



For Immediate Release

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Ribbon Cutting for Walkable Olean Phase II Announced

October 20, 2021--Olean—William J. Aiello, Mayor of the City of Olean, is pleased to announce that the Ribbon Cutting for Walkable Olean Phase II is scheduled for Friday, October 22, 2021 at the intersection of North Barry and Main Streets at 11:00.

The public works project, initially started in the summer of 2020, extends Walkable Olean from North Union Street to the Olean General Hospital. It includes upgrades on Front Street from the North Union Street Extension to First Avenue and on Main Street from North Union Street to Front Street.

The project included a number of upgrades to benefit pedestrians and traffic flow. Improvements include the following:

- A landscaped median on the Front Street Extension;
- New curbing and pavers through the project area;
- Medians on North Barry Street as it intersects with Main Street for pedestrian safety;
- A 10-foot, shared-use sidewalk on the east side of Main Street from North Union Street to the bridge over Olean Creek;
- Bollard and traditional street lightening throughout the project area;
- Upgraded traffic and pedestrian signals at the Front and Main Street intersection;
- Milling and resurfacing of the streets.

The project was funded by grants from Empire State Development, National Grid, the State Transportation Alternatives Program and part of the City's annual State Consolidated Street and Highway Improvement Program. The City of Olean also contributed to the project.

"Walkable Olean Phase II is a pleasant addition to Olean's downtown district," Mayor Aiello said. "It has a park like setting, is pedestrian friendly and very welcoming, especially in the evening with the bollard pathway lights and traditional street lights."

"The new traffic signal at the intersection of Front and Main Streets, one of Olean's busiest and dangerous corners, benefits both pedestrians and traffic flow. I am very appreciate of the funding that the City received from New York State Department of Transportation, Empire State Development, and

Niagara Mohawk as well as the support from the Common Council. I am also very grateful of the dedication of the City of Olean staff and the contractors. The COVID shutdown disrupted the project timeline, but through their cooperation and flexibility the project was completed and successful.” Mayor Aiello added.

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