:

- ◆ A combination of elements from Concept 1 and Concept 2
- ◆ Improved transportation features for drivers, pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users
- ◆ Improvements to existing bridges and roadways
- ◆ Capacity upgrades along NYS Route 31 and U.S. Route 11
- ◆ Improved access between NYS Route 481 and existing / planned developments

Public Participation for the Project

Public scoping comments will be accepted through the scoping comment period ending on August 14, 2026.

During the scoping comment period, the public is invited to provide input in the following ways:

The Project Scoping Report and other project documents will be available at the Community Outreach Center, local repositories, and on the project website at www.cnyforward.com.

Comment at today's meeting



Comment Orally

Record comments with a stenographer



Comment Form

Fill out a comment form and drop it in the comment box



Comment Electronically

Submit comments electronically on a tablet/laptop

Comment after today's meeting



Comment Online

Submit comments to the project website at www.cnyforward.com



Comment by Mail

Central New York
Forward Project Team
NYSDOT Region 3
State Office Building
333 E. Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202



Visit the Community Outreach Center

4483 State Route 31
Clay, NY 13041

Tuesdays:

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Thursdays:

3:00 PM to 7:00 PM



Comment by Email

cnyforward@dot.ny.gov

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