Appendix M-6
Emails P through Z

Part 6
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Cyrille P
Rt 81

Bob Pace <bobpace.1279@icloud.com>
Tue 9/28/2021 4:38 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

I travel to Syracuse weekly for business related shopping. We as a family also travel for entertainment and dining. Coming from Cortland we can be in the heart of the city in 30 minutes. Leave the highway alone, reconstruct the current highway as it is and make some additions as needed. You think that the highway divides the city. Yet it is one of the easiest large cities to get around in. Putting a four lane road down the center of it will divide it worse. Just because you can cross (as you can now) means nothing. If I have to add another 15 to 20 minutes to my travel it will be easier to get to Binghamton or Ithaca rather than Syracuse.

The amount of money that will be spent and the amount of time this proposed project will take is stupid. No project this size will go as planned. Overruns and delays will push this mess into a huge cluster.

I haven’t even mentioned the additional loss of tax revenue with the loss of property to this project. Leave it alone.

Robert Pace
Sent from my iPhone
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Rosemarie Pace
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Sincerely,

Rosemarie Pace
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

decoropace@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ecoropace@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rosemarie Pace <ecoropace@gmail.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 12:33 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,
Rosemarie Pace
Viaduct Project

tojopack@twcny.rr.com <tojo-pack@twcny.rr.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:33 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: tojopack@twcny.rr.com <tojopack@twcny.rr.com>

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I have been on your Rt 81 scoping committee since day zero and remain opposed to taking down the viaduct and replacing it with the community grid plan. Instead, I support a hybrid arrangement that includes a viaduct that doesn’t go all the way of being interstate -worthy, that enhances safety at the Rt 690 intersection, and that is aesthetically pleasing, this together with an improved Almond Street that is more user friendly.

After attending your presentations, my opposition to the community grid has only grown:

1) The recently touted traffic circle (round-about) will have accidents. Wasn’t the community grid supposed to be about improved safety start to finish or was that always a fiction?

2) The community grid was supposed to be about respecting neighborhoods, however the proposed traffic circle only moves the traffic closer to MLK. So is the grid’s respect of the community a fiction?

3) The community grid was supposed to be about unifying sectors of the city. Originally the grid was supposed to be about the distributing north-south traffic over several corridors through the city. Now it appears the brunt of the traffic will be carried by Almond Street, turning it into another Erie Blvd. For sure, Erie Blvd has been hardly easy for pedestrians to cross. So is the promise that the community grid will unify the community a fiction?

4) The demonstrations and graphics continue to show only a few cars on the community grid and cross streets. If the community grid is being presented as efficient as the viaduct under high traffic conditions, that feels like a fiction too.

As a footnote, The graphics that have been used for a new viaduct continue to make it look as ugly as possible (sky blue color) and as wall-like as possible. I hope that Harriet Tubman bridge is possible and really like that sort of vision!

Sincerely,

Thomas N. Packard
4811 McDonald Rd  
Syracuse, NY 13215

Ph 315-476-9121  
Email tojopack@twcny.rr.com

Sent from my iPhone
I-81 DEIS comments, PACNY, historic Oakwood Cemetery

Rachel Leibowitz <rachel.leibowitz@gmail.com>
Mon 10/11/2021 5:14 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: david.clarke@dot.gov <david.clarke@dot.gov>

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To the New York State Department of Transportation:

Founded in 1974, the Preservation Association of Central New York (PACNY) is dedicated to the conservation of our area’s historic architecture, neighborhoods and main streets, preserving the past through adaptive reuse to serve as a living part of our community. PACNY is a recognized Consulting Party organization in the National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation process for the Interstate 81 Viaduct Project. As a current board member, I am writing on behalf of PACNY to address I-81’s effects on historic Oakwood Cemetery, which is within the project area and is the largest greenspace directly along the highway in the City of Syracuse.

As you know, the redesign of I-81 presents a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to improve the quality of life in our region and to preserve our historic places, including Oakwood—a remarkable landscape formed by many generations of Syracuse families and civic leaders. This significance has been recognized through Oakwood’s listing in the National Register of Historic Places at the national level of significance in the areas of landscape architecture, art, and architecture. Oakwood is also listed as a Local Protected Site under the City of Syracuse Landmark Preservation ordinance.

The construction of I-81 in the early 1960s forced Oakwood Cemetery to abandon its main entrance and precipitated decades of decline and separation from the core of the city—part of the larger story of social damage and economic disinvestment exacerbated by this highway. Oakwood’s gate was the entrance to the cemetery from its very beginning in 1859, and it allowed city residents access to what was, in essence, Syracuse’s first public park. Oakwood provided Syracuse a landscape that many other prosperous cities had developed over the prior two decades, such as Rochester’s Mount Hope Cemetery and Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Although rural in design, Oakwood was closely connected to Syracuse and was an integral part of its civic landscape, much like Clinton Square. In fact, for decades Syracuse’s annual Memorial Day parade began at the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Clinton Square, proceeded down South Salina Street to Oakwood Avenue or Raynor Avenue, and passed through the Oakwood gate to the cemetery’s Civil War military plot.

Since the construction of I-81 and the forced closure of the original entrance gate, these relationships not only have been severed, but the most historic part of the cemetery—now at its very far back, difficult to access, and with few viable uses—has become unsafe, vandalized, and increasingly deteriorated. Affected resources include the rural cemetery landscape designed by landscape gardener Howard Daniels and its picturesque system of drives; the 1879 chapel designed by renowned architect Joseph Lyman Silsbee; the Romanesque Revival office building that was a gift of the Belden family along with the entrance gate; and numerous architect-designed mausolea and monuments. Traffic noise, air pollution, and visual impacts of the viaduct have affected the cemetery’s serene setting with its ancient stands of oak trees. Today, the entire frontage along I-81, including the graffiti-covered entrance gate, presents a very poor image of Syracuse upon the approach into downtown.

We are writing to urge your consideration and support for the following issues and opportunities:
Address the adverse effects, both direct and indirect, of the I-81 Viaduct project upon Oakwood Cemetery. The Section 106 process of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended) requires federal agencies to consider the project’s effects upon historic properties. While the NYS DOT did include Oakwood in the project’s Area of Potential Effects, it did not identify any project effects upon the cemetery. It is our opinion that design of the new roadway, as documented in the 2019 DEIS, will perpetuate the adverse effects of I-81 that have been ongoing since its construction. Mitigation is needed to address these effects, which made the historic entrance area—including the gate, chapel, and old office—unviable for contemporary use.

- Through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, address the ongoing adverse environmental impacts of I-81 on Oakwood Cemetery that have been a major factor in the deterioration of its designed landscape, especially the oldest section closest to the highway. The NEPA process also should address the divisive effects of I-81 on the Southside and downtown communities, including their access to the historic greenspace of Oakwood Cemetery.

- Redesign the embankment portion of I-81 to the south of the viaduct—extending the Community Grid option south—with lower speeds and at-grade intersections, or reconsider the location of the proposed traffic circle south to Colvin Street, which would have the following benefits for Oakwood Cemetery:
  1. Enhance the setting of Oakwood’s frontage along I-81, including its historic main gate, and provide a more scenic approach into downtown.
  2. Ensure that Oakwood Cemetery retains the right to future use of its historic main entrance, and the new uses and visibility that could come with renewed connections with the Southside and Downtown.
  3. Reduce traffic noise and pollution in Oakwood Cemetery through lower speeds and reduced traffic volume.

On behalf of PACNY, we thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Rachel Leibowitz, Ph.D.
Dear Mr. Smith

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Imlp6021=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <Imlp6021=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Lisa Palladino-Walsh <Imlp6021@gmail.com>
Tue 10/12/2021 2:11 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMj… 1/2
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Sincerely,

Lisa Palladino-Walsh
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

opalama=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <opalama=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Olivia Palamara <opalama@aol.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 2:46 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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kjpalmo=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <kjpalmo=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Kim Palmo <kjpalmo@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:21 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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darcusparker891=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <darcusparker891=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Darcus Parker <darcusparker891@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 3:52 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Darcus Parker
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

pam_a_parker@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<pam_a_parker@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Pam Parker <pam_a_parker@yahoo.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 12:42 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dear Mr. Smith

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I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation’s current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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Sincerely,

Pam Parker
To Whom it May Concern:

When considering proposals for rebuilding or replacing Interstate-81, it is no secret that I am a strong proponent of preserving the elevated high-speed roadway over the City of Syracuse. There has been much conversation about how to blend an elevated viaduct with a community grid, giving the best of both worlds and serving the whole community. As a Town of Salina representative, I want the best for my residents, but also the best for our community.

The Town of Salina has many eager investors working to build, rebuild, and create new business in our community. Currently in Salina there is a rehabilitation project at the old Will & Baumer Candle Factory. This development will bring jobs and residences to a corner of our town that is adjacent to the City of Syracuse. In fact, future development, and roadway projects along Old Liverpool Road and the Onondaga Lake Parkway make this point of entry into Salina a potential “gateway” to our town.

As it is constructed now there is a strange web of streets, traffic lights, stop signs, and ramps at the northern end of I-81, where it connects to Onondaga Lake Parkway, that, in my opinion, have created a dangerous traffic pattern that does not allow for modern day connectivity via walkways, trailways, and roadways connecting our beautiful town with City of Syracuse, NBT Bank Stadium, CNY Regional Market, and Destiny USA. This is a main artery for commuters to travel between the city of Syracuse, and it could be improved. Building a traffic circle at the north end of whatever replaces I-81 would bring great benefit to our residents, the commercial corridor of Old Liverpool Rd would be better positioned for future growth, and the town of Salina would be better connected to Syracuse and the surrounding community.

The plans to alter the existing I-81 infrastructure are well intentioned to rectify the wrongs of the past. We should also get behind this change to fix a poorly planned streetscape in Salina.

Sincerely,

Nick Paro
1st Ward Councilor
Town of Salina
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Maureen Parry
Dear

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Maureen Parry
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sueparryharmony=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<sueparryharmony=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Sue Parry <sueparryharmony@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:12 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Sue Parry
Maria Pascarella
6 Mann Drive
Liverpool, NY 13088

Mark Frechette
Project Director
NYS Department of Transportation, Region 3

Dear Mr. Frechette,

I am reaching out in regards to the “Community Grid” plans for Interstate 81, and the fact that they exclude the Town of Salina’s needs. I reside in the Town of Salina, as well as work in the town. I have worked as a Property Manager for over fifteen years for Pascarella Development, being an active member of the community, and staying up to date on current events within the area and neighboring areas as well.

I feel that “The Grid” is going to negatively impact the Town of Salina, and the community as the road improvements are happening all around us, yet overlooking necessary improvements at the Northern most trafficked intersection of I-81 in the Town of Salina. The interchange here is ugly, unwieldly, obstructs the view of the Onondaga Lake, and not to mention is a danger to the pedestrian traffic in the area. I have children whom are afraid to even venture near this intersection for all of the accidents and injury.

As a resident in the Town of Salina, who has been here for the last twenty-nine years, I felt it was essential to voice my opinion. We are asking New York State to consider improvements near the Parkway, in hopes that they will spur economic activity, make the entrance to the town more attractive, and by removing the divisions, make the area more pedestrian friendly.

I hope that you seriously take these requests into consideration, not just for myself, but for all of the residents and employees in the Town of Salina.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Maria Pascarella
Stephanie Pascarella
6 Mann Drive
Liverpool, NY 13088

Mark Frechette
Project Director
NYS Department of Transportation, Region 3

Dear Mr. Frechette,

I am reaching out in regards to the “Community Grid” plans for Interstate 81, and the fact that they exclude the Town of Salina’s needs. I reside in the Town of Salina with my parents, while going to Onondaga Community College as well as work in the town by Destiny USA. I am becoming an active member of the community, and keeping up to date on current events within the area and neighboring areas as well.

I feel that “The Grid” is going to negatively impact the Town of Salina, and the community as the road improvements are happening all around us, yet overlooking necessary improvements at the Northern most trafficked intersection of I-81 in the Town of Salina. The interchange here is ugly, unwieldly, obstructs the view of the Onondaga Lake, and not to mention is a danger to the pedestrian traffic in the area. I do my best to avoid this intersection because of the high risk of accidents on my way to work and school.

As a resident in the Town of Salina, who is now able to voice my opinion on community matters, I felt it was my civic duty to reach out to you. We are asking New York State to consider improvements near the Parkway, in hopes that they will spur economic activity, make the entrance to the town more attractive, and by removing the divisions, make the area more pedestrian-friendly.

I hope that you seriously take these requests into consideration, not just for myself, but for all of the residents and employees in the Town of Salina.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Pascarella
INTRODUCTION:

My Name is Vittorio Pascarella. I am a lifelong resident of Salina, an established business owner in the Town, and the developer responsible for the proposed 30 Million dollar rehabilitation of the Will & Baumer Candle factory... I am submitting my thoughts for consideration as part of the I-81 public comment period.

It’s no secret, the proposed “Grid” option has been the topic of much controversy in the town over the last few years. Business owners and residents alike have been scrambling to understand what its impacts would be, and what they might mean to them personally, myself included. That being said, I’ve tried to stay open minded and optimistic throughout the entire discovery process.

Prior to my review, I was hopeful to find some suggestions that would help mitigate, at least some of the negative impacts, that the town and its residents will most certainly suffer as a result of your proposal. As I’m sure you are aware, the proposed action will guarantee a significant loss of pass-by traffic which has historically frequented the multitude of businesses in the Town. Many of those businesses include restaurants, service stations, and hotels. All of which rely heavily on that traffic, and most of which are locally owned. Thus far, I have found little to no effort, within the project program, to offset any of these impacts. The Town’s business owners will most certainly suffer large losses in sales revenue. The town itself will suffer losses in tax revenue resulting from the decreases in assessed property values.

At its core, the current “community grid” proposal was both intentioned and expected to rectify a litany of negative impacts, created by the viaducts original design. I was optimistic that a similar mindset would be taken to address some of those same impacts suffered by the Town. Currently, and at perhaps the main gateway to the Town of Salina, there exist a confounding network of ramps, bridges, poor sightlines and traffic conflicts created by the existing highway network at what is indicated as the northern end of the current I-81 reconstruction plan. Specifically, where I-81 connects with the Onondaga Lake Parkway, Old Liverpool Road, Buckley Road and Park Street/Hiawatha Blvd. This network has been imposing negative aesthetic and environmental impacts since its inception so many years ago.

As a partial, but very impactful solution, I believe there is an opportunity to mitigate some of the impacts the proposed “community grid” will have on the Town of Salina, as well as to similarly “right some of the wrongs of the past” imposed onto the town itself. Making alterations to this area could be a positive for the entire community. If socio-economic consideration is a primary focus to the rethinking of I-81 through Syracuse, it should not be done at the expense of creating, overlooking, or further propagating similar negative impacts elsewhere.

As a result, I am requesting the State DOT review the impacts and consider changes to the NW extents of the project, right at the northern limits of the proposed project, which also happens to be the “gateway” to the Town of Salina.
CURRENT CONDITIONS:

Currently, there sits a messy, dangerous, cumbersome & costly interchange system which only serves to move traffic between the major components around it. This interchange system does nothing to consider the negative impacts on the environment, aesthetics, or pedestrian accommodations. The pedestrian accommodations are especially concerning as this area is a direct connection between the Town of Salina & the Various accommodations listed below. The existing interchange (negatively) achieves the following:

- **Limited safe pedestrian & vehicular movement** to the available activity centers around them, specifically Onondaga Lake Parkway • Old Liverpool Road • Regional Market & Transportation Center County Recreational Trail System & Loop the Lake Trail System • Village of Liverpool • Destiny USA • Syracuse Inner Harbor • NBT Stadium • Syracuse Inner Harbor
- **Destroyed look** of a once historically beautiful view of Onondaga Lake
- **Costly Annual Maintenance** to the existing mess of bridge systems (constantly being worked every year)
- **Division** of one of the most impoverished areas of the town of Salina from the Business districts and activities otherwise available to them

One of the main goals of the community grid was to re-connect divided neighborhoods back to their original conditions. However, at least in the Town of Salina, you are missing opportunities, thus further exacerbating this divide.

SUGGESTIONS:

Much consideration has been given to the use of traffic circles and the implementation of them. However, no one has suggested the use of a traffic circle in perhaps an area where it might make the most sense. We kindly ask you to consider the following:

- Study the impacts of adding a traffic circle to the northwest extents of the project, in the area previously mentioned. (See Page 3 for example of Circle)
- Examine the impacts it might have to the Town of Salina and the possible increase in usable taxable real estate to that area
- Examine the positive impacts it might have on the community grid project as a whole
WHY IT MAKES SENSE:

This proposed action would take advantage of an opportunity to think outside the box and to enhance the community, while there is an ongoing, extensive and costly effort to do so throughout this corridor. The existing interchange “works,” that’s about it. We have an opportunity to make it work much better! And to provide several environmental and social benefits in doing so. Millions of dollars have been spent in private, local, state and federal dollars in beautifying the perimeter of the lake over the past half-century, yet this area remains the often-overlooked opportunity. We believe our suggestion falls in line with the overall goals of the community grid and would achieve the following:

- **Alterations and construction being completed** & considered as we speak
  - Improvements to **Old Liverpool Road**, by Onondaga County DOT
  - Improvements to **Onondaga Lake Parkway**, by the NYS DOT
  - Improvements to **Park Street**, by the City of Syracuse
  - Improvements to **I-81, grid / business loop**, by the State and Federal government

The subject interchange would connect all of these, but is being overlooked!

- **Restores connectivity** between the impoverished neighborhoods of the City of Syracuse & the Town of Salina, to the Business districts and activity centers around them.
- **Reduction of bridges** and length of highway lane miles would result in reduced road maintenance cost
- **New taxable real estate** would result from the reduction of highway footprint, thus offsetting some of the new losses suffered to the Towns Tax Base
- **Park Street could become a 2-way street** (it’s historical configuration) up to Buckley Road / Old Liverpool Road. This would allow for increased traffic counts new taxable revenue
- **Provides more opportunities to limit vehicular traffic onto Onondaga Lake Parkway**, thus encouraging more pedestrian and bike traffic onto the Parkway. (Goal of proposed improvements by the State DOT)
- **Restores historical views of Onondaga Lake**

It makes sense to address this section of town now. It is the last puzzle piece that could perhaps stitch together all of the various improvements going on around it, yet it is being entirely ignored.
IN CLOSING:

This is not an idea we stand alone in. Our concerns and ideas are echoed through significant support from numerous residents and Towns Officials alike. We feel the positive impacts are extremely plentiful, and the negative ones limited. To not consider the rethinking of this interchange is beyond a missed opportunity. It's repeating the thinking (or lack of thinking) of over 60 years ago. It is a “slap-in-the-face” to the residents of the Town of Salina. It is ignoring the fact that they WILL be negatively impacted by the proposed I-81 project. And it is all the while doing nothing to offset those impacts. I would like to think our ideas could be used as, at the very least, a starting point, for a proposed alteration to “The Grid” Plan. We look forward to hearing your feedback and we Thank you again for your consideration!

Regards,

Vittorio Pascarella, President
Pascarella Development & Management, LLC.
I -81 project traffic in East Syracuse

John Pastuf <jpastuf@icloud.com>
Fri 9/3/2021 7:25 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I live in the Franklin Park neighborhood in the Town of Dewitt (East Syracuse mailing address). This wonderful area has currently enough auto and commercial traffic along Franklin Park Drive between Kirkville Road (Interstate -481 exit and Amazon Warehouse) and the Carrier Circle complex of hotels, restaurants as well as big and medium size corporations. Currently, if you research hotel search on google/vehicle GPS from existing I-81/I-481 intersection south of Syracuse to the I-81/I-481 intersection north of Syracuse you would be informed that multiple hotels are off the Kirkville Exit of I-481 (proposed I-81) via Franklin Park Drive. This would make the Kirkville Road exit potentially one of the busiest interchanges for travelers on this major Penn-Can highway seeking hotels.

Franklin Park is a quiet family oriented neighborhood which has a wonderful public park located on Franklin Park Drive which serves our community, old and young, especially the children. I foresee the I-81 plan as now outlined would be devastating to the peace and tranquillity of our community.

I do have a recommendation for this problem. The current I-481 interchange for New York Thruway I-90 north of Kirkville Road interchange and the I-481 exit for NY298 should be emphasized as exits best to access the Carrier Circle complex.

Regards,

John C. Pastuf
Lt. Col. USMC (Ret)
Sent from my iPad
From: Viraj Patel <vpatel@vmpmanagement.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 28, 2021 12:27 PM
To: Frechette, Mark (DOT) <Mark.Frechette@dot.ny.gov>; rick.marquis@dot.gov
Subject: Fwd: Comfort Inn & Suites - Liverpool, NY

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Mark and Rick,

I sent the email below and the attachments to Chris Calvert of AKRF at his request after our meeting the week prior. Please include these comments in the official comments for the DEIS. I appreciate it.

Hi Chris,

I wanted to thank you for your time last week. Thank you also for listening to our feedback and being open to new data. We truly appreciate that you're given this matter the attention we believe it deserves - it's not only our livelihood but also affects our employees and their families.

1. Property Name and Location - Comfort Inn & Suites (401 7th North St, Liverpool, NY)
2. Number of keys - 76
3. Number of employees (full and part-time) on an average annual basis over the past five years - 13 full time 5 part-time
4. Does the hotel include meeting/event space? - no
   a. If so, what is meeting/event occupancy. - N/A
   b. If so, please provide information on the frequency and attendance of events. - N/A
5. Does the hotel have amenities? Yes
   a. Swimming pool (indoor or outdoor?) - No
b. Fitness center - Yes

c. Self-service laundry - Yes

d. Restaurant/bar - no

6. Percentage of advance bookings vs. walk-in reservations on an average annual basis for the past five years - Approximately 20%-25% of reservations are same day walk-in vs online booking

7. Percentage of same-day bookings on an average annual basis for the past five years - our previous PMS system didn't have this data available, but this one (since 1/1/21) shows that 59% of our reservations are made same day (this includes walk-ins)

8. Estimated percentage of business vs. leisure guest stays on an average annual basis

9. Estimated breakdown of guests (over a year) by place of origin, if available - Not available

10. Estimated breakdown of length of stay (in number of nights) on an average annual basis - Unavailable

11. Percentage of guests that belong to your brand’s loyalty club - 25.5% of revenue from rewards club members. I would caution you to use this with a grain of salt, however, since many guests belong to multiple rewards programs. Also, Hilton, Marriott, Choice, Wyndham, etc. all have hotels in various parts of Onondaga County. Travelers will be able to find these hotels on the current 481 side (carrier circle area) of town as well.

12. Please identify a point of contact and contact information for any follow-up related to this request. - Viraj Patel, 315-373-9911, vpatel@vmpmanagement.com

13. We welcome any additional information you feel would be useful to the analysis. - Actual data from our hotel shows that we receive at least 11% of our revenue from Walk-in guests. This doesn’t even include same-day reservations made online - 59% of our reservations are made on the day of arrival. This shows that the DEIS is underestimating by a magnitude of 6 to 10 times or more when it is making determinations on what kind of effect that rerouting travelers to 481 will have on the hotels in Salina. The reason I emphasize that this is at least 11% is because some of our staff don’t even use the “walk-in” feature to check guests in. They are in the habit of creating reservations and then checking guests in instead of using the walk-in feature that prevents this redundancy. The “Create” option has two choices: “Reservation” and “Walk-in”. So many of our front desk agents are used to only using the Reservation option because that’s how they take reservations over the phone that they don’t use the walk-in option. They create a reservation and then go through the check in process from the arrivals list. The “Walk-In” function allows them to make the reservation and go through the check-in process at the same time. However, either due to lack of comfort for the feature or muscle memory, front desk agents don’t use this function. We estimate that the walk-in reservations number is underestimated by 2-3 times.
Thanks again for your time. I'm happy to help anyway that I can.

Best,
Viraj

Viraj N. Patel, MBA, MMH
S.C. Johnson Graduate School of Management - 2014
School of Hotel Administration - 2013
315-373-9911 | vpatel@vmpmanagement.com
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Karyn Pavich
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

G. Paxton
Sharon Millhouse

From: gregpaxton2001=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of G. Paxton
<gregpaxton2001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 4:03 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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Donna Payne
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Donna Payne
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cpelham=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io <cpelham=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Christopher Pelham <cpelham@mac.com>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mlp460=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mlp460=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Melissa Pelkey <mlp460@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:05 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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on behalf of
James Peloquen <jpeloquenjr@icloud.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 9:31 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

James Peloquen
September 30, 2021

Mark Frechette, PE
Project Director
N.Y. State Transp. Region 3
333 East Washington St
Syracuse, N.Y. 13202

Dear Mr. Frechette,

My name is Pauline Peluso. I have been a resident of the Town of Salina for fifty-seven years and previously employed in the Town of Salina for thirty-three years. My husband, Joseph, and I are members of St. John the Baptist Parish and the Salina Town Hall Seniors.

I feel that the I-81 project has completely overlooked the Town of Salina. First, we need to have quick access to our hospitals as we do now using I-81 South. Destiny USA is a vital part of our economy and should not be isolated but easy for travelers and the nearby communities to reach. Also, I would like you to consider improvement to the intersection right before the Onondaga Lake Parkway and Old Liverpool Rd, as shown in the diagram. This would greatly enhance the entrance to the Town of Salina.

Your attention to these matters is urgent,
Pauline and Joseph Peluso
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ivysoar=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ivysoar=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Kenya Pena <ivysoar@msn.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 9:37 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahIIzB%2B%2FmMj… 1/2
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Sincerely,

Maria Pence
I81 project concerns and viewpoints

Aric Penfield <apenfield@twcny.rr.com>
Fri 9/24/2021 10:55 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a lifelong Camillus resident I attended the information session this Wednesday evening at the Town Hall and as expected found that your handout shows your “Downtown Centric” plan to turn our interstate highway connection into a delivery system to try and put some life into the business district of the city. While you showed a version of a viaduct, it is plain to see that is not really your plan. Once again the west side suburbs will be short changed, having already been not given a direct highway link to I-81 North and the airport except by the poorly designed ramp connections from Bear St. or through the mall traffic at Destiny. In addition, years ago the proposed highway from the western suburbs to downtown was abandoned as planners caved in to the Alexander administration leaving the area around South Geddes and Grand Ave with a lost business district that never recovered. Yes I am interested in the continuance of I-81 in some form directly in the path it has always had.

One glimmer of hope I had tonight was to see the addition of ramps to connect the western part of 690 to I-81 North, but then it was only on the viaduct version and not the Grid.

In regard to your travel time chart from Fairmount to Lafayette I would be interested in the route that was not mentioned. Was that 690 to West St and then a mixed variety of streets over to the Grid, or via Onondaga Hill, the South Side and Nedrow? If forced I would choose the later, but in the Winter I always have chosen 81 and 690 rather than going up the hill by Community Hospital on my return trips.

As a 30 year employee of the Syracuse Housing Authority (now retired), I’m very familiar with the convenience of I-81 getting to work in a direct manner. While the proposed 690 exit ramps are fairly well planned considering they are a replacement for a route that is better, I’m glad not to be an ambulance driver having to substitute that route for the current one to the downtown hospitals. If I asked the original I-81 planners, I’d bet that the placement of the current ramps were directly connected to the hospital locations.

In that same train of thought, I’m sure ambulances from the North will not be thrilled with the elimination of the N. Franklin St ramp which is a direct loop around to head for the St. Joseph’s ER right over the Butternut St. Bridge. The old and new Genant St
ramps will cause a number of blocks of indirect local driving to get them close to their goal.

In addition the Syracuse Fire Department Rescue and Squad Companies have used the Harrison Street onramp as a very quick and effective access to all far points of the city from their Station One home on South State Street at Adams Street. Lack of that access will make a serious difference in their response.

While I believe that the residents of the 15th Ward were given a raw deal, those that are alive are older than I and their children will not think that trees and sidewalks will make up for their loss. Almond Street has plenty of sidewalks and unlike most they are covered by the highway, which is a plus during both the Winter and the months of rain in Central New York. New sidewalks and a wide street will not bring back that worn out old neighborhood of long ago.

As to the traffic circle near the M. L. King School, we both know that there won’t be much traffic going West there as there is little business left in that area. Existing ramps further south already take care of the amount of exit traffic. The circle is only a way to slow down the traffic before it gets to Almond St. Of course the good news there is that people from Lafayette and South will be able to get to the Dome easier. That is a small consolation for being cut off from Destiny, the airport and jobs at Lockheed and other places in Liverpool. Downtown is not the end all and be all of Central New York. There are two things I am concerned about that are not addressed by your presentation. First, have you looked at the one lane off ramp that is southbound on I-81 for Destiny, Hiawatha Blvd and Bear St? (Not to mention the Transportation Terminal and the Ballpark). It’s riddled with potholes and will need some serious work sooner than later. As I said, its one lane, so when it’s closed, the next exits will be Genant Dr. and N. Franklin St. I know it’s outside the project but while you are rebuilding and eliminating the other exits it could become a problem. Finally has anyone considered the consequences for route 41 from Homer to Skaneateles? Do you really think your signs are going to keep tractor trailers off it while you expect to make truck drivers with limited time and high costs and tight budgets to take I-81 to 690 in Dewitt or exit 34A of the Thruway. Upgrading of that road and beyond heading to the West should be in your plan, not just off on the horizon.

I understand that an updated viaduct will bring many changes to bring it to current standards for the Interstate Highway System. There are several awkward portions of the existing interchange, but I must say yes, I want the viaduct. Lots of other people do too, but my experience tells me you will do what you want. I’m seventy two and don’t expect to see the whole project done though I’d like to live at least that long. What I really want is to have it done right for the future and do be able to visit family and friends in Preble, Johnson City, Scranton, Allentown, Philadelphia and Wilmington DE without starting my trip with a half hour drive on local roads to Nedrow, when I live less than two miles from a limited access highway at Hinsdale Road in Camillus.
PS. I’m sorry that I have more concerns than your form would allow. I really wish the project gave me fewer concerns.

Aric Penfield
Camillus resident
315-488-1463
315-436-0709
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Bianca Perez
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Sincerely,

Martha D. Perlmutter
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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on behalf of
Martha D. Perlmutter <mdp225@yahoo.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:54 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Wed 10/13/2021 12:30 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

Protect Land Use

● A land transfer policy must be put in place before returning the land to the City of Syracuse that restores and enhances communities impacted by I-81, specifically the predominately Black community adjacent to the viaduct.
● Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
● Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth

● Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
● Conduct a community health needs assessment.
● Do not use Wilson Park as a staging site for construction or construction materials.
● Create a Community Restoration Fund.
● Offer market-rate buyouts, rent subsidies, and/or temporary relocation assistance for people who want to move.
● Conduct an easement reassessment so that renters receive easement payments.

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● Jobs generated by the project must go to the people who live directly adjacent to the viaduct and 30 percent of them should go to Black and Brown Syracuse residents.
● Apply for the federal "SEP 14" local hiring pilot program, and limit the hiring requirements to Syracuse residents. The SEP 14 application must be accompanied by a community workforce agreement to legally require that unions hire local Syracuse residents, with a preference for impacted Syracuse neighborhoods. The DOT must also provide independent oversight to ensure the goals of the labor agreement are met.
● Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
● Provide governmental oversight on all aspects of this project until it is complete.

**Protect School Children**

● Create a comprehensive construction plan in collaboration with parents, faculty, and staff at the Syracuse City School District.
● Move the proposed highway access ramp so it is at least 600 feet from STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School.
● Conduct a study to determine if the community grid will remain a major roadway, as defined by 30,000 cars or more daily.

These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,  

Monica Perrotti
Re: Viaduct Project/Community Grid Proposal

Kim Persse <kimpersse@gmail.com>
Tue 8/24/2021 11:04 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.l81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.l81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Hi,

I and my husband (and my extended family) are residents of the greater Finger Lakes area, and on behalf of all of us, I wanted to express my concern around this project.

The proposal will see long haul truck traffic cutting through back roads from the I-81 exits south of Syracuse to points West, which is not a desirable situation (pollution, noise, etc.), and we don't ever want to see it happen.

Please do not let this pass. For the people in these communities, for the wildlife and for the planet.

Appreciate you taking the time to read and consider the feedback.

Thanks,
Kim Davis Persse + Family
Skaneateles, Camillus, Cazenovia, Syracuse
I’m Robert D. Peters and I have a comment

Bob Peters <sretepbob@yahoo.com>
Sat 10/2/2021 10:11 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I’m Robert D. Peters, and I think the replacing 81 with a boulevard is a very bad idea, as it’s harder to cross and doesn’t solve the problem that it caused, and ruins the quality of life for the entire area. I live in Jamesville, NY, but I have personally crossed under 81 four times, twice on my way home from DestinyUSA, and it wasn’t that bad. A boulevard would be a nightmare to cross, especially if some people think that they are still on a highway. I know that it isn’t the prettiest thing in the world, but most public works type projects built since the 1950s haven’t exactly been the prettiest things in the world. They don’t build water tanks like the one at Woodland Reservoir, the one in Thornden Park, or even the ones like the three at Morningside Reservoir anymore for example. They are built with brick enclosures, and the first two are similar to each other and have detailing that you don’t see on buildings anymore. The ones at Morningside Reservoir are made of concrete but have bands at the top. The ones at Morningside Reservoir were built from 1939 to 1940, the one in Thornden Park was built from 1925 to 1926, and the one at Woodland Reservoir was built in 1909. It also doesn’t solve the problem of the division of the city, as it still divides it and actually makes the division worse, and it doesn’t solve the division caused by the rest of the highways that exist in the city. The city is more than just the downtown core that this is possibly going to run through.

I know that we’re trying to eliminate racism in the USA, but the boulevard idea is racist, as the only reason they are planning to do it is it’s the cheapest option. It shows to them that they aren’t worth spending more than the bare minimum on. Sure it’s racist in the way a couple of 1960s-1970s plaques referring to people with disabilities as R-worded Children on a brown brick wall on a building that still serves people with disabilities to the present day are offensive, it isn’t blatant, but it’s there if you look for it. It also doesn’t solve the division caused by the rest of 81 in the 1950s and 1960s, or the division caused starting with the New York Central Railroad project to remove passenger and local freight trains from Washington Street, in the 1930s. Most of that section of right of way became part of 690’s right of way in the 1960s, though a single track still runs from the DeWitt Yard and ends between S. Midler Ave and Peat St.

I think that the real reason that you want to do the community grid, is that you’re racist who believes in the concepts of slegs blankes, which translates to whites only in English from Afrikaans, the language of the racists of South Africa, and Lebensraum, which translates to living space in English from German. We’re doing this to try to fix the division that 81 caused, but instead of fixing it, it’s going to isolate the city, as it’s going to be much harder to get into it. You can’t drive people out of a city with machine guns and flamethrowers anymore, so you have to find other ways to force them out. I know that I’m more likely to see unicorns in Nepal, a Yeti in Burma (Myanmar), the 7th Earl of Lucan tending bar, or even meet a nice white South African, than for you to do something that isn’t racist. I know that you might not like getting called racist, but I have to call them as I see them, and apparently it’s alive and well inside the DOT.

Racism might not be completely driving the decision to bypass the city, but a lack of political antennae might be driving it as well. Apparently this project has been in the planning stages for at least a decade, as I saw a rendering on TV recently, of a traffic circle that showed the two stacks of the Project Orange Steam and Power Generation Plant at Syracuse University, which was torn down in the Winter of
2010/2011. If it was a recent rendering, those stacks wouldn’t be there as they no longer exist in reality. There wasn’t a really push to fix the racism problem back then but there is now, and if you had political antennae, you would know that. Bypassing the city doesn’t fix the problems with the city, as it only hides them from people as they end up going around it. It will probably end up killing the city for good, as nobody from elsewhere will go downtown. A bypassed city will probably end up like the skuzzy parts of Scranton, PA. I bet that if you replaced everybody in government with people with Down Syndrome born prior to 1980, it would be hard to tell any difference in the output of government.

I’m of the belief that society hasn’t really changed since June 26th, 1969, though I’m probably being generous. The reason that I believe that is that building with the R-word plaques on it, at 600 South Wilber Ave. had its groundbreaking, as the Onondaga Center for R-Worded Children on that day, with the R-Word spelled out in full, and calling them children makes it even worse, and it’s also the last day that you could go to bed and wake up in the morning, and the gay people still haven’t revolted at Stonewall. The first Stonewall riot was June 28th, 1969. The dedication for that building was September 17th, 1970. That building still had those plaques on it, as of at least July 5th, 2020 as that is when I took pictures of them, as I couldn’t believe what they said. There have been changes in society, but they have basically just been glossy topshow and nothing structural at all. I mean we still have racism in this country almost 60 years after the Civil Rights Act, and an obvious solution to it isn’t available anymore, as they probably won’t take them anymore since Apartheid died. I mean you could take certain 1967 newspaper articles, change some of the language, so it doesn’t sound like an old article, and it would be a valid article for some of the events in 2020. The changes in society have basically been the equivalent of shoving body filler into the rust holes in the structural members of a car and then undercoating it. Sure it looks good, and it should pass inspection, but it doesn’t really do anything to solve the problem, but only delays the time when the whole enchilada comes apart suddenly and spectacularly.

The community grid is also a bad idea, as it will damage our region for years to come because it will increase congestion on city and neighborhood streets that were never intended to handle such heavy traffic. It will also add to the drive times to key locations, including the hospitals, as you have to either go far out of your way to get anywhere or you have to use slower roads, guaranteeing that Syracuse will no longer be the "20-minute city" we all love. Longer travel times to hospitals may mean that more people will die because they didn’t get there in time, meaning you will have blood on your hands. The community grid will also cause the addition of more than a dozen traffic lights, further slowing down our city with all the extra bottlenecks, as well as creating a lot more air pollution from all of the idling vehicles, and we’re trying to reduce air pollution, not increase it. You shouldn’t be allowed to decide how it’s replaced as you screwed up when you built 81 and 690 the way you did, in the first place. Also the people who have to live with it should have the right to make the final decision. Being in Albany means that you really don’t know how things work around here. Like the old saying says, you can’t fix anything in Albany, and it shows up here well enough. I mean instead of having a divided city, you’re planning on having an isolated city, which is even more racist that a divided one. A community grid will turn Syracuse into something a lot like Auburn, except without the maximum security prison that makes Auburn’s isolation a really good idea. Auburn seems a lot farther away from Syracuse that it is, because of a lack of “interstate” access.

You want to build the community grid, as you’re a corrupt organization and somebody has bribed you to build it, either by brown envelopes, or actually anything from a numbered account in a Swiss bank, to a fistful of used singles slipped under the door of the bathroom. I’ve heard the story about the corruption that led to 690 only extending to 481 instead of ending up in Chittenango as planned, because Eagan Real Estate Inc, who were the original owners of ShoppingTown Mall, didn’t want 690 going through Fayetteville and having an exit located near the competing Fayetteville Mall, which hindered its survival. Who knows what kind of corruption led to the termination of the Route 5 freeway project at W Genesee Turnpike, instead of ending up where it was planned to end up.

You’ve been lucky that the mistreatment of people of color has resulted in them not realizing the complete extent of their mistreatment. I mean look how far gay rights has come, and all because they
revolted on June 28th, 1969. The Mattachine Society tried to get gay rights peacefully, but it took the revolt at Stonewall to get anything really done about it. If the people of color started getting wise about what’s going on too they might revolt, and it would be much bigger than Stonewall ever was, as there are a lot more of them and communication is better now, and at least officially it’s legal to be black. Today could be our June 26th, 1969, though we don’t know that yet as that is only known in hindsight. Though I think, to quote the late Pete Seeger, “A time for peace, I swear it's not too late.” If I was in your position I would fire all of the cops and replace them with completely “fresh” ones, as one bad apple has spoiled the whole barrel, and the barrel is getting a bit iffy to move.

In solving this problem you have to look at the big picture, and not just a small section of it. This project has to be looked at as part of a larger system, and not in isolation. Not looking at the big picture and not thinking things through is a problem that a lot of people have today. The community grid also shows a lack of vision, which tends to permeate anything done in the Syracuse area. Both 81 and 690 were run through the city for a reason, though the implementation was flawed, on both a technical level and a societal level. Though downtown core is part of the city, the entire city isn’t just downtown, though the rich white people that government focuses on, want to live there. The city stretches from Nedrow, NY in the South to the other side of the railroad tracks in the North, and from Thompson Rd in the East to almost reaching the NYS Fairgrounds in the West.

It has to be viewed as part of a system, as any change to the system, foreseen or otherwise, could cause major problems elsewhere. For example just off of the Rock Cut Road exit on 481 and right next to the highway itself, there is a large garbage incinerator that started operating in 1994. The incinerator consists of a large metal building containing the tipping hall, the three incinerator lines, electrical generators and other necessary equipment, and very large concrete smokestack which is on the Dewitt facing end of incinerator. Incinerators such as that one have a 30 year design life, after which they are basically operating on borrowed time. There is one in Saugus, MA that was built in 1975 that is still operating and is the oldest operating one in the country, but it’s a really nasty neighbor as it’s worn out and the people there are trying to get it shut down, as it and the ash dump next to it may cause cancer. At any rate when it comes time to demolish the one on Rock Cut Road, the metal building should be easy to cut up and pull down to demolish it, but the smoke stack will be a bit of a problem, as it will probably have to be imploded, which will require 481 to be shut down, as an exclusion zone would be required so chunks of concrete don’t kill people in passing vehicles. I don’t think that the practice of chimney felling by undermining it is legal anymore, as chimney felling might not need the same kind of exclusion zone.

A much better and non-racist solution, would be to build a tunnel deep enough to avoid any demolition, as you can use the existing on ramp and off ramp “access points” and possibly make the Colvin St ramp access both directions of 81 as both an off ramp and an on ramp, that goes from just South of the Nedrow exit and ends just south of DestinyUSA mall, or maybe on the other end of the current bridge that goes over the train tracks by DestinyUSA if it can be made to work with the way the various ramps are at that end, for 81, and a tunnel deep enough to avoid any demolition, that goes from around Thompson Rd in the east to almost to the fairgrounds in the west for 690, with a underground interchange to connect the two roads together, and an underground interchange for 81 and 481. I would then completely replace the surface routings of 81 and 690 that were replaced by the tunnels, with a park, and rebuild the elevated portions of 81 and 690 as a “plaza” in approximately the same footprint, with ramps to connect it with the ground below for better access than stairs, and to make loading and unloading for festivals and markets easier. You could also have an area the same height as the ramp from 690 West to 81 South, possibly in the same area, as that would give a good view of the city. A park could be patrolled by black and nontraditional cops 24/7, so it can be used to cross the streets under the elevated sections, and used all the time. Black and nontraditional cops would probably make the local population feel more comfortable. White and Asian cops have this reputation of being vicious, which would make the local population fear for their lives. Depending how deep you have to go, you might be able to quarry usable stone for something in the process.
Converting the surface portions to a park would turn something that divides the city into something that unites it, a people tend to congregate in parks. The “plaza” could be used to host festivals that would otherwise require streets to be closed off, and possibly ice skating in the winter. It might be worth making some of the former 81 and 690 bridges longer so parking for the park could be added underneath. The park could have walking and bike paths, which could connect up with the Onondaga Lake Park trail at the fairgrounds end of 690, and that canal trail project at Thompson Rd. The park could also connect with any parks that back onto the 81 or 690 routing. There would be ramps and access points at the various cross streets to make pedestrian and bike access easier, with at least some plow truck compatible ramps so maintenance can be done. There could be an overlook at the Nedrow end of the park as that end has a pretty view of the city, especially in the fall when the leaves are on the trees. I took some pictures from Rt 11 in that area last fall, and they are beautiful.

Some or all of the streets that were severed for the construction of 81 and 690 might be able to be reconnected as part of the park project. Two examples of severed streets are State Fair Blvd, and the West entrance to Oakwood Cemetery. Adding a “crash bar” to protect the NYSW rail bridge going over the west entrance of Oakwood Cemetery would be a very good idea, as it’s nowhere near as strong as the world famous Onondaga Parkway Bridge.

Also a tunnel could clean up the air in the area, as you could put emissions equipment on the tunnel ventilation exhaust system to clean up the air coming out of the tunnel, making the area a more pleasant place to be. Ideally the equipment should work after exposure to lead containing fumes, in case somebody runs leaded racing gasoline or leaded aircraft gasoline in something that’s going through the tunnel. I know that the use of leaded gasoline ruins the catalytic converters used in cars.

I know that it would take a ton of money and time to build it but it would be worth it, as we never have to have this conversation again as we would be thinking ahead, instead of doing things half A, like how things are usually done around here. It would also show that we are at least trying to make up for the decades, if not centuries, of racism and neglect of not just blacks, but the Onondaga native Americans as well, as I think the Nedrow end is near their reservation. Examples of the racism and neglect include, the original 81 project, building at least one school in the city without windows, building a high school in the city without windows that also has a cafeteria that smells like sewage, with the occasional overflows of the stuff. It seems like nobody takes solving racism seriously, only doing enough to get the people off of their backs about it. I would also have legislation passed that prevents people from being displaced by this project even after completed, as they shouldn’t have to be forced to leave their homes. Government should stop catering to only the rich. I know that the rich get you elected, but it’s the poor people who end up revolting if things get bad enough, as history has proven. You can’t do things on the basis of, we must do something, this is something, and therefore we must do this. It seems like the government mostly contains people who claim to want to solve racism, but deep down they are racists, who don’t want to spend money on anything that people of other races might use. It would probably take less time to construct, be less disruptive, and cheaper than a bypass, all said and done, as you’re only doing most of the work underground, and not increasing the size of any roads. The only above ground work that would be disruptive would be the construction of ventilation, and putting holes in the ground for exits.

I know that it’s in rough shape and that it doesn’t meet modern standards, but some reinforcement and some tweaks could make it tide us over until the completion of the tunnel system. I mean if they can repair mostly rotten frames on Toyotas by welding on steel reinforcement plates, after removing the rust, it should be possible to do the same to the elevated section of 81. When I went under it at Adams St in 2019 I noticed that most of it wasn’t that bad of shape, just the edges of the beams and connections, and the “out” sides of the beams were rusty. It looks really good in comparison to some of the Thruway ramp bridges, which look like you could put holes in the beams with a large screwdriver. Tweaks that could be made to improve safety include making 81 from about North State St. to shortly after the ramp from 690 East one lane to give the ramp its own “lane”, as if people aren’t going to be considerate voluntarily, you’re going have to force them to be considerate. Extending the concrete “nose” from the 690 West ramp to about Cedar St. would have a similar effect for traffic coming from the 690 West ramp.
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

haleypeters17=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <haleypeters17=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Haley Peters <haleypeters17@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:15 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Haley Peters
Hello

My name is Joan Peters. I live in Onondaga County and use I81.

Please keep I81 as the main interstate through Syracuse. It serves as the most direct and time saving access to our hospitals.

Lives are saved by using/ keeping I81....as every minute counts getting to the hospital...

Please make the necessary changes/repairs to keep I81 as the integral interstate for Syracuse.

With all good wishes,

Joan

Joan Peters
100 Cedar Heights Drive
Fayetteville, NY 13066
**“Community Grid” Request for Improvements Petition!**

<table>
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<td>John Moore</td>
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<td>Gia Hillman</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Michael Lam</td>
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<td>Sandy Sherlock</td>
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<td>Isabel D. Schiano</td>
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<td>Susan Meyer</td>
<td>Susan Meyer</td>
<td>311 Cypress St 13206</td>
<td></td>
<td>9/19/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rita Teich</td>
<td>Rita Teich</td>
<td>4860 Draftwood Dr 13206</td>
<td></td>
<td>9/29/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Bland</td>
<td></td>
<td>6129 Memorial Dr 13206</td>
<td></td>
<td>9/29/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Domenico Vitali</td>
<td></td>
<td>109 N Roosevelt Ave 13206</td>
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<tr>
<td>Casey Blain</td>
<td>Casey Blain</td>
<td>5028 Constitution Ln 13206</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/5/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Rousseau</td>
<td>Mary Rousseau</td>
<td>405 Hillsdale Ave 13206</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/5/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Margaret Canning</td>
<td>Margaret Canning</td>
<td>6387 Long Branch Rd 13206</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michele Goldhirsh</td>
<td>Michele Goldhirsh</td>
<td>101 Terracina Rd 13218</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/10/21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jean Rotz</td>
<td>Jean Rotz</td>
<td>3709 Bruxton Rd 13214</td>
<td></td>
<td>10/16/21</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## “Community Grid” Request for Improvements Petition!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Petition summary and background</th>
<th>Voicing our concern over the Town of Salina’s lack of inclusion at the Northern most trafficked intersection of I-81 and how this is going to negatively impact the Town of Salina</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Action petitioned for</td>
<td>We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens who urge our leaders to act now to significantly improve the construction in the Northern most section of the 81 Intersections.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Printed Name</th>
<th>Signature</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Comment</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christine Pen</td>
<td>Christopher Pen</td>
<td>525 Sunflower Drive, Liverpool, NY 13088</td>
<td>Include Salina Upgrades</td>
<td>10/6/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andre Jones</td>
<td>Andre Jones</td>
<td>734 W. Central Ave, Liverpool, NY 13088</td>
<td>Include Salina Upgrades</td>
<td>10/6/21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristen and Justin</td>
<td></td>
<td>525 Sunflower Drive, Liverpool, NY 13088</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Tear Down Structural Racism of I-81

nhpleopard90=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <nhpleopard90=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Megan Petrillo <nhpleopard90@gmail.com>
Fri 10/15/2021 10:57 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Megan Petrillo
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Leslie Phelps
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Casey Phillips
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dianeephillips=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <dianeephillips=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Diane E Phillips <dianeephillips@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 8:50 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Maura Phillips
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Susan Picard
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Susan Picard
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dpiccolo=sjfc.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <dpiccolo=sjfc.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Daniel Piccolo <dpiccolo@sjfc.edu>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:38 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

pickeria=newpaltz.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <pickeria=newpaltz.edu@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of amy pick <pickeria@newpaltz.edu>
Tue 8/10/2021 12:40 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

pickeria=newpaltz.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <pickeria=newpaltz.edu@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 12:12 PM

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Sincerely,

Carolyn C. Pierson
Dear Mr. Smith

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Joslyn Pine
Dear Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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josandsteve2@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <josandsteve2@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Joslyn Pine <josandsteve2@yahoo.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 10:26 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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hp.pillfam=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <hp.pillfam=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Hal Pillinger <hp.pillfam@verizon.net>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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susanbpixley=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<susanbpixley=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Susan Pixley <susanbpixley@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 10:44 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Susan Pixley
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Jonathan Plotkin
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The community grid option for route 81 should NOT be implemented.
The economies of Salina, Dewitt and the city of Syracuse will suffer.
Traffic in the Dewitt route 5 corridor is bad now, it will only get worse.
Medical emergency transport will be impeded.
Air pollution in the city of Syracuse will increase.
The leaders in Syracuse will see increased costs for snow plowing, road maintenance, traffic control and public safety.
Northwest suburban commuters will see major traffic congestion. People who used to travel 81 to the city will convert their commute to John Glenn Blvd to 690 into the city.
There are no plans for this increased traffic.
I have lived more than 50 years of my adult life in the Syracuse area. I’ll be extremely sorry if you continue with the current plan for route 81.

Nancy Polachek
Down the Structural Racism of I-81

peterpolikarpenko@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <peterpolikarpenko@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Peter Polikarpenko <peterpolikarpenko@yahoo.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 7:53 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Amy Posner
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jposner=ymcacny.org@mg.gospringboard.io <jposner=ymcacny.org@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Jessica Posner <jposner@ymcacny.org>
Thu 10/14/2021 10:47 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Respect the Rights of the Onondaga Nation

● The vast majority of the I-81 project is located on the treaty-protected lands of the Onondaga Nation.
● Areas of the project intersect with areas of known cultural significance to the Onondaga Nation and have a high probability of containing cultural artifacts or ancestral remains.
● The Onondaga Nation repeatedly requested in the official correspondence included in this EIS that proper respect and protocols be used to ensure that ancestral remains are not disturbed in the construction of the project.
● I ask that NYSDOT and SHPO adopt the recommendations of the Onondaga Nation, including but not limited to:
  - Hiring multiple Cultural Resource Monitors from and trained by the Onondaga Nation to be present at all ground disturbing activities
  - Using the proper terms to refer to the Onondaga Nation and its people.
  - To stop work and notify the Onondaga Nation promptly upon the discovery of any human remains. This practice ensures that, if the remains are Haudenosaunee, proper protocols are followed throughout the investigation process.

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Sincerely,

Jessica Posner
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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov
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Eva Povelko
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Shyla Powell
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

hernanandfran=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <hernanandfran=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Hernan Poza <hernanandfran@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 5:08 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Cecelia Price
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

kerry.s.price=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<kerry.s.price=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Kerry Price <kerry.s.price@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:29 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Klaus Proemm
Sharon Millhouse

From: klaus_proemm@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Klaus Proemm <klaus_proemm@yahoo.com>  
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 2:41 PM  
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov  
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Klaus Proemm
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cdprojansky@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <cdprojansky@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Camala Projansky <cdprojansky@hotmail.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:33 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Camala Projansky
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Sincerely,

Jill Purcell
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

maura.puscheck=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <maura.puscheck=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Maura Puscheck <maura.puscheck@gmail.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:52 PM

To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

George Quasha
Dear

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I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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Sincerely,

Kimberly Quillin
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

quinne=hartwick.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <quinne=hartwick.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
EdytheAnn Quinn <quinne@hartwick.edu>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:40 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Sincerely,

EdytheAnn Quinn
Business

quinn kevin <ktq31585@yahoo.com>
Fri 7/16/2021 3:53 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Hello I own a business at 1400 N Salina street. When I drive now to the business I get off 81 N at exit 22 court street exit. How will this new grid work take me to get to business. And how will it effect my travel time and the travel time of my customers. Since I get a lot of travelers.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone
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Sincerely,

Madison Quinn
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Joe Quirk
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Sincerely,

Joseph Quirk
Support the Grid

Jamie Quoss <hayden.quoss@gmail.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 11:24 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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My husband and I live in Sedgwick and work downtown. We made a conscious decision to have only one car and do our best to bike and walk to our destinations as often as possible. While it is certainly getting better, Syracuse has a long way to go to be an integrated and accessible community. We believe that the grid option will go a long way in bringing our community (physically) together and open opportunities for businesses and residents alike to thrive. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jamie and Brian Quoss

Sent from my iPhone
Dear

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Cassandra Rabe
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ravcrabinowitz=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <ravcrabinowitz=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rabbi Charles P. Rabinowitz <ravcrabinowitz@verizon.net>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:08 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FoFxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMy…
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Clare Rakshys
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jmramos730=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jmramos730=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Joshua Ramos <jmramos730@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:38 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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greglisa=frontiernet.net@mg.gospringboard.io <greglisa=frontiernet.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Lisa Randall <greglisa@frontiernet.net>
Thu 10/14/2021 2:43 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Monica Rangne
Sharon Millhouse

From: 1lusitano=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Cesar Raposo
<1lusitano@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 2:33 PM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Cesar Raposo
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rrauscher767=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <rrauscher767=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rebecca Rauscher <rrauscher767@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 8:35 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Sunju Raybeck
Dear

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Sunju Raybeck
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

alraymo=me.com@mg.gospringboard.io <alraymo=me.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Alice Raymond <alraymo@me.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 1:05 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Sarahcumbiereckess=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <Sarahcumbiereckess=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Sarah Reckess <Sarahcumbiereckess@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 8:09 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sarah Reckess
My comments for the record on I-81

Michael Reed <mwr1943@gmail.com>
Wed 9/1/2021 7:34 PM

To:
dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>; MagnarW@nyassembly.gov <MagnarW@nyassembly.gov>; StirpeA@nyassembly.gov <StirpeA@nyassembly.gov>; mannion@nysenate.gov <mannion@nysenate.gov>; kirsten_gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov <kirsten_gillibrand@gillibrand.senate.gov>; community@save81.org <community@save81.org>; letters@syracuse.com <letters@syracuse.com>; chuck_schumer@schumer.senate.gov

Subject: I-81 Letter 09-01-2021.docx

1 attachments (401 KB)

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.
Thank you, Assemblyman William B. Magnarelli, for your well thought out and unemotional opinion on the status of the I-81 project (published on Syracuse.com August 26, 2021 and by the Post Standard as Guest Opinion commentary on August 29, 2001). I am writing in support of your appeal to reach consensus by considering this project as one of a regional nature, expanding the scope of the project to include correction of ancillary changes created by any approved plan, and to not make the community grid the only approved component.

County Legislator for the 16th District, Vernon Williams Jr. played the race card in his letter to the Editor of the Post Standard, also on August 26, 2021. His highly gerrymandered district includes the offending section of I-81 at the eastern boundary of that district. He feels the voices of that District are being ignored, but he seems to have no empathy for the voices of others outside that District who feel the same way. Oakwood Cemetery, Syracuse University, parking lots and dormitories are immediately on the other side of the offending section of I-81. The ever expanding SUNY Medical facilities are on both sides of it and their expansion does not seem to have been slowed down by the offending viaduct. The community grid will divide both sides at ground level instead of a structure that is 20 feet tall. It will not restore the 15th Ward. The so called division will still exist by other existing structures a bit farther east.

Common Councilor Joe Driscoll’s rebuttal published August 31st completely misses the mark of Mr. Magnarelli’s opinion. If any group needs to open their ears in this conversation, it is all of those on the band wagon for a grid only. Those who have voiced their support for the community grid have failed to address and provide relief for those who fear the negative economic impact for the region with a grid only option. Mr. Driscoll continues to cite cost, time, and faulty, outdated statistics to dismiss that fear. Where is the current grid he says we have? Less than a mile of Almond Street does not a grid make. I cannot grasp the lack of concern for those outside the boundaries of the City who have legitimate fears of the negative impact that a grid only will have on them. As Mr. Magnarelli points out, this is a regional project, not just a City one.

And now Rob Simpson has weighed in (Syracuse.com August 31, 2021) claiming delaying tactics if you support the Skyway. Mr. Simpson is President and CEO of the REGIONAL Center State Corporation for Economic Development. This is an organization whose mission, vision, membership, value of diversity, and commitment statements all make reference to the REGION, not just the City. His arguments do not seem to consider the REGION, and again cites cost as a reason to dismiss the idea. If he truly wants to address the racial and social inequities fought by Harriet Tubman, any option without concern for new housing and lack of consensus in the REGION won’t do that.

I moved to this area from the Southern Tier in 1965. I had to exit I-81 in Nedrow in order to continue my journey north because the offending section of I-81 currently in question was not yet complete. That required my use of Salina, State or Warren Streets to make the connection for further travel north (or south if you were headed in the opposite direction). Did those community grids deteriorate because the offending section diverted the potential business action on those grids to the northern suburbs (east and west spread came later with 690)?

We had 2 newspapers I could read, and I could shop at Chappells, Edwards, Deys, Flahs, Howe Jewelers, Addis Company, and later Sibleys/Kaufmanns. Those are all now gone. Is that the fault of the offending section of I-81? Or shall we just continue to blame Destiny for everything that has changed in Central New York over time since Destiny’s initial construction and opening? Surely it was to blame for the final nails in the coffins of Northern Lights, Penn Can, Great Northern, Shoppingtown, and Fayetteville malls. The internet had no complicity, it was progress, and things change over time.

I find it very hard to accept (as reported by Mr. Magnarelli) that any public official actually would have said at the beginning of this farcical 10-year odyssey that we should not “...focus on the cost of the new project...” That would have been heresy and required multiple burnings at the stake. I spent 30 years of
my life spending federal taxpayer money and quickly learned the lowest bid was often not the best route to

go. I was grateful when Congress finally gave me the authority to make business decisions based on best
cost, not lowest cost. But public projects are still funded with that mind set: Year 1 get an idea approved
and a swag estimate established that never changes. Year 2 design the project without fully engaging
those that will be most affected by it. Year 3 argue about it, or in this case make that Years 3-10. Then
execute the contracts to begin construction and several years later after multiple unforeseen circumstances,
inflation, change in original mission, change in stakeholders, and cost overruns (think about the cost of
plywood this year or the investment in plexiglass stock you should have made last year), the project is
finally done, everybody is happy, and Boston’s Big Dig debacle never happened. Things change over time,
especially in ten years.

It is unfortunate to learn now that there are other metropolitan areas in the US where the Eisenhower
Interstate projects of the 1950s had deleterious effects upon neighborhoods of brown and black people.
Some are now saying that was deliberate racism. I hope not, but can’t disprove it. It appears to me that
except for a slight detour in PA, the entire length of I-81 from Danville, TN to the Canadian border was
designed to somewhat parallel the existing path of US-11. Where did and does that path still go from the
south side to the north side of the City of Syracuse? Think Salina and State.

As Mr. Magnarelli correctly points out, Syracuse is the “Hub of New York”. Why else would there be six
“Syracuse” exits on the NYS Thruway when larger cities like Albany, Rochester, and Buffalo only have two,
three, or four respectively? As he also points out, this is and should be considered to be a regional project,
not only a City of Syracuse project. The Mayor, Common Council, County Legislature and other City
Leaders cannot wring their hands and expect to correct and make amends for a 60 year old mistake by
making another one that in only 15-20 years or less will prove to be another economic and societal blunder.
We cannot change or cancel history. It happened. Things change. Move on.

I, among others, favored the tunnel under the grid idea, even though it is probably the most expensive
option and Mr. Magnarelli cites the fact that “…we were originally told not to focus on the cost…” which has
been used as the death knell for every option proposed other than the grid only. Washington DC has a
significant tunnel under the Mall for a very major commuter route on I-395, and that was built on a swamp.
I now support the skyway proposed option along with the grid, not in place of it.

For 50 years, the offending section of I-81 has changed driving behaviors and created development that
did not exist or could not have been anticipated back in the 1950s. The option of replacing in situ (my swag
probably makes it the least expensive option) has been rejected due to the impact on demolishing adjacent
structures to meet the new federal highway standards. Are those negatives greater than the ones to be
generated by a grid only, as pointed out by Mr. Magnarelli?

Destiny has recently been criticized for supporting options that would best serve their interests. How is that
different from the recently proposed skyway bridge option dismissed by the Mayor as “pie in the sky”? He
seems to have supported the grid only option from the outset of his administration with an attitude of “…
my way or the highway…” (pun intended). It appears to me most of the other public officials (but not the
public) feel the same way, driven by their need to erase whatever part racism might play in the choice of
another option.
There are many elevated arterial thoroughfares across the country, such as the one in Buffalo, NY shown below. There’s even both grass and traffic beneath. What a unique concept. If Buffalo can deal with snow on top of that, surely Syracuse can do the same. What do we do now in the winter on the offending section of I-81? Does it snow more at 70 feet high and make that a more difficult task?

We are not suggesting the need to duplicate the High Five in Dallas Interchange:

Even Albany has an elevated viaduct and is currently embarking on construction of a $13 MILLION PARK under it in the one shown below.

One of the more naive things I’ve heard in this discussion is that the grid design and its roundabout will serve to slow down traffic. Drive around with me sometime and see the impatient driver behind me riding my bumper as I obey the speed limit. Or the ones from behind me that turn right on red from the shoulder illegally because I’m in their way waiting for the traffic light ahead to change from red to green. Or count the countless vehicles that run the red lights just to get where they’re going a few seconds faster. Or travel with me endangering our lives on Carrier Circle to go from Thompson Rd N to Thompson Rd S. Or hold your breath as the drivers play musical chairs to get farther ahead in a line of traffic. Or listen to the
motorcycles on a warm summer night exceeding the 45 mph speed limit on Henry Clay Blvd (OK, I admit that’s a parochial complaint). Things change, but driver behavior does not and will not.

Where does the south terminus of the offending section of I-81 really begin? Surely it’s farther south than East Raynor Street and the MLK Elementary School. Aren’t there, or shouldn’t there be concerns regarding the current Federal Highway standards for that section as far south as the intersection with I-481? It’s hard for me to tell how far south the 15th Ward extended, but wasn’t the entire Valley section also greatly impacted by the offending section of I-81? Where is the outrage to correct that part of the 60 year old mistake? Or should we only be concerned with avoiding being racially insensitive? Get out a map of NYS and stretch a string on it from Binghamton to Watertown. The shortest, and therefore least expensive route goes through the City of Syracuse, not around it. That’s why the offending section was created in the first place, not to purposefully divide a black neighborhood.

Urban centers across the country have deteriorated for many reasons in the last hundred years, the least of which was because of the interstate highway systems. Where are the boundaries of the urban core for which Mr. Driscoll expresses concern? The grid only will not bring back downtown department store shopping on Salina Street. It will not restore the former manicured lawns on South State or South Salina. The people passing through the area on I-81 rerouted through Dewitt will not see a landmark Skyway that would encourage them to stop and take a look at this place. I consider it my City, even though I don’t live within its boundaries.

With President Biden’s infrastructure bill floating through Congress, it appears there will be plenty of federal monies made available. We should be first in line with a dynamic and dramatic project for the entire Central New York REGION that works for everyone, not just a community grid to atone for the past.

I just returned from the “meeting” this evening at Chestnut Hill Middle. It was like a car show with every salesman trying to get your attention to answer any questions and give you their sales pitch. Unfortunately the simple question I asked of one of them about where exactly will the return to street level be was not answered with any certainty. Their glossy brochure, the great posters and expensive video did nothing for me except to reinforce that this farce is a done deal, signed, sealed, and delivered. It was painfully obvious the presentations were slanted to demonstrate the negative side of maintaining the elevated viaduct in any way shape or form. I could be mistaken, but don’t recall seeing on the construction time lines at what point the viaduct will be taken down. The slick video does not accurately show the traffic density as it really will exist for any part of the project when completed., but it sure is pretty. All those thriving trees are not what they will look like when first planted or for years to come.

Michael W. Reed

MICHAEL W. REED
Concerned Citizen of Northern Onondaga County and the REGION
4758 Echo Park Road
Liverpool, NY 13088
09/01/2021
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

clenreed=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <clenreed=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Clenn Reed <clenreed@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 1:40 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Jill Reinhardt
Sharon Millhouse

From: jill.a.reinhardt=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Jill Reinhardt <jill.a.reinhardt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 4:37 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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mareisin=binghamton.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <mareisin=binghamton.edu@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
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Thu 10/14/2021 1:02 PM
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Sincerely,

Jordan Rekeweg
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Edward Rengers
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Sincerely,

Edward Rengers
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Edward Rengers <EDRENG@GMAIL.COM>

Wed 10/13/2021 9:51 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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mareisin=binghamton.edu@mg.gospringboard.io
<mareisin=binghamton.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Mark Reisinger <mareisin@binghamton.edu>

Tue 8/10/2021 12:47 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Mark Reisinger
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

caroleresnick=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <caroleresnick=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Carole Resnick <caroleresnick@gmail.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 2:03 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Carole Resnick
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jereynolds87@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
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on behalf of
John Reynolds <jereynolds87@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:02 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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John Reynolds
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Christina Rhode
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Comments to Proposed Plan for I81

tom rhoads <trhoads789@gmail.com>
Tue 9/14/2021 8:29 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: may@nysenate.gov <may@nysenate.gov>; Mayor Marty Hubbard <Mayor@villageofskaneateles.com>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Thank you the opportunity to provide comments. My comments are as follows:

The project plan fails to address the highly likely short cuts of trucks and cars via State Routes 41 and 41A. The plan will impose significant safety, noise, and air pollution impacts on communities along State Routes 41 and 41A with then subsequent traffic on Route 20.

Truck traffic along route 41 and 20 will significantly add safety concerns in the future and these safety concerns are not addressed in the study.

In addition to air pollution there is a true risk to the Skaneateles Lake watershed which serves the City of Syracuse and Skaneateles with drinking water.

Economic impacts from additional traffic in the suburbs, both east and west of the city, have not been properly considered. The proposed plan is city centric and does not adequately address the very real consequences to my community and others in the region.

Please study and incorporate proper planning to mitigate the safety, noise, pollution, and economic impacts of the project on the suburban and rural areas which will be heavily harmed by traffic on Routes 41, 41A and 20 due to vastly increased short cutting to avoid the community grid and its longer reroute on current 481 as proposed.

Your urgent attention to this matter is appreciated.

Tom Rhoads
Skaneateles, NY
Dear Mr. Smith

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- Move the proposed highway access ramp so it is at least 600 feet from STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School.
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These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Marni Rice
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- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth

- Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
- Conduct a community health needs assessment.
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- Create a Community Restoration Fund.
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Sincerely,

Helen Rich
Sharon Millhouse

From: richhelen22@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Helen Rich <richhelen22@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 5:11 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

pgr3=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <pgr3=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Philip Rich <pgr3@verizon.net>

Tue 8/10/2021 6:44 PM

To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Jocelyn Richards
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berichernwc=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <berichernwc=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Glenn Richardson <berichernwc@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 9:47 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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driell=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io <driell=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Dana Riell <driell@nycap.rr.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:09 AM
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Sincerely,

Dana Riell
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

nancy.rifkind=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<nancy.rifkind=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Nancy Rifkind <nancy.rifkind@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:41 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Barbara Ring
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rudykr@verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <rudykr@verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rudolph Ripp <rudykr@verizon.net>

Wed 10/13/2021 10:09 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Sincerely,

Rudolph Ripp
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O’Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportation’s preferred option. I am currently employed at the Super 8, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that the community grid option will add to my commute time and expenses. I do not live right in Liverpool and use I-81 to get to work daily as do many of my coworkers.

Adding time to my commute will result in less time I am able to spend at home with my family.

Additionally, longer commute times will cost more in gasoline and automobile care as well as childcare expenses.

Please consider the economic impact this will have on my co-workers and me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

Name
Angela Rivera
Position
Housekeeper
Hotel
Super 8
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Jerry Rivers
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

kittyintheraft=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io <kittyintheraft=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Kathleen Roberts <kittyintheraft@outlook.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 7:27 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODIlLTvjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMj
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Sincerely,

Kathleen Roberts
Hannah Brazil

From: carol@carolrobin.com on behalf of Carol Robin
       <carol@carolrobin.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 11:14 AM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Carol Robin
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Carol Robin
August 11, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportations preferred option. I am currently employed at the Homewood Suites by Hilton Syracuse-Liverpool, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safely utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located off I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations — in advance or same day of arrival bookings — are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and Interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Daisy Robles
Housekeeper
Homewood Suites Syracuse Liverpool
Dear Mr. Smith

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Soretta Rodack
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 11:33 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Justin Rodriguez
Sharon Millhouse

From: justinjrrodriguez=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Justin Rodriguez
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 6:13 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Justin Rodriguez
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Marge and Peter Rogatz
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

johnnycheekawonny=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
on behalf of
John Rohde <johnnycheekawonny@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 1:52 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

egr.dec=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io <egr.dec=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Ellyn Roloff <egr.dec=outlook.com>

Wed 8/4/2021 7:10 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Ellyn Roloff
Comments from the East

John Romano <romanojb@twcny.rr.com>
Thu 7/29/2021 2:57 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I have followed this issue regarding Rt81 Grid for months. From the comments I have seen and heard this Rt81 grid decision seemingly is a done deal. I reside in the east but my views seem to follow issues from the north which also seems like no one is listening. What has irked me the most is when the city of Syracuse and Syracuse University signed on for this grid no one else mattered. There was very little or no discussions with the outlining areas such as Salina, Liverpool, Clay, Cicero in the north. Dewitt, Fayetteville, Manlius, Jamesville in the east and how this would affect them. And this subject that keeps popping up about the 15th Ward and what the initial construction of Rt81 did to that area is a moot point. That area is not going to come back after 60 years and anyone who believes that has their head in the sand. Sure there will be some sort of development in that area but not anything like the politicians want you to believe.

One other thing that no one is mentioning about the Rt481 by-pass. If you look at the area of where Rt690 & Rt481 come together you will see an entrance and exit that is closed off to the public and you will see a lot of construction material and equipment stored in that area. Has anyone ever mentioned why that is like it is? Have you mentioned what that was originally for? In the mid to late 80’s there was a plan to extend Rt690 over through Burdick St., another street and merge on Rt5 by Green Lakes heading toward Chittenango. All the right-of-ways and easements were in place. I don’t know the reason whether it was money, politics or even Wegmans(they were building and expanding the Dewitt store in those days) but all those easements and right-of-ways were allowed to expire and the excuse in the late 80’s was.."it didn’t do anything for the city of Syracuse". Now because of that decision the traffic at exit 3 on Rt481 is a nightmare in normal weather and worse during the winter months. With this grid Rt481 will be a zoo and there is no way you are going to alleviate it unless you go back to extending Rt690 as stated above and have some control over the winter weather here in “lake effect heaven”. Neither is going to happen no matter what the DOT and Washington politicians say. Most of the DOT people are from the Albany area. Albany does not have the weather we have in the winter and between Rt90, Rt87 & Rt787 you can really move around the three cities plus the Thruway was expanded to 3 lanes between Albany and Schenectady 30 plus years ago and the Rt88 was added. I ought to know how traffic is in the Capital region, I did it for a living.

I’m sure this email is going nowhere but I felt I had to at least let you hear my comments. Another person I hope you are listening to is the Salina councilwomen Colleen Gunnip who is bringing up a lot of good points from the north side of town.

John B. Romano
6313 Ledgewood Dr
Jamesville, NY 13078
Virus-free. [www.avast.com](www.avast.com)
Dear Mr. Smith

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Evan Romer
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Wed 10/13/2021 4:47 PM
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Sincerely,

Annemarie Rosano
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Sincerely,
Deirdre Rose
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

barbrose=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io <barbrose=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Barbara Rosen <barbrose@optonline.net>

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Sincerely,

Barbara Rosen
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brosen24=optimum.net@mg.gospringboard.io
<brosen24=optimum.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
BARRY ROSEN <brosen24@optimum.net>

Tue 8/10/2021 9:46 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

william rosenfeld
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

wrosenfeld1926@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <wrosenfeld1926@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
William Rosenfeld <wrosenfeld1926@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 12:05 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Smith

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robertarosenga=cs.com@mg.gospringboard.io <robertarosenga=cs.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Robert Rosengard <robertarosenga@cs.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 9:11 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Robert Rosengard
Do right by Syracuse residents

misterbill999=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<misterbill999=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Bill Rosenthal <misterbill999@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:17 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Bill Rosenthal
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Rhonda Rosenthal
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

bethsbiz=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <bethsbiz=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Beth Rosner <bethsbiz@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:30 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Beth Rosner
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mar13207@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mar13207@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Melissa Ross <mar13207@yahoo.com>
Tue 10/12/2021 4:19 PM
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Sincerely,

Melissa Ross
What is the quickest route to Liverpool or Camillus from the south valley area? It seems that we would have to drive through Syracuse to get to these areas. This is an inconvenience since some of the speed zones will be changing with this new proposal. I believe that some consideration for south side commuters should be had.

Bridget Rossen
111 Conifer Drive
Syracuse NY
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Sincerely,

Cody Rossler
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Cody Rossler
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

bobrotunda@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<bobrotunda@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Robert Rotunda <bobrotunda@hotmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 12:47 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

stacey.roy01@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<stacey.roy01@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Stacey Roy <stacey.roy01@gmail.com>
Wed 8/4/2021 10:50 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Stacey Roy
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Sincerely,

Laurie Rubin
Sharon Millhouse

From: grandma818=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Laurie Rubin
<grandma818@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:53 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Laurie Rubin
Hannah Brazil

From: shellsir@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Rochelle Rubin  
<shellsir@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:45 AM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Rochelle Rubin
Hello,

I am commenting on the planned "Improvements" to Exiting I-481 Exit 3 (New York State Route 5/92). Currently, the existing I-481 southbound to eastbound Route 5/92 exit ramp continues onto its own lane on 5/92, without a stop sign or traffic light. This creates a steady flow of traffic from a heavily used exit to a heavily used corridor. It should not be removed.

The proposed plan would eliminate this ramp—which see a significant amount of traffic going to Wegmans, Target, Fayetteville, Manlius, Cazenovia, and Chittenango—and replace it with a stop light on NY 5/92. This would create significantly more traffic (which creates more pollution), by backing up both traffic on 5/92 and traffic getting off the new I-81. This new plan would be a regression and should be scrapped. There is no justification for it.

The only improvement this exit needs is a crosswalk signal/stop light (or raised crosswalk/speed bump) for pedestrians crossing the two-lane westbound 5/92 on-ramp to existing I-481 north. Traffic there is accelerating from 40+ MPH to 65+ MPH, and cars there rarely respect the existing blinking lights for pedestrians trying to cross. I don't feel safe crossing there with my son on his way to and from Moses DeWitt Elementary.

One possible alternative for alleviating traffic in the 5/92 corridor is to create an exit at Kinne Rd. It could be a partial exit where southbound (4)81 traffic could get off onto Tow Path Rd, and northbound traffic could get on (4)81 from Butternut Dr. There is plenty of room there for ramps.

Another option would be to open up the existing ramps to and from 481 and 690 at 5831 Butternut Dr to non-NYDOT use.

No matter what happens with I-81, the existing 481 exit 3E needs to stay.

Thanks for your consideration.

-Chris Ruddy
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

russel_oliver=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io <russel_oliver=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Russel Oliver <russel_oliver@outlook.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 12:16 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Russel Oliver
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Sincerely,

Caroline Russell
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Caroline Russell
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dodger2psu@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<dodger2psu@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Doug Russell <dodger2psu@yahoo.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 9:05 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Doug Russell
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

lrussell72700=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <lrussell72700=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Lindsey Russell <lrussell72700@gmail.com>

Tue 10/12/2021 11:27 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Lindsey Russell
To Whom It May Concern:

I have three main concerns regarding the I-81 project:

- That guarantees be given to all affected public housing residents that they will be provided with adequate housing equal to or better than their current home at the same cost they now are paying during the construction period. And that they will either be able to return to their current homes or be provided with housing equal to or better than their current homes once the project is completed. This does not simply mean giving them vouchers, which are worthless if landlords don’t accept them.

- That a substantial number of jobs on the demolition of Route 81 and the construction of the Community Grid and related work be available for Syracuse city residents in general, and African American residents in particular.

- Consider making the Community Grid less of a highway and more of a pedestrian-friendly street. I’m concerned about the width of the streets being proposed and fear it will be another “Erie Blvd. E.” or “West Street”, making it difficult to cross and continuing to separate the community.

Thank you,

Charles Russo
126 Jamesville Ave., Apt. N4
Syracuse, NY 13210
Ctr0846@gmail.com
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

russojl=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io <russojl=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Linda Russo <russojl@msn.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 9:44 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Maria Russo <rmrusso4@mac.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:11 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation’s current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

Protect Land Use

● A land transfer policy must be put in place before returning the land to the City of Syracuse that restores and enhances communities impacted by I-81, specifically the predominately Black community adjacent to the viaduct.
● Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
● Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth

● Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
● Conduct a community health needs assessment.
Do not use Wilson Park as a staging site for construction or construction materials.
Create a Community Restoration Fund.
Offer market-rate buyouts, rent subsidies, and/or temporary relocation assistance for people who want to move.
Conduct an easement reassessment so that renters receive easement payments.

Access to Opportunity

Jobs generated by the project must go to the people who live directly adjacent to the viaduct and 30 percent of them should go to Black and Brown Syracuse residents.
Apply for the federal “SEP 14” local hiring pilot program, and limit the hiring requirements to Syracuse residents. The SEP 14 application must be accompanied by a community workforce agreement to legally require that unions hire local Syracuse residents, with a preference for impacted Syracuse neighborhoods. The DOT must also provide independent oversight to ensure the goals of the labor agreement are met.
Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
Provide governmental oversight on all aspects of this project until it is complete.

Protect School Children

Create a comprehensive construction plan in collaboration with parents, faculty, and staff at the Syracuse City School District.
Move the proposed highway access ramp so it is at least 600 feet from STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School.
Conduct a study to determine if the community grid will remain a major roadway, as defined by 30,000 cars or more daily.

These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

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Protect Indigenous Rights
• The vast majority of the I-81 project is located on the treaty-protected lands of the Onondaga Nation.
• Areas of the project intersect with areas of known cultural significance to the Onondaga Nation and have a high probability of containing cultural artifacts or ancestral remains.
• The Onondaga Nation repeatedly requested in the official correspondence included in this EIS that proper respect and protocols be used to ensure that ancestral remains are not disturbed in the construction of the project.
• I ask that NYSDOT and SHPO adopt the recommendations of the Onondaga Nation, including but not limited to:
- Hiring multiple Cultural Resource Monitors from and trained by the Onondaga Nation to be present at all ground disturbing activities.

- Using the proper terms to refer to the Onondaga Nation and its people.

- To stop work and notify the Onondaga Nation promptly upon the discovery of any human remains. This practice ensures that, if the remains are Haudenosaunee, proper protocols are followed throughout the investigation process.

Address the Climate Crisis
- Prioritize building non-car infrastructure for transit as a replacement (such as protected bike lanes, bus lanes, accessible public transit, and walkways).

- Prioritize including green spaces, shade trees, pollinator plants, rain gardens, and permeable surfaces wherever possible to prevent flooding and the urban heat island effect.

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Amber Ruther
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Rutherford Charlot
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Sincerely,

Catherine Ryan
Choose Community Grid option

Diana Ryan <diana.ryan3@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 6:31 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

I would like to express my strong support for the Community Grid. Along with this, I'd like to comment on important points that are essential for environmental & economic justice.

- it is important that the section of the BL81 going through the city have no higher than a 30 mph speed limit and no wider than 11 foot lanes (preferably 10 foot). Higher speeds and wider lanes will make it too easy for thru-traffic to cut through the city. It is necessary to remove as much traffic from the city as possible due to the negative impacts on health - higher incidence of asthma and other lung diseases exist in city populations due to the current viaduct.

- it is important to keep the round-about located as far as possible from MLK School. The SIGH Act being considered by the NYS Legislature requires a minimum of 500 feet between a major roadway and a school for good reasons - both health and safety impacts on young students.

- it is important to make all roadways in the Community Grid pedestrian and bicyclist friendly. Well-marked crosswalks, narrow traffic lanes, good crossing signals, etc. Put people's safety and security over vehicle convenience, and there will be more people opting to commute via foot-power or pedal-power, thereby reducing street traffic.

- it is important to incorporate accommodations for public transit into street design - space for bus pull-overs, bus-stops, etc. More public transit will benefit all commuters, especially those without the means to own cars. It will provide more opportunities of employment due to the ability to commute to more locations. It will also benefit visitors to the city. It will reduce both traffic and the need to allocate more space for parking.

- it is important to have a north-bound exit at Colvin Street to give more choices in entering the city. This will spread traffic out on city streets and reduce the impact on any single roadway. The more choices that can be incorporated into the street grid design, the better.

- it is important to provide training and jobs to the local community, especially the people who have suffered the most negative economic impacts from the viaduct going through the city.
- it is important to take into consideration improvements to 481 around the DeWitt and Fayetteville on and off-ramps. These are heavily trafficked, and, if possible, bottlenecks should be solved with this project, not made worse. The smoother the traffic-flow on 481 and the connecting roadways, the less likely it will be for thru-traffic to cut through the city.

- it is important to reduce the footprint of roadways through the city anywhere possible by keeping traffic lanes narrow and curvatures less wide. This will not only reduce vehicle speeds and make it safer for both pedestrians and commuters, it will open up more area for development and greenspace.

- please install solar panels anywhere feasible along the roadways: in medians, on bridge pylons, on traffic signal poles, etc. I recall the Destiny Mall using micro-turbines on its light-pole fixtures or something of the sort. If this is possible, please consider it in design plans. Climate Change needs solutions incorporated into any design project going forward.

- Thank you for listening to and considering so many comments from the public. Public input often leads to better designs.
Community Grid Alternative

jennifer ryan <ryanjm68@yahoo.com>
Sat 9/4/2021 5:46 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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The map of the proposed community grid alternative was very detailed. I appreciate being able to see the changes being proposed. Thank you for sending it out.

I have been commuting for 17 years on 81S from my home in the Sedgwick neighborhood of Syracuse to/from my job in Tully. I am concerned about the impact the changes made to 81S will have on the length of my commute.

Currently, I access 81S from 690 W after hopping on at Teall. From my home to about where the new traffic circle will be located takes me approximately 10 minutes at 7AM. It seems there might be 12 or 13 intersections in the grid starting at Erie/Almond south to the traffic circle. My concern is with traffic flow. Will lights be timed so that cars can travel through several intersections before stopping or will traffic be forced to stop at every one? With that many intersections, a trip through the grid could be lengthy.

I would really rather NOT have to access 690E at Teall (the traffic lights there are time sucks) and travel around 690 to the new 81S to get to Tully. Bottom line, I'm looking for the shortest, quickest route to get to my destination and am hoping the grid route will end up being close to if not the same amount of time as it currently takes.

In favor of the viaduct,
Jennifer Ryan
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jessica=theengineeringchick.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jessica=theengineeringchick.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Jessica Ryan <jessica@theengineeringchick.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 5:29 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Jessica Ryan
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Denise S.
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Sincerely,

Eric S
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ariel_sacks=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ariel_sacks=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of 
Ariel Sacks <ariel_sacks@yahoo.com>
Sun 8/8/2021 9:46 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway’s shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation’s current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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Sincerely,

Ariel Sacks
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ariel_sacks@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ariel_sacks@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Ariel Sacks <ariel_sacks@yahoo.com>
Sun 8/8/2021 9:47 AM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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pastoragnes@verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <pastoragnes=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Agnes C. Saffoury <pastoragnes@verizon.net>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:30 PM

To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Agnes C. Saffoury
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Jacqueline Sailer
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Sincerely,

Jacqueline Sailer
August 11, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O’Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportations preferred option. I am currently employed at the Homewood Suites by Hilton Syracuse-Liverpool, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safety utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and Interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Candice Salamone
Accounting
Homewood Suites Syracuse Liverpool
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

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I am worried that the community grid option will add to my commute time and expenses. I do not live right in Liverpool and use I-81 to get to work daily as do many of my coworkers.

Adding time to my commute will result in less time I am able to spend at home with my family.

Additionally, longer commute times will cost more in gasoline and automobile care as well as childcare expenses.

Please consider the economic impact this will have on my co-workers and me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

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August 11, 2021

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[Signature]

Alejandrina Salazar-Naveros
Housekeeper
Homewood Suites Syracuse Liverpool
this voter supports the Community Grid for I-81

Florence Saleh <outlook_91625885B542BF48@outlook.com>
Sat 10/16/2021 7:20 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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This delay and needless money spent on more studies has gone on long enough.

Florence Saleh
8134 Solomon seal lane
Manlius NY 13104

Sent from Mail for Windows
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Lura Salm
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Sincerely,

Carol Salmanson
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

talsmiles@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <talsmiles@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Chantal Salomon-Lee <talsmiles@hotmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:27 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Chantal Salomon-Lee
Sharon Millhouse

From: talsmiles@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Chantal Salomon-Lee <talsmiles@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 10:14 AM

To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov

Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Wed 10/13/2021 5:00 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Wilfredo R. Santiago
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

liddlekiddle=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io <liddlekiddle=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
susan santilli <liddlekiddle@msn.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 5:58 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,
susan santilli
August 11, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportation's preferred option. I am currently employed at the Super 8 Syracuse North, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that the community grid option will add to my commute time and expenses. I do not live right in Liverpool and use I-81 to get to work daily as do many of my coworkers.

Adding time to my commute will result in less time I am able to spend at home with my family.

Additionally, longer commute times will cost more in gasoline and automobile care as well as childcare expenses.

Please consider the economic impact this will have on my co-workers and me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Santos
Regional Sales Manager
D) 315-703-7728
chelsea.santos@hilton.com
August 11, 2021

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Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportations preferred option. I am currently employed at the Homewood Suites by Hilton Syracuse-Liverpool, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safely utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and Interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

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Homewood Suites Syracuse Liverpool
Hampton Inn Syracuse North
Tru by Hilton Syracuse North
Super 8 Syracuse North
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sarabasha=earthlink.net@mg.gospringboard.io <sarabasha=earthlink.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 9:38 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Robert Sarason
Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director, New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration

October 14, 2021

**Please confirm you received this email.**

Dear Mr. Frechette and Mr. Marquis,

My name is Robert Sarason. I live at 6110 Bay Hill Circle, Jamesville, NY 13078. I successfully completed a 4 year union printing apprenticeship at the Charlotte Observer in Charlotte, North Carolina in 1973. I know many people who have completed apprenticeships in various unions have been able to enjoy a solid middle class life in America.
The issue of getting people of color into apprenticeships is an issue which has plagued our country for over 100 years. The scenario on big construction projects almost always follows the following scenario: Some group or organization claims that construction unions are engaging in unfair racial practices against people of color in the construction industry regarding people of color getting opportunities for apprenticeships. Despite the fact that the unions have often engaged in blatant nepotism, coupling with an unwillingness to recruit people of color or treat people of color fairly, unwillingness to inform people of color the nuts and bolts of the application process, locating training centers outside of cities where people of color do not have access, failing to provide pre-apprenticeship training to pave the wave for entry into the trades, intentional racist speech and action, and unintentional racist speech and action, the unions claim that almost no people of color have successfully applied or completed union apprenticeships. The employers then claim that since the building trade unions do not have any people of color in apprenticeships or completed apprenticeships, they can not do anything about the situation.

Fortunately, the current situation has many distinct differences with previous situations:

1) Unlike many other groups in other situations in other parts of the country that briefly organize before construction is begun, the Urban Jobs Task Force has been organizing over two years and has very deep roots and support with people of color in the community. Please note that while I fully support the goals of the Urban Jobs Task Force, I am not in the leadership of this group and am not fully aware of all of the conversations and relationships with various players in the construction industry. For instance, I learned that the Urban Jobs Task Force has tried to resolve some issues with the governmental officials involved in the I-81 project, however the Urban Jobs Task Force does not provide the details of their conversations. I am not criticizing either the Urban Jobs Task Force or governmental officials for not disclosing the details of their discussions, since I know from my involvement in off-the-record union discussions with management, that the lack of complete disclosure sometimes make these off the record discussions more productive. Since I am not in the leadership of this group, I learned at the public hearing that the construction for the Joint Schools Construction Board resulted in many people of color being trained in the construction industry. Consequently, some of these workers must be granted journeyman status or accelerated apprenticeships, or beginning apprenticeships to receive greater racial justice in this construction project. The Urban Jobs Task Force's deep roots in the community should not be underestimated.

2) Overwhelming evidence that people of color suffered terrible consequences by the construction of I-81 and negative consequences that continue to this day after the project was completed. Please note the New York Civil Liberties Union report on I-81.

3) Commitment to Racial Inclusion and Equity by Federal (Secretary Buttigeg and Senators Schumer and Gillibrand (Senator Gillibrand introduced a Build Local, Hire Local bill that would mandate that a certain percentage of labor on federal construction projects be for women and people of color.) State (Governor Hochul, State Senators Rachel May and John Mannion, Al Stirpe, Bill Magnarelli) and Local (Mayor Walsh and City Common Councilors).

4) We now have the expertise of Department of Labor Secretary Marty Walsh, who made progress in increasing the percentage of people of color and women in the building trades while he was the Mayor of Boston, and took the initiative of increasing participation of people of color and women in the building trades when he was in charge of the building trade unions prior to his election as Mayor of Boston. The US Department of Transportation should not waste the opportunity to consult with Secretary Marty Walsh on the best methods to integrate the building trade unions.

5) The local building trade unions have not fought efforts to integrate the building trades so far which demonstrates that they could possibly be instruments of change.
6) Recognition by the New York State Department of Transportation that previous efforts to integrate the building trades have not been successful. While there was lip service to racial progress, the data for the I-690 Teall Interchange Project PLA demonstrates that the workers were white and male with only 10% minority and 6% women. Recognition of previous errors can prevent these errors being repeated in the I-81 Project. The low use of apprenticeships on 690 project-4.4% was a disgrace.

7) The federal prohibition of local preferential hiring does not need to be employed in all construction projects. Sep-14 Program

For the above-mentioned reasons, in order to integrate the building trade unions, the following steps must be taken:

1) All goals must utilize specific numbers of hours worked and the percentage of these hours by people of color and women.

2) All contractors must report the specific number of hours worked and the percentage of those hours by people of color and women.

3) All contractors must be financially penalized for untimely or inaccurate reports.

4) All numbers must be verified by an independent team of employees from the US Department of Transportation and determine whether the contractors reports are timely and accurate.

5) The Department of Transportation shall issue quarterly reports on these employment statistics.

6) All data from the contractors and the Department of Transportation on these issues should be made available for public inspection.

7) **Set the Apprenticeship Goal at 20% that doesn't violate the required journeyperson to apprenticeship ratio.**

Sincerely,

Robert Sarason,

6110 Bay Hill Circle

Jamesville, NY 13078

robert.sarason@gmail.com

315-744-0145
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Sophia Sattar
Dear

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Dustin Satterfield
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Sincerely,
Sarah Satzman
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sarahsatzman@hotmail.com <sarahsatzman@hotmail.com>
on behalf of
Sarah Satzman <sarahsatzman@hotmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 2:37 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMj...
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Sincerely,

Christina Sauve
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

gcsalto@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <gcsalto@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Gabriella Savino <gcsalto@hotmail.com>
Mon 8/2/2021 4:04 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sharina Scanes
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

karen=intuitnutrition.com@mg.gospringboard.io <karen=intuitnutrition.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Karen Scanlon <karen@intuitnutrition.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:52 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Karen Scanlon
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Sincerely,

Dolores Schaefer
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

olddutch=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io <olddutch=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Millie Schaefer <olddutch@optonline.net>

Thu 10/14/2021 1:45 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Ellen Schecter
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ellen.schecter@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ellen.schecter@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Ellen Schecter <ellen.schecter@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 4:02 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Ellen Schecter
I81

Peter Scheibe <pscheibe@earthlink.net>
Thu 8/5/2021 10:45 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Thank you
I am in favor of the current community grid proposal.
I strongly urge that this plan move forward.
Suggestions for elevated portions or tunnels are, by now, mostly blocking maneuvers hoping to delay and derail the project.
No plan is perfect and there can always be improvements but the time to move forward is now.
We, as citizens, absolutely need to see that a major infrastructure project can actually move forward.
There has been sufficient time for comments.

Please, no more delays.
Sincerely,
Peter Scheibe
205 Locksley Rd.
Syracuse 13224

Sent from my iPad
I-81 Corridor Concept

Scheid, John W. (DOT) <John.Scheid@dot.ny.gov>
Wed 9/22/2021 10:46 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

I-81 Corridor Committee,

I understand that options for the I-81 Syracuse Downtown Corridor Project corridor project are back to the drawing board and further that previous options may need to be discussed even if they were previously considered cost prohibitive.

Anyway, see my attached drawings that I sketched up in 2018; I call it the one third-two thirds 3-sided box alternative. I had these ideas in my head from the first announcement of the project and finally sketched them up and gave copies to George Doucette at that time. He thanked me, but I have not heard back.

In any event my proposal offers the ability to move the traffic through downtown, with minimal impact on the environment, reduces noise, allows for cross traffic and provides a greenspace which could connect to other downtown walking/bike trails. All of the sections could be cast on place and a batch plant situated adjacent the site to meet all of our concrete needs, thus reducing any additional trucking costs and further disruption of traffic.

In addition, I would propose incorporating the services of Syracuse University and ESF to provide Landscape Alternatives and Engineering Considerations as part of their curriculum in a classroom studio setting to come up with additional design elements, thus reducing the engineering costs, providing an even wider range of ideas and involving the local community as end users. So back to my first comment.

I haven't heard these options mentioned or discussed previously and would like to submit them more formally if need be.

I also have similar ideas for using the 3-sided box as a means to bypass the Onondaga Lake Parkway in combination with cleaning up the lake. This all seems like a no brainer to me. I see this as work related. Please respond to me via email or you may call at 315-414-8455. Thank you for your consideration.

John Scheid
3-Sided Box - Transportation Tunnel
Section NTS

Note:
1) Partially Buried 1/3 below grade
2) Cast in place base slab
3) 3-Sided Box Cast near site, length = 60' +
4) Drainage with intermediate pumps as needed
5) All service below roadway

I-81 Corridor Thru the City of Syracuse
by J.W. Scheid
NYS DOT Cell: 315-414-8455
Home: 315-363-0373
Elevated Crossing

3-Sided Box

Exist Roadway

Emergency exit ramp at crossings for workers & equipment

Section - NTS

3-Sided Box

Intersection Roadways - NTS

Notes:
1) est. location
2) Box buried 1/3 depth
3) Provide pump for drainage with pit at intersection's lower elevation

Additional General Notes:
1) Meet at Syracuse University / ESF to assist w/ landscape design alternatives
2) Provide area near site to batch concrete and precast box sections
3-Sided Box
Transportation Tunnel
e Street Crossing
Profile - N.T.S.

Notes:
1) 4 cross streets w/pedestrian Bridge
2) Provide High Intensity Lighting for
   Length of Pedestrian Walk/Bike path
3) Provide pedestrian access points
   at intersections
4) Provide worker access at crossings
   Should be large enough for equipment and remote vehicles
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

beschein=buffalo.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <beschein=buffalo.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Brittany Scheiner <beschein@buffalo.edu>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:24 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Brittany Scheiner
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

susanscher31=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <susanscher31=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Suana Scher <susanscher31@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:27 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Lolita Scherer
Make a Bridge

Bob Scherfner <scherfner@gartnerequipment.com>
Wed 10/6/2021 9:57 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Hi

Please build a beautiful iconic bridge that keeps traffic moving. Don’t bring heavy traffic, walls, and grid lock to street level. My company is on Spencer St in Syracuse, NY. We need the traffic that comes thru Syracuse.

Thanks
To whom it may concern:

My name is Giovanna Schiano and I have been a resident of the town of Salina for approximately fifteen years. I have been very disheartened to learn that the Liverpool Bypass, an intersection that I use daily in my commute, is currently being overlooked for desperately needed improvements. As a tax paying member of the community I believe I am entitled to an attractive, pedestrian friendly entrance to it that promotes economic improvements, is safer for pedestrians, and allows us to enjoy unobstructed lake views. I find it appalling that while improvements are currently being made in neighboring towns nothing is being done to repair this unsightly area so close to my home. I firmly believe that my hard earned tax dollars should be going toward improving this area by making it safer and more beautiful for myself and my loved ones so that I can continue to be proud to call the Town of Salina my home.

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Sincerely,

Paul Schickler
Hannah Brazil

From: brooklynpaul@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Paul Schickler
<brooklynpaul@yahoo.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 1:45 PM

To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov

Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

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Protect Health and Wealth

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Sincerely,

Paul Schickler
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Sincerely,

Margie Schiff
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Margie Schiff
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mschimelman=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mschimelman=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Mark Schimelman <mschimelman@gmail.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 9:43 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Mark Schimelman
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Sincerely,

Shelley Schimelman
Hannah Brazil

From: sgs1951@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Shelley Schimelman <sgs1951@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:36 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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n.schmiddy=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <n.schmiddy=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Nan Schmid <n.schmiddy@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:45 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Nan Schmid
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

gardengoddess46@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<gardengoddess46@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Jean Schmidlein <gardengoddess46@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 1:29 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Christine Schmitthenner
Sharon Millhouse

From: chriswhf@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Christine Schmitthenner
<chriswhf@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 8:58 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

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- Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
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Nicole Schnell
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Esther Schonfeld
Sharon Millhouse

From: schonfelde=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Esther Schonfeld
Schonfelde@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 2:28 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

DEBBYPEBBLES=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<DEBBYPEBBLES=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Debby Schnoop <DEBBYPEBBLES@aol.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 1:04 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Debby Schnoop
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Sincerely,

Gillian Scholz
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Georgia Schoonmaker
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Sincerely,

Amy Schramm
I-81 Viaduct Project

Heather Schroeder <heather.r.schroeder@gmail.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 4:18 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: Rebecca Shaffer Mannion <director@unpa.net>

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Mr. Frechette and Mr. Marquis:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the University Neighborhood Preservation Association (UNPA), I am pleased to voice my support for the Community Grid alternative and to urge further consideration of the highway’s impact on our neighborhood gateways.

UNPA is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1991, with a mission to maintain owner occupancy and promote the University Neighborhood as a great place to live. To date, we have assisted more than 900 homebuyers with $3.5 million in grants and loans.

We believe the connections between the University neighborhood and downtown are essential. Of our homeowner grant recipients in 2019-2020, 30% were first-time homebuyers, 30% worked for an institution on The Hill (SU, ESF, Upstate), and 40% worked downtown; the proximity of our neighborhood to both downtown and The Hill is what makes it attractive to homeowners who invest in Syracuse. The removal of the I-81 viaduct and replacement with the Community Grid will serve to further reconnect these two key Syracuse neighborhoods and employment centers.

While the removal of the viaduct will serve to better knit together the East Side and Downtown, the remaining path of BL 81 sustains a disconnect between the East Side and the South Side. UNPA serves as the grant administrator for both the Outer Comstock Neighborhood Association and the SANKOFA district on Syracuse’s South Side; collectively, the efforts of each of these three housing organizations serves to improve the gateway to our employment and economic centers on The Hill.

The current plans for BL 81 state that “BL 81 would come to grade just south of MLK, Jr. East, and a roundabout would be installed at MLK, Jr. East.” This at-grade location plan poses three problems: one related to historic resources, one related to environmental racism, one related to connectivity.

Oakwood Avenue, and its historic entrance to Oakwood Cemetery, would remain blocked by BL 81 under the proposed configuration. In the Preservation Association of Central New York’s “Eight that can’t wait” listings, the Oakwood Cemetery entrance – and associated properties – are listed as at-risk historic resources. While “the Community Grid Alternative would avoid adverse effects on historic architectural properties” downtown, according to the Executive Summary of the DEIS, these important architectural resources south of downtown are being overlooked.

Moreover, the proposed roundabout would be in close proximity to Dr. King Elementary School, bringing smog and speeding traffic within one block of our city’s public school children. Our children already have higher rates of asthma, and we remain concerned that a roundabout sending more than 35,000 cars per day past an elementary school is a poor choice of location.
Furthermore, the preservation of the BL 81 highway south of MLK, Jr. East continues the deep physical divide between the East Side and the South Side. As we look to reconnect our neighborhoods, this potential to share the East Side’s prosperity and growth with that of the South Side – The Hill’s southern neighbor – cannot be overlooked. Without BL 81 there, SU and Upstate families may look to the South Side to fulfill their housing needs – a pattern we would welcome.

To address each of these concerns – the blocked historic gateway to Oakwood Cemetery; the roundabout’s proximity to the school; and the physical barrier between the city’s East and South sides – we advocate for BL 81 to come to grade further south, at Brighton Ave. This would direct more traffic to businesses on Brighton Ave. and South Salina St., while providing more alternate routes to arrive at points east and west.

We appreciate the tremendous progress for Syracuse promised in the Community Grid alternative, and we welcome further changes to better serve all neighborhoods adjacent to the highway’s current path.

Respectfully,

Heather Schroeder
President, UNPA
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Jennifer Schulaner
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jaschul@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jaschul@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Jason Schulman <jaschul@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 3:29 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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nschulm@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <nschulm=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 11:58 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Melissa Schultzahearn
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jennifer schultz
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Marcia Schumann
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David Schwartz
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Sincerely,

Tamar Schwartz
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

g8hndz4u=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <gr8hndz4u=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Sybil Schwartzbach <gr8hndz4u@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 10:07 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sybil Schwartzbach
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Sincerely,

Harry and Patricia C Schwarzlander
Sharon Millhouse

From: pcs=tigerbunny.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Harry and Patricia C Schwarzlander <pcs@tigerbunny.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 12:52 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Hilary Schuddekopf
From: Domenica Seaman

Property Address: 402 Buckley Road
Liverpool NY, 13088

To: Mark Frechette- Town Project Director
NYS Department of Transportation, Region 3

Dear Mr. Frechette

I am writing to you with tremendous concern regarding “The Grid” proposal at the northern most trafficked intersection of I81. The current plan to create a “grid” that excludes this intersection will most certainly have a negative impact not only on the Town of Salina, but also on the local community members who live, conduct business and visit this area. I have been a property owner in the Town of Salina for over 10 years and it is disheartening to learn of the improvements set to be done around the town of Salina but not in it. This particular intersection is the gateway to the Town of Salina and surrounding communities but lacks the necessary improvements to maintain a thriving community.

This intersection not only lacks the aesthetics’ of most major gateways (that again- connects many communities) it is also dangerous and obstructive to pedestrian traffic. This intersection similarly impedes the view of Onondaga Lake as well as safe entry in and out of the area.

Now is the time to make the necessary changes to maintain a thriving town. Without it, we are ensuring its decline.

Best Regards

Domenica Seaman

Town of Salina Property Owner
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

johsearle@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <johsearle@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
John searle <johsearle@yahoo.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 7:01 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Francesca Sedita
Dear Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

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Sincerely,

Francesca Sedita
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

seditafrancesca=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <seditafrancesca=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Francesca Sedita <seditafrancesca@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 7:57 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Francesca Sedita
We recently experienced Rt 481 road construction work on the bridges at Kirkville Rd which resulted in long delays and long lines of traffic. These delays were extensive and this is with RT 81 traffic following the normal course. Imagine what those backups and delays would have been like had all of that 81 traffic through the city had been added to that. What is the alternate plan when the inevitable road construction happens on 481 after the current Rt 81 is dismantled. I believe this scenario has been completely ignored or never even considered by the DOT. It has never been discussed in any of the news programs nor has the community been fully informed as to the plan to address these particulars.

I, furthermore, believe that the DOT has already decided that whatever they and the NY State Officials want to happen will, indeed, happen regardless of what common sense or public input objections are posed.

Thank You
David Seeley
Dear Mr. Smith

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Victoria Seeley
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Sincerely,

Doug Seidman
Sharon Millhouse

From: seidman4=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Doug Seidman <seidman4@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 12:38 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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mrsselman@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mrsselman@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Amanda Selman <mrsselman@aol.com>
Tue 9/21/2021 11:02 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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timsemon@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<timsemon@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Tim Semon <timsemon@hotmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 12:47 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Tim Semon
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Governments have routinely, and with malice a forethought and foreplanning, corralled, redlined and destroyed poor communities and communities of color using eminent domain and running highways/freeways through neighborhoods, destroying them altogether, or cutting them off--in effect, creating ghettos.

Such practices must stop. Using them is a form of slow violence and ethnic cleansing.

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities...
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Sincerely,

Abdul Ash Shaheed Shakir
East Brighton Ave /Thurber

kaylynne72 <kaylynne72@aol.com>
Tue 7/27/2021 6:40 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Good Morning Mr. Frechette.

Will the I-81 project effect thr East Brighton Ave road and/or the houses between South State street and Thurber Ave?

Thank you got your time.
Karinda Shanes

Sent from iPhone
Please excuse any grammatical errors or typos
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Sincerely,

Linda Shapiro
Community Grid

N Shaver <aynickuhlus@yahoo.com>
Fri 9/3/2021 7:47 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

My family votes for a Community Grid.

Thank you

Sent from my iPhone
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Caroline Shaw
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Charlotte Sheedy
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

c.she61=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <c.she61=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Caroline Sheffield <c.she61@gmail.com>
Mon 8/23/2021 9:54 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Caroline Sheffield
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Sincerely,

Diane Sheffield
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

avnershemi=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <avnershemi=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Avner Shemi <avnershemi@gmail.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:49 PM

To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Avner Shemi
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 9:56 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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John Sheridan
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

bsherwin02@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <bsherwin02@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Boyce Sherwin <bsherwin02@yahoo.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:08 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Margaret Shirk
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

davindranauth=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <davindranauth=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of Davindranauth Shiwratan <davindranauth@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 1:09 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Marina Shpirt <mxshpirt@yahoo.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 3:51 PM
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Marina Shpirt
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Elaine Shuster
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Elizabeth Shvarts
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

march25=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<march25=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Robert Shwajlyk <march25@nycap.rr.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 11:23 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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<neuroworksllc=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Bonita Siegel <neuroworksllc@aol.com>
Tue 8/3/2021 3:26 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Tue 8/3/2021 3:26 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Jay Siegelaub
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Sincerely,

Will Siegfried
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

julsierra7@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <julsierra7@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Julio Sierra <julsierra7@aol.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 1:04 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Julio Sierra
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

j.siler=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io <j.siler=verizon.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Julie Siler <j.siler@verizon.net>
Thu 10/14/2021 1:19 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Julie Siler
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

bgs6070@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <bgs6070@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of bernice silverman <bgs6070@gmail.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:26 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Dear Mr. Smith

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bernice silverman
community grid to I-81

Brenda Silverman <bsilverman755@gmail.com>
Thu 10/7/2021 6:05 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

There are so many ways to approach the topic of what to do about the aging piece of highway, I-81, what runs through downtown Syracuse. As a long time resident of Outer Comstock I will touch on only a few points. The pretty pictures that come with this website are only pretty pictures. What we have in reality is an 1848 road grid that functions at all because the current version of I-81 exists. Whatever motivated the designers of the current roadway, and much of that may have been the novelty of high speed roads through crowded areas, a very modern idea for the post WWII era. We could do it, create these roads and everything else would take its place in return.

We have an aging, seriously aging highway, more and more medical buildings from Upstate Medical, a regrowth to a previously empty downtown which still has the same roads as late 19th c. A vibrant Black community was cut into, a Greek and a Jewish community were also affected. The Jewish community moved east which included the construction of a synagogue on E. Genesee St. which is now a Christian church. The poverty of the Black community mirrors that in other cities.

Tearing down the current highway with a roundabout in front of an elementary school is a warning sign that the developers do not know the vicinity at all, sort of like the pretty road cuts in front of the Teall Ave. Post Office, which is a "design" product. Placing an exit onto E. Colvin is madness, there is not a single street that could manage the traffic of an exit. There is a school, historic cemetery, the entrance to Syracuse Univ. on the southside, our neighborhood, Outer Comstock, and on and on. To talk about the alternative route of changing I-481 into 81 makes no sense. There are R.R. tracks, there are wetlands, there are flyovers for birds and other environmental questions. There is no space to widen 481 because there is limestone rock on both sides of the highway along with the other items already mentioned.

There is also the 1848 roadway, which I have written about many times following an accident on 81, its closing about 5 pm, our 12 minute drive from Outer Comstock to Lamacchia Honda on W. Genesee, which took about 40 minutes rather than 12. The roads are barely two lane in spots, cars were thrown around on those roads like toys had been thrown. It was dangerous, not pretty people strolling, it was chaos.

from Brenda Silverman
Outer Comstock neighborhood.
Dear Mr. Smith

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Seth Silverman
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Seth Silverman
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Connie Simas
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Sincerely,

Marsha Simchera
Dear

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Sincerely,

Marsha Simchera
Hello,

I am hoping to add my commentary to the discussion on whether I-81 should be rebuilt with a new viaduct or as a ground-level community grid. While I can acknowledge the increased speed of a new viaduct, I must give my support to the ground-level option and have been glad to see it getting preference thus far.

My first concerns for a new viaduct are the cost of rebuilding it. I don’t consider skipping a few minutes of driving to be worth a multi-million dollar increase of taxpayer commitment. The second concern is about land. A viaduct running through the heart of Syracuse is elbowing out what could be profitable real estate, especially if the community grid option succeeds in opening a number of storefronts along the new highway. I prefer potential new businesses creating jobs and contributing to our tax load over spending more money to keep that land locked up, and those kinds of new storefront jobs won’t evaporate when the construction is eventually completed.

I ultimately consider this to be a debate between those who view the City of Syracuse as a home to be nurtured attentively with a community grid, or as an obstacle to be bypassed quickly with a viaduct. I choose to side with the development of Syracuse.

Thank you for your time,
-Timothy Simmons

Sent from Mail for Windows
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

amandajsimondson=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io  <amandajsimondson=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Amanda Simondson  <amandajsimondson@gmail.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:21 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sarah Singer
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Sincerely,

Sarah Singer
Hi !

First, I must apologize for sending this 'at the last minute'. I have hand tremors so typing is difficult. However, after reviewing your project plans (which are excellent) on your web-site and trying to keep updated on other comments, I felt it important to provide some thoughts to ensure they have been considered. I was also encouraged to hear on last week's newscast that all comments will be considered (even last minute ones!). Finally, one of my concerns was the round-about location, so I'm glad to hear others were concerned also.

I'm 65+, retired and live in Tully now. However, I lived in Syracuse from when I was 8 until my early 20's. My dad lived on the North side; my mom on the south side (Kirk Park) so I'm very familiar with 'city living' from a pedestrian point of view.

COMMENTS--Community Grid Alternative

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

- Pedestrian/bicycle 'traffic' and it's effect on vehicle traffic.
  - Assume 6 lanes to cross; 3 on each side; island in middle.
  - If low income housing, elderly, disabled people will use. Need to go through 2 WALK signals.
  - When WALK signal is pressed, will traffic be stopped in ALL directions? Vehicle traffic back-up/frustration.
  - Walking traffic at 'round-about' no matter where it's located.
  - In a recent federal study, vehicle/pedestrian accidents have notably increased. One theory is that SUVs are higher so drivers do not see pedestrians. New affordable housing, businesses and 'mixed' use buildings for the Community Grid. This will result in more pedestrians which will lead to more injuries.
  - The 'WINTER factor' increases the above concerns.
    - Who will clear roads and sidewalks?
  - Civil demonstrations/unrest
    - I-81 and other alternate routes could be shut down for peaceful demonstrations. I-81 is more difficult to block in its current footprint and, as you know, pedestrians/bicycles are prohibited.
  - Crime
    - In major cities:
- car jackings are on the rise. If we have more traffic at more traffic lights, the potential exists.
- insurance scams--car in front of me stops suddenly; I hit it; car in back of me hits me. Both drivers know each other and want to scam my insurance company.
  - Random shootings  As you know, gun violence has risen significantly locally and nationally.
  - Stray bullets hitting innocent people. Syracuse has had several cases of children being killed/injured lately.

TRAFFIC CONSIDERATIONS--I know a significant amount of time has been spent addressing/resolving issues.

- If new housing is built, more school bus traffic will occur at peak hours of the day.
  - I believe it’s NYS law traffic that traffic must stop in BOTH directions, even with a median; perhaps I’m wrong.
  - For student safety, a 'bus monitor' exits the bus and many times walks to the door for the kids...time consuming.
- CENTRO buses
  - Will there be bus stops? If YES:
    - will there be designated bus lanes?
    - bus stop locations to ensure minimal impact on traffic flow.
- Bottlenecks at intersections (e.g., WINTER, accidents, lane(s) shut down). Drivers want to 'make the green light' and end of in the middle of the intersection causing tie-ups in all directions (WINTER storms are the worst).
- Accidents; disabled vehicles/under/above ground repair.
- In one NYS DOT plan I saw, it’s estimated 6 minutes would be added to a downtown vehicle commute. Does this include vehicles going to the west side of downtown where I worked? I got off at West St and it was no problem getting to my building. I believe it would be challenging to do it in 6 minutes driving the Grid/alternate routes,
- Has enough consideration been given to WINTER drive times?

MISC.

- WINTER conditions will have additional impacts to many of the previous bullet points.
- Air pollution
  - Does air pollution 'rise', stay 'level' 'or fall' depending on whether the majority of pollution is ground level (the Grid) or higher off the ground (current i-81)?

I hope the above is organized and clear enough for your review. I realize some considerations noted above (e.g., accidents; road repair) occur on i-81 currently but felt the need to document them as they relate to The Grid.

Regards,
---bob sinko
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Sincerely,

Gerald Sircus
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Gerald Sircus
Sharon Millhouse

From: geraldscirc@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Gerald Sircus
<geraldsirc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 2:41 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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Navin Sivakumar
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

lmskidmore21=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <lmskidmore21=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Lucy Skidmore <lmskidmore21@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 6:08 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Wed 10/13/2021 12:14 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Stacey Skole
Dear Mr. Smith

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Kate Skolnick
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Kate Skolnick
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

krs1123=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <krs1123=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Katharine Skolnick <krs1123@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:25 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Katharine Skolnick
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Robert Slavin
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I-81 thru Syracuse comments

Vonden Sleight <vsleight@verizon.net>
Sat 10/9/2021 8:19 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Greetings,

Please enter these comments in the public record and do not eliminate I-81 through Syracuse.
1) The current I81 required demo-ing some houses and other structures in the 9th ward -- but so did building the War Memorial and many other projects. That historic neighborhood is long gone and replacing a road with a road will not bring it back.
2) The current I81 does not "divide" the city any more than a street level boulevard and probably less so. Right now, anybody can get from the SU/hospital area to the areas west of I81 and whoever wants to can do so on foot. Removing an elevated highway will not make this access easier, but harder.
3) Assuming I81 traffic will gladly reroute to I481 makes no sense. Much of that traffic is headed into the city or to the Town of Salina & Liverpool or from the south to I90 west (or vise versa of these patterns). A good percentage of I81 north/south tru-traffic already takes I481. And I481 in Dewitt is already busy at rush hour.

Thank-you,
Vonden Sleight, Town of Dewitt, NY
315-449-4257
Dear Mr. Smith

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Wed 10/13/2021 9:18 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Caroline Smart
Hannah Brazil

From: caroline.lena.smart=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Caroline Smart
<caroline.lena.smart@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 11:56 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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Sincerely,

Caroline Smart
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Sincerely,

Joy Smiley
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Donna Smith-Raymond
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Donna Smith-Raymond <donnaknitter@twcny.rr.com>

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Andrew Smith
Anthony Smith  
1015 7th North Street, C44  
Liverpool, New York 13088

Mark Frechette  
Project Director  
NYS Department of Transportation, Region 3

Dear Mr. Frechette:

I would like to take this opportunity to voice some concerns over the Town of Salina’s lack of inclusion at the Northernmost trafficked intersection of I-81. As a high school educator, the NYS Department of Education, as well as the U.S. Department of Education, has directed us to implement equity and equality into our classrooms and schools. A noble initiative. With this in mind, your plan neglects the Town of Salina in this idea of equity and fairness.

According to Mayor Ben Walsh, “It presents us with an opportunity to reknit the fabric of the city...it gives us an opportunity to heal some of those wounds...which was disproportionately impacted by this project.” While I understand the mayor’s perspective; unfortunately, that is not how many residents in the Town of Salina view it. In fact, it has created a disdain for the city of Syracuse. Many of the residents I have spoken with plan to boycott the city and all of its businesses altogether once this project is completed. In my mind, as an educator, this is a travesty, but a reality nonetheless.

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Marie Therese Dominguez states, “We believe that this project is a once in a generation opportunity to truly right the wrongs of the past, creating equity, enhancing sustainability, and really catapulting the city of Syracuse and central New York to new heights.” This plan will not enhance sustainability for Salina; this plan will not create equity for Salina; this plan will not catapult Salina to new heights. The “improvements” of your plan overlooks Salina; it is neglected.

The completion of the project is inevitable; however, cutting off Salina does not need to remain part of the plan. Your plan, left as is, will negatively impact the town and local community. It will divert through traffic to Interstate 481, a bypass that at its northern end begins just before the Salina town line. Without the highway, businesses are going to lose customers, hotels will lose the many walk-ins from long road trips. These businesses will eventually pull out of the area, leaving a vast number of vacant buildings and a decrease in property value to local homeowners. This is hardly equitable and equal. Has the county forgotten that Salina provides it with millions of tax dollars? It collected more than $7 million of revenue alone from room occupancy tax in 2019 (2020 – COVID). This can be avoided.

Development is happening now; now is the time to include Salina in repairs and improvements. The interchange at Onondaga Lake Parkway should be included in your plan. It’s a main gateway to the Town of Salina; it will spur economic activity, just as the mayor wishes for the city. It will remove divisions and make the area safer for pedestrians. Including the interchange will bring more
construction work to the area; it will make the entrance to the town more attractive and prevent the obstructions of the gorgeous view of the lake.

The Town of Salina should be included in I-81 project. I implore you to create equity and equality for all who will be affected. The mayor’s goals to reknit the fabric of the city and healing wounds will have a greater chance at success. It will create sustainability for all, equity for all and catapult both the city and town to new heights.

Respectfully,

Anthony Smith
In Support of I-81 Viaduct Option

Anthony Smith <anthony_smithh@yahoo.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 5:10 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I got home from work a little late today and quickly had to throw a comment together, however, I tried submitting it at 5:00 pm on the dot and it wouldn’t let me submit it anymore. I just had to email you guys in hope that my comment still matters because this is extremely important for the progress of Syracuse and I want to help make this community a better place. I love my hometown and Syracuse means everything to me!!! Here is the comment that I had to quickly whip together in a few minutes that I tried submitting through the NYS DOT website:

I am commenting to show my support of the Community Grid option. This option is the only right option if Syracuse wants to progress as a city. We have the opportunity to right the wrong in what was done to the 15th Ward community-- which has left the people living near the I-81 viaduct with a litany of health problems, living in squalor, and surrounded by high crime. With the viaduct coming down, the possibilities for Syracuse are endless! When this massive decaying divisive structure comes down we will finally be able to make Syracuse an attractive/thriving city. I'm picturing driving into Syracuse with a beautiful new entrance to the city with attractive/interesting new buildings to look at. I would really love for Syracuse and those who are going to do future developments along the community grid to take some inspiration from Oslo, Norway when it comes to new businesses/housing. Their housing/buildings are highly interesting and attractive in design and I think if we can make Syracuse a mini Oslo, that would do amazing things for this community.
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dsmit109=syr.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <dsmit109=syr.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Danielle Smith <dsmit109@syr.edu>
Fri 7/23/2021 10:13 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Danielle Smith
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Emily Smith
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Sincerely,

Leslye Smith
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

adk.marsha=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <adk.marsha=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Marsha Smith <adk.marsha@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:36 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Marsha Smith
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suzanne smith
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Sincerely,

Karin Smith-Spanier
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

addiesmock=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <addiesmock=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Amanda Smock <addiesmock@yahoo.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 4:58 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Amanda Smock
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Sincerely,

Robert Snyder
**Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81**

bobsnyder_86=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io <bobsnyder_86=msn.com@mg.gospringboard.io>  
on behalf of  
Robert Snyder <bobsnyder_86@msn.com>  

Wed 10/13/2021 6:34 PM  
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sandra Sobanski
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dragonsandy1=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <dragonsandy1=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>  
on behalf of  
Sandy Sobanski <dragonsandy1@gmail.com>  
Wed 10/13/2021 3:59 PM  
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Sandy Sobanski
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

lsoden=frontiernet.net@mg.gospringboard.io <lsoden=frontiernet.net@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Laura Soden <lsoden@frontiernet.net>

Wed 10/13/2021 12:13 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Dear Mr. Smith

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Laura Soden
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Sincerely,

Risa Sokolsky
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Risa Sokolsky
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dorisrsolomon=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <dorisrsolomon=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
DORIS SOLOMON <dorisrsolomon@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 2:09 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

DORIS SOLOMON
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

joseph.solorio=jjay.cuny.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <joseph.solorio=jjay.cuny.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Joseph Solorio <joseph.solorio@jjay.cuny.edu>
Wed 10/13/2021 9:14 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Joseph Solorio
My wife and I have lived in and owned our home in the city of Syracuse for 40 years. While we attended one information session 4 or more years ago we have mostly been silent.

We endorse the current grid plan and thank DOT for the effort that produced the plan and the efforts to bring in community voices. This plan is a huge improvement for the city. It is filled with opportunity and promise.

We would be happy to come and speak but ultimately this is a true step forward for Syracuse.

Jim and Marcie Sonneborn
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Karen Sorensen
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

brendon.soto=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <brendon.soto=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Brendon Soto <brendon.soto@gmail.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 4:52 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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lindsayspeer=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <lindsayspeer=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Lindsay Speer <lindsayspeer@gmail.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 12:06 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Respect the Rights of the Onondaga Nation

● The vast majority of the I-81 project is located on the treaty-protected lands of the Onondaga Nation.
● Areas of the project intersect with areas of known cultural significance to the Onondaga Nation and have a high probability of containing cultural artifacts or ancestral remains, even in previously disturbed soils.
● The Onondaga Nation repeatedly requested in the official correspondence included in this EIS that proper respect and protocols be used to ensure that ancestral remains are not disturbed in the construction of the project.
● I ask that NYSDOT and SHPO adopt the recommendations of the Onondaga Nation, including but not limited to:
  - Hiring multiple Cultural Resource Monitors from and trained by the Onondaga Nation to be present at all ground disturbing activities
  - Using the proper terms to refer to the Onondaga Nation and its people.

https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMj...
- To stop work and notify the Onondaga Nation promptly upon the discovery of any human remains. This practice ensures that, if the remains are Haudenosaunee, proper protocols are followed throughout the investigation process.

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Lindsay Speer
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cspencer6215@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<cspencer6215@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Christine Spencer <cspencer6215@yahoo.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 9:46 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Christine Spencer
Sharon Millhouse

From: jaclynsencer@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Jaclyn Spencer
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 1:36 PM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

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on behalf of
Jaclyn Spencer <jaclynsencer@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:39 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahlIzB%2B%2FmMj...
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on behalf of
Alexa Spiegel <anspiegel@gmail.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:29 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sun 10/17/2021 9:01 PM
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<nspitzner=hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
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Tue 8/10/2021 10:06 AM
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Nona Spitzner
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sspivack70=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <sspivack70=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Susan Spivack <sspivack70@gmail.com>
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Wed 10/13/2021 4:41 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sun 10/17/2021 6:25 PM
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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahllZb%2B%2FmMj
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Martin Stahl
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Sincerely,

Karen Starr
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Sincerely,

Susan Steepy
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Sincerely,

Susan Steepy
Hello,

Per Syracuse.com, you are inviting comments on the plan to reroute traffic on I-81 onto I-481.

That is the most shortsighted idea imaginable. It is as shortsighted as the "idea" to fill up the Syracuse canals to construct streets. The Syracuse area has had enough "geniuses" ruining its natural assets.

Rerouting onto I-481 completely destroys the nature around that route and will permanently depreciate real estate values in the area.

Rerouting onto I-481 means you were not able to or lacked commitment to find a solution to improve I-81. These measures could include: building a noise wall on both sides of I-81 all through the city; putting part of I-81 in tunnels, significantly improving bridges and pavement on I-81. These measures would improve life quality along I-81. Needless to say, you are not planning on adding a noise protection wall on both sides of I-481. You just want to push the problem into a different area of town.

This plan is a supreme example of unwillingness to spend money paired with extreme myopathy.

NO. No, we don’t want the thru traffic on I-481. Stop ruining the Syracuse area with imbecile, short-sighted so-called improvement projects!
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

hannah.stein23=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <hannah.stein23=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Hannah Stein <hannah.stein23@gmail.com>
Fri 10/15/2021 9:55 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Hannah Stein
Route 81 reconstruction

Joel Stein <airmail13220@gmail.com>
Wed 9/1/2021 10:22 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: Daniel Miller <imdaniel@twcny.rr.com>; PO Mark Wolfe <stixwolfe1@gmail.com>; ICE Ruth Stein <stein.ruth@gmail.com>; BUS Post Standard <letters@syracuse.com>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

No rational human would remove a direct link to Canada, three hospitals, downtown, the Carrier Dome, the mall, and western NY. If you think that route 81 “divides the city” just wait until Almond St. becomes impassible and uncrossable. This is what happens when a highway stops being a transportation issue and becomes a political issue.

Joel Stein
104 Crawford Ave
Syracuse NY 13224
315-278-0038
Thou Shalt Ride—Central NY
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Sincerely,

Veronica Stein
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Veronica Stein
I support the intestate 81 project

Raheim Stephens <stephensraheim19@gmail.com>
Fri 10/15/2021 6:29 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rstergas=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <rstergas=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rob Stergas <rstergas@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 11:39 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

stern.mer=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <stern.mer=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
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Tue 8/10/2021 9:35 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Meredith Stern
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RICHARD STERN
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

asterr=pobox.com@mg.gospringboard.io <asterr=pobox.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Aaron Sterr <asterr=pobox.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:29 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Aaron Sterr
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

asterr=pobox.com@mg.gospringboard.io  <asterr=pobox.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Aaron Sterr <asterr@pobox.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 5:56 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Beth Steubing
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Sincerely,

J Stewart
Sharon Millhouse

From: jstewart=ronin.ii.net@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of J Stewart
<jstewart@ronin.ii.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 8:26 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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jstewart=ronin.ii.net@mg.gospringboard.io <jstewart=ronin.ii.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Jacqueline Stewart <jstewart@ronin.ii.net>
Wed 10/13/2021 1:15 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Jacqueline Stewart
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cstew1923@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <cstew1923@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Lucretia Stewart <cstew1923@yahoo.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 12:05 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.l81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dennis Stock
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Susan Stoll
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

stollterri47=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <stollterri47=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Terri Stoll <stollterri47@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 8:07 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Thu 10/14/2021 7:25 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Lindsey Stortz
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- Conduct a community health needs assessment.
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Matthew Stringer
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Matthew Stringer
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

matthewstringer@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Matthew Stringer <matthewstringer@yahoo.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:49 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Struever
Sharon Millhouse

From: Bstrueve@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Elizabeth Struever  
<Bstrueve@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 11:52 AM  
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov  
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear 

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

strum_b@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <strum_b@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Elizabeth Strum <strum_b@hotmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:54 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Strum
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

certainstuff=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <certainstuff=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Elizabeth Stuff <certainstuff@gmail.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:52 PM

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Sincerely,

Susan Suarez
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ss7=cornell.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <ss7=cornell.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Susan Suarez <ss7@cornell.edu>
Wed 10/13/2021 3:58 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahlZb%2B%2FmMj…
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Sincerely,

Susan Suarez
To whom it may concern,

My name is Teresa Pascarella and I am writing in regards to the 81 project and northern most section of the proposed alterations. I have lived in the town of Salina or town of clay my entire life and am an everyday user of this intersection. It is disheartening to hear that this intersection is being overlooked. The intersection is dangerous, confusing and not at all pedestrian friendly. There is a bus stop that I never see being used because it is so treacherous. Also, this bypass is a complete eyesore, which is outrageous because a beautiful lake is right next to it. Please allow some funding to be put into the liverpool bypass to clean this potentially beautiful and potentially safe area up. The town of Salina needs this. Thank you.

- Your life long town of Salina resident Teresa Sucapani
Sharon Millhouse

From: csuchon24@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Christina Suchon
<csuchon24@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 8:12 PM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Christina Suchon
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Sincerely,

Kathleen Sucich
More comments.

From: Tim Sullivan <sullivanti@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 9:19 PM
To: Frechette, Mark (DOT) <Mark.Frechette@dot.ny.gov>
Subject: keep the current location of i81.

keep the current location of i81.
On its own, I81 is not the true city divide.
Redlining housing districts fostered the despair.
Many larger cities have tall buildings hugging busier elevated thorough fairs.
No, No, No, the route itself is not the demise!
The the Almond-Adams-Harrison traffic creates the biggest pedestrian divide.
So please don’t put more traffic on the ground.
Double Stacked highway would make more sense if change is a must.

Also The 481 traffic is already crazy at the Dewitt-Fayetteville exit!

Thanks,
Tim
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Sincerely,

Emily Sun
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Emily Sun
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

emilysun2005@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <emilysun2005@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Emily Sun <emilysun2005@hotmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:51 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

mia surett
Comments

Mark J Svereika <mjsverei@syr.edu>
Tue 7/27/2021 1:40 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

While the I-81 viaduct needs to come down, and soon, I was a little dismayed that the “Community Grid” option video I just saw looks a lot like a highway to me, with less space for bicycles, people, and parks that I thought would be there. I was envisioning something like what Boston did when they tore down their viaduct through the heart of their downtown, which is now a beautiful garden space and very pedestrian friendly with access to the North End and Aquarium. I see the priority is still given to cars in the current scenario you envision for Syracuse. I like the exit off of I-690 for Irving Ave and the roundabout for MLK Drive and the exit of Colvin (an oversite the original construction never took care of), but overall, it still has a freeway appearance. Where are the green spaces and developable land that were promised? It looks a little too “efficient” and not so “community” minded, sorry.
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Sincerely,

Cara T
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

nltaddeo=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <nltaddeo=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Nicholas Taddeo <nltaddeo@gmail.com>
Fri 8/27/2021 11:17 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I grew up in the suburbs of Syracuse and moved to NYC for work 10 years ago. I have always dreamed of moving back to the area and would want to live in the City of Syracuse because of it’s diversity and active city life. My hope is that this new plan will provide Syracuse with the economy it needs to provide it’s residents with excellent social services, will begin to clear the air and green the streets for our children, and right the wrongs of the past and build a truly equitable future for those in the city. I can’t wait to come back.

These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Taddeo
Concerns about access to what is now 481 North from East Genesee Street if traveling eastbound on East Genesee

Mary D. Taffet <mdtaffet@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:12 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

As a commuter to and from Rome who frequently enters what is now 481 North from East Genesee Street eastbound to get to the Thruway, I have major concerns about the impact of rerouting what is now 81 through that stretch of 481 North. The entrance to 481 North from East Genesee Street, traveling east bound on East Genesee from the intersection with Meadowbrook Drive/Kimber Road is a VERY short entrance ramp with sharp curves that limit speed to no more than 30 mph or so until the merge lane itself appears, and that merge lane is VERY short, and can be dangerous with cars trying to both enter and exit at that spot in the same short stretch of space. Many times I have started my speed up in that short space, only to be nearly cut off by an exiting vehicle that is slowing down in that same short stretch of road. Given an large increase in thru traffic on what will then be 81 North, that very short merge may become impossible to maneuver through safely, at which point I will have to find an alternative Thruway entrance unless something changes with regard to the plans for this project.

Additionally, I currently get very nervous while driving on 481 North as I approach the double entrance ramps to 481 North from East Genesee for those traveling westbound, as those drivers tend to want to move into my lane very quickly -- frequently to reach the 690 exits -- while at the same time I want to move to what becomes the rightmost of the 3 lanes that survive after that merge. This will become an even more dangerous stretch of road with a large increase in thru traffic.

Originally there were no adjustments planned to those entrances and exits. My understanding is that now there are plans to do something about the EXIT TO East Genesee from what is now 481 South, but I have not heard of any plans to do anything about the ENTRANCE FROM East Genesee if one is traveling eastbound on East Genesee. I hope that these concerns will be taken into account before the final plans for
this project are approved.

I am also well-aware of the existing bottlenecks during my return trip home on 481 South from the Thruway entrance, which I normally exit at Exit 2 which is Jamesville Road. Those existing bottlenecks include entrances to 481 South from Kirkville road for first westbound traffic and then for eastbound traffic, followed by a general slowdown in the stretch from that point to the 690 exit, and very poor visibility in the stretch between the exit to and the entrance from 690 due to the big curve in that section, and then the bottleneck of traffic entering and exiting at 3E. While the existing exit 3W would be a more direct path to my house, I can't use it because I have mobility issues and can't turn my head far enough to the left to check for traffic on East Genesee at that spot. I now understand that there will be only one exit to East Genesee Street from 481 South with four lanes and stoplights at East Genesee which should be VERY helpful, but it is my entrance ramp TO 481 North that has me very concerned at this time and my understanding is that there are no plans to address this very short and shared entrance/exit ramp. I think that is a MAJOR mistake in the current plans.

-- Mary D. Taffet
   411 Scott Avenue
   Syracuse, NY 13224
   mdtaffet@gmail.com
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Sincerely,

Sandra Taggart
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rachelt@shubertorg.com@mg.gospringboard.io <rachelt@shubertorg.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Rachel Tamarin <rachelt@shubertorg.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 1:04 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahlI2B%2FmMj...
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Sara Temple
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Lev Tatz
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ahogan2@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ahogan2@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Amanda Hogan <ahogan2@aol.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 6:13 AM
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Sincerely,
Amanda Hogan
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportation's preferred option. I am currently employed at the Super 8, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 15.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn't busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today's travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we've seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot easily utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and Interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact-based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel-based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants, and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Abigail Taylor

Name

Housekeeping

Position

Super 8

Hotel

+ Burger King on 7th North St.
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

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I am worried that the community grid option will add to my commute time and expenses. I do not live right in Liverpool and use I-81 to get to work daily as do many of my coworkers.

Adding time to my commute will result in less time I am able to spend at home with my family.

Additionally, longer commute times will cost more in gasoline and automobile care as well as childcare expenses.

Please consider the economic impact this will have on my co-workers and me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Abigail Taylor

Name
Abigail Taylor

Position
Super 8 Hotel

Extra Note:
Burger King on 7th North St.
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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Andrea Taylor
Elevated bridge.

johnwtaylorjt@gmail.com <johnwtaylorjt@gmail.com>
Wed 10/6/2021 3:55 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Keep an elevated highway.

Sent from my iPhone
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O’Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportation’s preferred option. I am currently employed at the Super 8, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safely utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Name: Meghan Taylor
Position: Front Desk
Hotel: Super 8 Hotel
Address: 421 7th North St.
Liverpool, N.Y. 13088
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

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Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
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Albany, NY 12207

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I am worried that the community grid option will add to my commute time and expenses. I do not live right in Liverpool and use I-81 to get to work daily as do many of my coworkers.

Adding time to my commute will result in less time I am able to spend at home with my family.

Additionally, longer commute times will cost more in gasoline and automobile care as well as childcare expenses.

Please consider the economic impact this will have on my co-workers and me.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[meghan taylor]

Name: Meghan Taylor
Position: Front Desk/Laundry
Hotel: Super 8 Hotel, 421 7th North 8th Street, Liverpool, NY 13088
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

thomtaylor79@hotmail.com <thomtaylor79@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Thom Taylor <thomtaylor79@hotmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 2:36 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Thom Taylor
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

linda.tegnestam=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <linda.tegnestam=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Linda Tegnestam <linda.tegnestam@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:38 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Linda Tegnestam
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Mahmoud Telab
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

lynnet=lagcc.cuny.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <lynnet=lagcc.cuny.edu@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Lynne Teplin <lynnet@lagcc.cuny.edu>
Wed 10/13/2021 12:31 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Lynne Teplin
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Sincerely,

Clayton Terry
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

suzegitar=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io <suzegitar=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Susan Terwilliger <suzegitar@mac.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:09 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Susan Terwilliger
i81 changes recommended

test tester <tt9129107@gmail.com>
Fri 9/3/2021 11:01 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.i81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.i81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>; mayor@syrgov.net <mayor@syrgov.net>

1 attachments (408 KB)
81-481-syracuse.jpg;

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Dear NYS Dept of Transportation and Mayor Walsh,

Thank you for allowing public comments.

The primary purpose of i81, as an interstate highway, is moving traffic roughly North and South. The primary purpose has never been to facilitate local traffic - yet numerous exits were created off i81 in the past, that remain, and that has allowed i81 to remain entrenched for so long. It was not a good idea to build i81 right through the city of Syracuse.

The good news is people mostly agree it was not a good idea.

Highways and expressways are best located in less populated areas and best at going around major population areas - and not right through them as i81 does in Syracuse.

Attached please review the simple map. The sections of i81 that I believe should be removed are noted with a red X. As a result, a portion of 481 would need to be renamed “81/481” as it winds around the east side of the city and is noted on the attached map in green. 481 already exists in that location. Other cities follow this same model.

I propose you do a basic analysis of removing those sections of i81 noted along with ALL of their existing exits. And of course the cost of modifications to route that through traffic along existing 481 as noted. You already do this when i81 is under construction and you need to set up a detour for traffic. You do exactly that.

The result would be a massive transformation for the City of Syracuse and Onondaga County. There never needed to be an interstate going right through downtown Syracuse. Traffic running on i81 through Syracuse could simply be routed through the existing 481.
the detour you already use for i81 construction.

It really is as simple as that.

690 and 481 would basically remain for local traffic needing to get around the city more quickly. All the property currently blighted and obstructed with i81 through Syracuse would be reborn and rejuvenated. It really is that simple.

Ideas of roundabouts and a community grid create a complex mess of costly new road construction and maintenance. And for what? For traffic that is running through Syracuse on i81 to other destinations anyways? And nobody likes roundabouts. Nobody likes Carrier Circle’s traffic pattern. And you would have significant traffic from i81 running down on the ground through roundabouts and some stop lights? Please do not do that. It adds minimal value at massive cost. It also forces immediate road development and other development where the impact of the same is uncertain at best.

Take a look at Binghamton and other cities. Do they have i81 running right through their downtowns? Hopefully most do not. Send this i81 traffic, much of which is heading to destinations other than Syracuse, including trucks, right onto the existing 481 per the attached map. Let the rest of i81 through Syracuse be removed and let the community and government leaders figure out how best to use all that space in a way that makes sense for the community in the long run and not rush to judgment on how best to use that space. There really needs to be very little consideration for existing traffic that is simply passing through on existing i81 because that traffic can easily be rerouted to the existing 481.

And let go of all the worries about i81 exits that would be lost. The city and county has existing streets and expressways. No people and no businesses will be left behind. There will need to be some new routes that people will learn to get places. But overall, the people of this community, and the environment, will thank you for generations to come. And don’t build another interstate through a city again and don’t be fooled into thinking that moving elevated traffic to the ground (in any pattern) is a good idea. Interstate traffic does not belong on an interstate through a city no matter how you repurpose it.

Per the attached map, please consider removing those i81 sections and all their exits, reroute i81 to 481, and move on. And don’t worry about the mall. People will still be able to get there. The entire City and County will be more beautiful and more likely to attract even more visitors in the future. Let the resulting space be evaluated and repurposed over time in a way that can rejuvenate this entire community.

Please consider (or reconsider!) the simple act of removing something that should not have been built to begin with, including it’s exits, and simply reroute existing i81 traffic on 481. And let the community and it’s leaders decide what to do with the recaptured space over time. That way maximum space will be recaptured and development will not be forced or rushed for that space.

Thank you for your consideration.
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

emtlarry=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <emtlarry=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of 
Lawrence Tetenbaum <emtlarry@aol.com>

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Lawrence Tetenbaum
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ALEXEI TETENOV
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

alexei2001@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <alexei2001@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
ALEXEI TETENOV <alexei2001@yahoo.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:06 AM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Deborah Thelen
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dthelen_10128@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io  <dthelen_10128@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Deborah Thelen  <dthelen_10128@yahoo.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:06 AM
To:  dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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violajess20=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <violajess20=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Jessica Thompson <violajess20@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:29 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYg… 1/2
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Sincerely,

Jessica Thompson
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

violajess20=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <violajess20@gmail.com>@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Jessica Thompson <violajess20@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:30 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Suzanne Timian
I-81 CNY project

Gene Tinelli <genetinelli@gmail.com>
Tue 8/24/2021 7:10 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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An idea I have not seen publicized for the route 81 dilemma would be to consider using the CSX/Susquehanna railroad right-of-way that snakes its way from Jamesville to I-481 to just south of the E. Adams St. I-81N exit, then through the west side of the city, emerging close to I–81 near the Carousel Mall. Full connections with I-690 could be built on the west side of Syracuse.

Is there is enough of a right-of-way to rebuild I-81 so that the bulk of the roadway could go through mostly commercial sections of the northwest side of Syracuse rather than the downtown part of Syracuse? Maybe. This would unfortunately uproot some residents, however every construction option will uproot people to some degree. As a community, we should be able to find assistance and resources for equivalent or better housing for those who have to be relocated.

If it were possible to reroute I-81 through the northwest side of the city, there would be some very positive side effects. It would provide for a community grid option, a fast I-81 route through Syracuse, and it would remove one potentially disastrous situations. This option could coalesce the current split between those who want to preserve the viaduct and those who want to create a community grid. This would serve to bind the City and County together.

This would eliminate the transporting of toxic, flammable, and explosive materials by rail through the heart of our city. There has been a marked upsurge in tankers carrying flammable crude oil bursting into flames in commercial and residential areas. Locally, approximately 5 years ago, a propane tank car fell off the tracks between I-81 and the SU Dome. Luckily it did not detonate or it could have caused serious damage and injuries. At present, the concrete supports for the railroad right-of-way are deteriorating to the point I can pick out concrete with my bare hands. The other positive side effect to the I-81/CSX conversion is that this option would force rebuilding of two of the worst bridges in Syracuse, the railroad bridges over Onondaga Parkway and W. Genesee St.

This solution would allow a more open city center, protect the public better from hazardous materials, and still allow a relatively efficient way to get through Syracuse on I-81.
Gene Tinelli
4320 Lafayette Rd.
Jamesville, NY 13078
315.491.0569

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Sincerely,

Kelsey Titus
More comments.

-----Original Message-----
From: Tojopack@twcny.rr.com <tojopack@tweny.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 13, 2021 7:54 PM
To: Frechette, Mark (DOT) <Mark.Frechette@dot.ny.gov>
Subject: I-81

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Community grid will be a Nightmare for a lot of people. The noise and fumes from ground-level traffic will be more harmful to the neighborhood. A total lack of care for damage to come to surrounding neighborhoods and outlying communities as drivers try to avoid the grid. I truly believe a fly-over is needed to avoid unbearable traffic in other areas. Onondaga hill will take a hit as drivers from south/southeast try to get to Fairmount, camillus, etc. We already have terrible traffic with OCC and school buses. Please don’t add more..
Sent from my iPhone
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Travis Tolbert
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

dnyc271@aol.com <dnyc271@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Donna Tomeo <dnyc271@aol.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 6:48 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jmtonini=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jmtonini=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Joe Tonini <jmtonini@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:10 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Joe Tonini
Dear Mr. Smith

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Melissa Toth
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Melissa Toth
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

erint1010=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <erint1010=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Erin Townsend <erint1010@gmail.com>

Tue 10/12/2021 3:20 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Erin Townsend
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Virgie Townsend
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sktozzi777=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <sktozzi777=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Suellen Tozzi <sktozzi777@gmail.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:51 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Diane Traina
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Sincerely,

Diane Traina
Central-Syracuse Expressway

Dave Traub <traub.dave@gmail.com>
Thu 9/2/2021 7:33 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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There are many concerns about the potential lack of through-traffic affecting businesses on the northern-side of the city. I assume that part of this problem is that the amount of time for traveling through the street-level grid to Destiny and north is not well known or understood. Using the current Rt 81 takes roughly 1-2 minutes depending on traffic to get the the Destiny mall area; would the grid add only 1-2 minutes to that or 5-10 minutes depending on grid-level traffic and weather? I think the negative perception is that the time is long enough to prevent travelers from going through the city to reach the northern side. What is DOT’s prediction of average time and how well is that being communicated? I do not read every article but I would think that if communicated well I would have seen that figure.

A traveler’s perceived travel time through the grid to the northern side that exceeds a certain “threshold of convenience” would in fact reduce travel through the city - I avoid I95 around Washington D.C. for the same reason when on a trip south even though Google Maps says it is the fastest route.

There have been a number of proposals to speed up travel through the city that would improve travelers’ perceptions, including replacing the existing system of elevated highway and a skyway. I have not seen proposals for an Expressway. An expressway would consist of a couple of well-placed smaller bridges on the expressway and/or cross-streets, and longer stretches of road with minimal traffic lights. This would add some cost, but not the significant cost of the other bridge proposals. It seems like this would be an excellent compromise solution for all stakeholders.
Thank you
I81 reconstruction comments

Dave Traub <traub.dave@gmail.com>
Fri 7/30/2021 10:30 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Hello,
On i481 southbound there is a slightly dangerous curve, in my opinion, that needs to be adjusted. You may already know about it, but to point it out, it is the curve just south of the i690 westbound exit. When I drive that curve at 65mph I feel a greater sideways centrifugal force than I feel might be safe, and feel like the car might slip in wet weather, causing me to ease off on my speed through there.

Thanks for listening.
David Traub
Cicero, NY
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mtraub=rochester.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<mtraub=rochester.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Mollie Traub <mtraub@rochester.rr.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:20 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Stuart Treitel
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Melissa Trott
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mabstoa13354@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mabstoa13354@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Anthony Trotta <mabstoa13354@aol.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 1:53 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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on behalf of
Ronan Tuggle <ronantuggle@gmail.com>

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Eleanor Tunny
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81
emtunn40=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <emtunn40=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
eleanor tunny <emtunn40@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:53 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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eleanor tunny
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

aturner84=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <aturner84=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Amanda Turner <aturner84@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:51 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ptyrol=hvc.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ptyrol=hvc.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Patty Tyrol <ptyrol@hvc.rr.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 6:01 PM
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Sincerely,

LUIS VALENZUELA
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

fjvelez73=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <fjvelez73=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Francisco Velez <fjvelez73@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:46 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Damian Vallelonga <damiancubed@gmail.com>
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Sincerely,

Margot Vanetten
August 11, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O’Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportations preferred option. I am currently employed at the Homewood Suites by Hilton Syracuse-Liverpool, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safety utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lilia Vargas
Housekeeper
Homewood Suites Syracuse Liverpool
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Abraham Velez <abevelez@hotmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:03 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway’s shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation’s current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

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- Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth

- Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
- Conduct a community health needs assessment.
- Do not use Wilson Park as a staging site for construction or construction materials.
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- Conduct an easement reassessment so that renters receive easement payments.

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● Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
● Provide governmental oversight on all aspects of this project until it is complete.

Protect School Children

● Create a comprehensive construction plan in collaboration with parents, faculty, and staff at the Syracuse City School District.
● Move the proposed highway access ramp so it is at least 600 feet from STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School.
● Conduct a study to determine if the community grid will remain a major roadway, as defined by 30,000 cars or more daily.

These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

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S. VELEZ
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Maria Venidis
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ejvera206=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ejvera206=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Elisheba Vera <ejvera206@aol.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:16 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Elisheba Vera
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cavericker=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io
<cavericker=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Carol Vericker <cavericker@optonline.net>
Tue 8/10/2021 1:10 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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cavericker=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io <cavericker=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Carol Vericker <cavericker@optonline.net>

Sun 10/17/2021 7:08 PM

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Margaret Vernon
Sharon Millhouse

From: vernon.margaret0=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Margaret Vernon <vernon.margaret0@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 4:43 PM

To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov

Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Margaret Vernon
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ninaversaggi=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ninaversaggi=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Nina Versaggi <ninaversaggi@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:11 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

abirdinthehand.16=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <abirdinthehand.16=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Martina Victoria <abirdinthehand.16@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:45 AM
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I81 Viaduct

Joyce Villnave <joycevillnave@gmail.com>
Mon 9/13/2021 5:12 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

1 attachments (37 KB)
JMVillnaveRte 81Comments.pdf;

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Good Afternoon:

Attached please find my comments on the Interstate 81 Project.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you,

--

Joyce M. Villnave
7892 Ontario Avenue
Cicero, NY
joycevillnave@gmail.com
315-350-6358
New Route 81

We have to accept that the new Route 81 will be what is known as the Grid Option. Having said that, there are a few issues that need to be addressed.

1) Both the current Route 81 and Route 481 are busy during all hours between 7:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. If we are to route all traffic to the northern suburbs to Route 481, we will need to have a minimum of 3 lanes – both heading north and south – on Route 481, the new Route 81, to handle the increased traffic.

2) If this county wishes to draw in businesses to the northwestern section of the county, Routes 57 and 11 will need renovation to both the pavement and the traffic flow systems.

3) In order to keep drawing people to downtown, a park and ride system should be developed using a high speed train such as the system used in Kansas City (https://kcstreetcar.org/) and other cities (perhaps under the auspices of Centro) and should be constructed between a southern point, such as Green Hills Farms and a northern point such as Northern Lights. Stops should include, but not be limited to the Centro Transit hub and the Regional Market/Regional Transportation Center.

The combination of extra lanes for local traffic that will not have a high speed option and additional mass transit would help northern hotels book rooms for conventions, sporting events, and festivals by advertising the advantage of hotel shuttles to and from mass transportation – cutting down on drivers under the influence and downtown parking congestion.

The high speed train would also allow people without vehicles to transport to and from shopping areas, including Greenhills and the Regional Market. This would help those who do not have access to fresh produce and grocery markets.

By being a mass transit option, it would alleviate parking and traffic issues downtown, pollution, and aid visitors who would be able to rent hotel rooms outside the downtown area and not have to drive everywhere.
Dear Mr. Smith

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Rebecca Vineyard
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jvinikoff=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jvinikoff=nycap.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Jerald Vinikoff <jvinikoff=nycap.rr.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:25 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODllLTVjMGUzOTc4NDNhYgAuAAAAAABAL%2FOfxK0wQahIlZb%2B%2FmMj...
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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mviolante44=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mviolante44=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Michael Violante <mviolante44@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 1:56 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Diane Virzi
Another comment.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Phillip Vishnesky <phillipvishnesky@gmail.com>
Date: October 6, 2021 at 6:27:28 PM EDT
To: "Frechette, Mark (DOT)" <Mark.Frechette@dot.ny.gov>
Subject: The Ramps to Nowhere

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

Mr. Frechette, I would like you to know that I am against the grid option but realize that it is going to happen. I am concerned that not enough attention is being paid to every detail of this project. I have already submitted a suggestion but want you to personally know it. At the end of 690 as it merges into 481 south there are extra ramps and bridges that are unused. My research tells me that they were supposed to link to rte 290 and go out to Chittenango. They were built around 1970 and sit there dormant, Why? My suggestion is to turn that eastbound ramp/bridge into a new exit that would culminate at Butternut Rd. near the town of Dewitt hall creating a new "Eastern Suburban Exit". This would save drivers like me in Fayettevill having to go down to that awful 3E 3W exit that backs up so badly at rush hour. Thank you, Phil Vishnesky
I am very much opposed to the community grid idea. I feel it has been all about the city residents and their needs. I feel great marginalized by this whole process which to me has been a sham, in which the DOT had made up their minds a long time ago to go with the grid option. That being said I think it is ridiculous not to listen to people like myself in the eastern suburbs that will be greatly inconvenienced by this colossal project. I have a question regarding the conversion of 481 into 81. Where 690 ends and intersects with 481 there are superfluous ramps and bridges that sit there unused? Some of those bridges on 481 northbound are maintained but go over nothing? Why does New York state maintain a bridge over nothing that it doesn't need and tears down the viaduct which we do need. As long as this stupid idea of the grid is going to go through and 481 is going to be converted into 81, why can't the DOT use that 1 eastbound ramp at the end of I 690 that goes under I 481 north and turn that into an extra exit that would take drivers to butternut street? This idea of mine would alleviate traffic volume from the 3E & 3W clover leaf on 481 that backs up especially 3E. My idea would allow drivers to go to Dewitt, Fayetteville and Lyndon Corners much quicker. The bridge / exit is already basically built. I hope the DOT will give this idea some serious consideration. The project doesn't break ground until the Spring of 2022 there is still time to add this to the upgrade of 481 into 81 before you start. Thank you, Phil Vishnesky
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cvlasiadis@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<cvlasiadis@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Chrisanthos Vlasiadis <cvlasiadis@yahoo.com>
Wed 9/8/2021 6:21 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

pavoda=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <pavoda=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Patricia Voda <pavoda@gmail.com>  
Wed 10/13/2021 3:04 PM  
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Sincerely,

Patricia Voda
690e to 81n ramp

Bill Volcko <bvolcko@gmail.com>
Sat 8/14/2021 9:09 AM
To: I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov <I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

I want to know why this ramp has been eliminated. I think that people in the western suburbs deserve a ramp to get to I 81 northbound and a ramp to get to 690 westbound from the I81 southbound.

Sent from iPhone
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Eleanore Vollweiler
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Eleanore Vollweiler
Sharon Millhouse

From: kennector@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Ken von Geldern 
<kennector@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 12:18 PM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

nostalgia@mg.gospringboard.io <nostalgia@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Adam Vrbanic <nostalgia@gmail.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:29 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

talltulip=icloud.com@mg.gospringboard.io <talltulip=icloud.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Susan Wald <talltulip@icloud.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:59 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Susan Wald
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

talltulip=icloud.com@mg.gospringboard.io <talltulip=icloud.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Susan Wald <talltulip@icloud.com>

Sat 10/16/2021 9:41 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Judith Waldman
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teresawaldow@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <teresawaldow@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Teresa Waldow <teresawaldow@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:21 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Nora Walker
Dear Mr. Smith

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Mary Wall
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Sincerely,

Jocelyn Wallace
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rwallitt@twcny.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io <rwallitt@twcny.rr.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Robertawallitt <rwallitt@twcny.rr.com>

Thu 8/19/2021 5:51 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Roberta Wallitt
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Sincerely,

Gerald Walsh
Sharon Millhouse

From: laxbears=comcast.net@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Gerald Walsh
<laxbears@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 2:29 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Kelly Ward
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Sincerely,

Hillary Warner
From: hwarner87@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Hillary Warner <hwarner87@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:38 AM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Hillary Warner
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

LeoSan816=hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <LeoSan816=hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Sandra Warren <LeoSan816@hotmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:36 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Sincerely,

Sandra Warren
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Sincerely,

Neva Wartell
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cwashington=wlrk.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<cwashington=wlrk.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Chris Washington <cwashington@wlrk.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 12:47 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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https://outlook.office365.com/mail/dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov/AAMkADljNWU3ZmE1LTdmNmEtNDY0NC1iODIlTVlMGUzOTc4NDNhYg… 1/2
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Chris Washington
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Sincerely,

Lubna Washington
Sharon Millhouse

From: loriwaz@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Loretta Wasielewski
Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 10:45 AM
To: David Smith
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Sincerely,

Lisa Watkins
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Lisa Watkins
I-81 and Syracuse

Jim Watts <jimwwatts@gmail.com>
Sun 10/3/2021 5:36 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

I write to express strong support for the community grid option to replace I-71 in Syracuse.

The construction of the I-81 viaduct in the 1960 destroyed the African-American community of Syracuse's 15th Ward, encouraged white-flight to the county suburbs, and guaranteed Syracuse's status as one of the poorest cities in the nation.

Now that the viaduct needs to be replaced, it is time to repair this mistake. The community grid would not only be good for this city and its inhabitants going forward, it would also make reparations for harms done to them in the past.

But it is important that the city's current residents benefit from the construction and other jobs that this project will bring, and not suffer from it. To that effect, I strongly urge including Project Labor Agreements to require that many of the construction jobs go to People of Color and to minority-owned businesses (e.g. SEP-14) and that any displacement of residents contribute to creating low-cost housing more broadly in the city and its surrounding communities.

I am a resident of the city of Syracuse and a member of the downtown Plymouth Congregational Church. I know I speak for many of my fellow congregants in saying that rebuilding the I-81 viaduct as a community grid is morally incumbent on the city, the county, the state and the Federal Government to make amends for the harm they have done over the last 70 years.

Sincerely,

Jim Watts
316 Carlton Drive
Syracuse, NY 13214
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sylvialweber=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <sylvialweber=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Sylvia Weber <sylvialweber@gmail.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 9:16 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Nathalie Weeks
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

ravemaster4ever@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ravemaster4ever@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Madeline Weil <ravemaster4ever@gmail.com>

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Sincerely,

Madeline Weil
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Needed Designs to Dewitt Interchange at Future Rt 81 and Rt. 92

Gary Weinstein <garyweinstein@verizon.net>
Sun 10/3/2021 6:42 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

These two proposals are essential to all residents of Dewitt NY as NYS DOT redesigns and modernizes the interchange of the new Rt. 81 where it intersects Rt. 92.

1. SOUND MITIGATION: All along (future) Rt. 81 where any neighborhood is affected. **State-of-the-art in sound dampening and attractive design needed on these 10ft to 15ft high walls.**

2. The interchange MUST be pedestrian/ bicycle/ family friendly by design. Protected, covered, dedicated access on both sides of Rt. 92 will help stitch Dewitt back together. The current interchange divides the entire town. The interchange is now a vast, hostile expanse where human beings are unwelcome and in danger. Residents cannot cross the road. The modernized interchange must include signage, cross walk lights, protected underpasses and overpasses for the human beings of Dewitt; a 21st century, consciously designed intelligent Rt. 81 design.

Gary Weinstein
112 Dewittshire Rd.
315. 558. 2645
garyweinstein@verizon.net
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Sincerely,

Olivia Wells
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jamesjw=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jamesjw=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
James Wesolowski <jamesjw@mac.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 11:25 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Kirsten White
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Kirsten White
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

rwteatime=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <rwteatime=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Rachel White <rwteatime@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:50 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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vivian.whoriskey=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <vivian.whoriskey=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Vivian Whoriskey <vivian.whoriskey@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:35 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Mike Whyman
Opposed to I-81 Viaduct DDR/DEIS

M Wickham <mww005@gmail.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 4:12 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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I oppose the I-81 Viaduct Project DDR/DEIS for the following reasons:

- The assumed benefits to the existing viaduct's nearby community are illusory, and do not meaningfully address the real needs of that community.
- There are no benefits to the greater Syracuse community. There will be new impediments to the patterns of smooth transportation flow in the greater community, which flow has functioned successfully for decades. The resulting disruption will be costly.

Re-construct the I-81 Viaduct for the greater good.

Sincerely,

Mark W Wickham
5079 Webster Mile Dr
Syracuse, NY 13215
Interstate 81 in Syracuse, NY

Benjamin Widrick <laxben10@live.com>
Thu 10/7/2021 7:01 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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To whom it may concern,

I am a concerned citizen about the future of I-81 through Syracuse. I’ve heard and read that the plan is to tear down the bridge. That is a bad idea and would greatly hurt the local economy within CNY. I live in the Camillus area and our area would be vulnerable if this occurs. Also, access to hospitals, as well as certain important government offices would be very challenging to reach by vehicle among other things if this were to occur. Please consider rebuilding a new bridge or finding an alternative other than tearing the bridge down. Re-routing to I-481 will add much more than 4 minutes to a commute, and downtown Syracuse traffic is a nightmare. I-81 is a vital part of Syracuse and tearing it down would ruin our economy and make travel practically impossible here locally. It would also diminish tourism. Don’t tear it down. Thank you for your consideration.

All the best,

Benjamin Widrick of Camillus, NY 13031

Sent from my iPhone
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

egwierbinski=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <egwierbinski=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Elizabeth Wierbinski <egwierbinski@gmail.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 1:15 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Wierbinski
my comment has been published in the Post-Standard years ago to no avail

Richard Nestico Wilbur COLDWELL BANKER <Richard.Wilbur@coldwellbankerprime.com>
Thu 10/14/2021 4:29 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>
Cc: Richard Nestico Wilbur COLDWELL BANKER <Richard.Wilbur@coldwellbankerprime.com>

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To whom it may concern:

I'm not looking forward to the Grid just as it was made a challenge to get from Buckley Rd AND Old Liverpool Rd to Camillus to oblige Carousel Center (Destiny)!

Years ago it was very easy to enter Rt 81 from Buckley OR Old Liverpool Rd with an easy merge to the right and get off at Bear St. to go west. That is NO longer the case with the concrete barricades no longer allowing! What's worse is that I still can look across the barricade and remember how easy it used to be! Fortunate there is no hospital that direction.

I wrote editorials years ago re: my alternative now is to get to Park St and go through Destiny OR Park Street to Hiawatha (and that's if the railroad bridge on Park St isn't flooded!) It is ridiculous that upon getting yourself onto Rt 81 you now have major traffic from Onondaga Lake Pkwy merging right into your lane that you just got into. Thanks much for making it treacherous to go West.

Take that route sometime to validate what I need to go through. I mentioned my issue at a meeting once to a politician and he had not a clue what I was talking about. I'm sorry to say that I've given up on attending meetings.

Richard Wilbur - a lifelong resident of Liverpool

Richard Nestico Wilbur
Licensed Real Estate Broker Associate, GRI, e-PRO, CBR, ABR, SRS
Coldwell Banker Prime Properties
Mobile & Text (315) 569-2271
Rick@cnyHomeSpecialists.com
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

michaeljaywilcock@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<michaeljaywilcock@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Michael Wilcock <michaeljaywilcock@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 1:29 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Michael Wilcock
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Ian Wilder

Ianwilder7@gmail.com

on behalf of

Ian Wilder

Tue 8/10/2021 11:15 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Ian Wilder
Hello,

I would like to provide some feedback on the I-81 changes.

My main concern is that the traffic circle is too close to the Dr. King school. It should be further away. The rate of traffic even in a traffic circle is too fast to be near any school, but especially an elementary school. It should be moved further south.

I am also concerned about how easy or difficult it will be to cross the Business-81 once it is at street level. Even at street level, it will be hard to cross easily if there is heavy traffic, and it could be physically imposing depending on how wide it is, which means that it could continue to be a physical divider between the east and west neighborhoods in the city—which is to say, a barrier between the poor west side and the resource-rich university neighborhood. Pedestrian bridges may be needed to make it easier to cross.

Sincerely,

Chris Wildrick
Syracuse
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

kwiley16@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <kwiley16@hotmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Kimberly Wiley <kwiley16@hotmail.com>
Fri 8/27/2021 11:33 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Kimberly Wiley
To: Mark Frechette  
Project Director  
NYS Department of Transportation, Region 3

From: Linda S. Wilkinson  
925 7th North St. E75  
Liverpool, NY 13088  
Retiree, 43 years with NYSDOL  
Resident of the Town of Salina since 10/1/1977

Mr. Frechette:

I wish to express to you my concerns, that the plans for Interstate 81 do not include the Town of Salina’s needs.

Most information available in the media has shown the impact coming into Syracuse from the south, but there is very little about the "Business Loop" coming in from the north and how traffic will be directed to take advantage of the hotels, restaurants, gas stations, and retail businesses in the Town of Salina. The 7th North St. corridor has always been busy with its on and off ramps to Interstate 81. I am concerned about loss of business. One reason for locating the Pilot Travel Center at 107 7th North St. was access to Interstate 81 and I’m sure it was the same with others.

There are a lot of improvements being considered in the surrounding areas, but I feel the Town of Salina has been overlooked. The Onondaga Lake Parkway and Old Liverpool Rd. merging into Park St. and on to I-81 is cumbersome and improvements are needed to facilitate entry in and out of Liverpool and access to the "Business Loop" area by Destiny USA. This area is by the Regional Transportation Center and needs to be more attractive to visitors. As a Gateway it needs improvements for vehicles as well as pedestrians.

Please consider changes in the project’s plans, which would include the Town of Salina to aid the local economy, make this a more attractive Gateway, and safer for pedestrians as well as vehicles.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Linda S. Wilkinson
Dear Mr. Smith

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These recommendations will assist the NYSDOT in meeting its own stated goals for the project. These include enhancing economic growth and vitality in the City, re-connecting the Syracuse community, and providing better access to jobs, businesses, and services in downtown Syracuse and beyond.

The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

DeAnna Williams
Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that still persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. However, the plan ignores the history and the current needs of the environmental justice community that lives adjacent to the viaduct that will be demolished.

It doesn't have to be this way. The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should reflect the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

Protect Land Use
- A land transfer policy must be put in place before returning the land to the City of Syracuse that restores and enhances communities impacted by I-81.
- Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
- Conduct a new analysis of land use that adequately considers the trends of the environmental justice community that lives adjacent to the raised viaduct.
- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth
- Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
- Conduct a community health needs assessment.
- Do not use Wilson Park as a staging site for construction.
- Create a Community Restoration Fund.
● Offer market-rate buyouts, rent subsidies, and/or temporary relocation assistance for people who want to move.
● Conduct an easement reassessment so that renters receive easement payments.

Access to Opportunity
● Jobs generated by the project must go to the people who live directly adjacent to the viaduct and 30 percent to Black and Brown Syracuse residents.
● Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
● Provide governmental oversight on all aspects of this project until it is complete.

Protect School Children
● Create a comprehensive construction plan in collaboration with parents, faculty, and staff at the Syracuse City School District.
● Move the proposed highway access ramp so it is at least 600 feet from STEAM at Dr. King Elementary School.
● Conduct a study to determine if the community grid will remain a major roadway, defined as one used by 30,000 cars or more daily.

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Sincerely,

Emma Williams
Dear Marquis

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

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- Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

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- Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
• Conduct a community health needs assessment.
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Access to Opportunity

• Jobs generated by the project must go to the people who live directly adjacent to the viaduct and 30 percent of them should go to Black and Brown Syracuse residents.
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Sincerely,

Eric Williams
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Janet Williams
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Kathleen Williams
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Monica Williams
Dear Mr. Smith

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Sincerely,

Nathaniel Williams
Hannah Brazil

From: natwill91=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Nathaniel Williams <natwill91@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 8:19 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation's current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

natwill91=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <natwill91=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Nathaniel Williams <natwill91@gmail.com>

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Sincerely,

Nia Williams
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

bwillzp=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <bwillzp=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Robert Williams <bwillzp@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 9:32 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Robert Williams
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Andrew Williamson
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

jason.wills=exeloncorp.com@mg.gospringboard.io <jason.wills=exeloncorp.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Jason Wills <jason.wills@exeloncorp.com>

Thu 9/2/2021 6:41 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Jason Wills
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Gloria Wilson <gwilson1323@hotmail.com>

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Gloria Wilson
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

mw6954@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <mw6954=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Margaret Wilson <mw6954@yahoo.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 11:41 AM
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Sincerely,

Mary Anne Wilson
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sw10019=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <sw10019=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Shan Willson <sw10019@aol.com>
Wed 10/13/2021 11:23 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

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Sharon Wilson
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

swilson3=daemen.edu@mg.gospringboard.io <swilson3=daemen.edu@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Sherita Wilson <swilson3@daemen.edu>

Tue 8/10/2021 4:23 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Karen Winer
NYS DOT,
Maybe let big trucks use NYS Thruway “free” to encourage them to stay off back roads. We have a lot of 18-wheelers traveling through Finger Lake communities now. Worried the new Rt. 81 configuration will exacerbate this heavy, load, dangerous traffic locally.

Thank you,
Scott Winkelman
3415 Kane Avenue (Rt.41a)
Skaneateles, NY 13152
315-685-3995 h
315-439-3995 c
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Sincerely,

Marsha Wiseltier
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

wittenbn=westnet.com@mg.gospringboard.io

on behalf of
Andrew and Kathleen Wittenborn

Wed 10/13/2021 2:07 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Andrew and Kathleen Wittenborn
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

laurelwitting@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <laurelwitting@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Laurel Witting <laurelwitting@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:39 AM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Laurel Witting
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Sincerely,

Charles Wittman
I-81 concerns

Mary Ellen Woiler <mewoiler@yahoo.com>
Sat 10/2/2021 1:09 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

To All Concerned,

In an effort to insure the quality of my life and the lives of others who will live here after I am gone from my Dewittshire neighborhood I would like to insist that the following items be carefully considered by all involved in this controversial project.

1.) A state of the art, attractive sound mitigation system all along Rt.481/81 here in Dewitt.
2.) Any upgrading/rebuilding of the interchange include pedestrian, cycling, family and people/pet friendly protected infrastructure( covered walkways, traffic lights, signage, over and underpass access).
3.) Redesigning the proposed off ramp to Rt.5 to allow for a smoother flow of traffic in an already very congested area.

Thankyou for your consideration of these very impotrant items.
Mary Ellen and Steve Woiler
117 Dewittshire Road
Matthew and Kirsten Woiler
201 Ambergate Road

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

grwmusic92=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<grwmusic92=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Wolfe Gerald <grwmusic92@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 11:27 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Wolfe Gerald
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

infinitetealeafs=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <infinitetealeafs=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Olivia Wong <infinitetealeafs@gmail.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 11:34 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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shannon wong
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shannon wong
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swong=nyclu.org@mg.gospringboard.io <swong=nyclu.org@mg.gospringboard.io> 
on behalf of
Shannon Wong <swong@nyclu.org>

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Sincerely,

Shannon Wong
August 10, 2021

Mark Frechette, P.E.
Project Director
New York State Department of Transportation, Region 3
333 East Washington Street
Syracuse, NY 13202

Rick Marquis
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration
Leo W. O’Brien Federal Building
11A Clinton Avenue, Suite 719
Albany, NY 12207

Dear Mark and Rick:

I am writing to express my concerns with the announcement of the Community Grid as the Department of Transportation’s preferred option. I am currently employed at the Super 8, which is located directly off I-81 at exit 25.

I am worried that re-routing I-81 to the current 481 will cause my employer to lose business or close. My schedule and hours are always made based on hotel needs and availability. If the hotel isn’t busy enough I could lose hours, ultimately affecting my income.

Everyday our hotel sells anywhere from 5-30 or more additional rooms on the day of arrival. This means guests who did not have a reservation for a particular date, make their reservation on the day they plan to arrive. Some people walk-in to the hotel without a reservation and book a room to stay. Please do not assume that “today’s travelers” have planned ahead and know where and when they are staying because of the advancements we’ve seen in technology. Yes, technology has helped people have unlimited booking options; however, plans change and some people travel alone and cannot safely utilize the technology to make room reservations for themselves while driving. The assumption being made that same day reservations and walk-ins no longer happen in this industry is not based on fact and can have a detrimental effect on my job and income. It is clear and obvious that whomever believes this assumption did not consult with anyone in the hotel industry, especially the hotels located off I-81 in the Town of Salina. Walk-in hotel business and same day reservations (typically made based on location alone) are certainly not a thing of the past and continue to happen daily at hotels all across America. If my hotel were to lose these 5-30 reservations per day because we are no longer located of I-81 it could cost me my job or the jobs of my co-workers. Additionally, it is important to note a large majority of our reservations – in advance or same day of arrival bookings – are made based on our easily accessible location. Most hotels are built next to freeways and Interstate highways for a reason... people want easy access to their travel routes regardless of traveling for business, leisure, passerby, etc.
I implore you conduct more fact based research on how much revenue would be lost from the travel based industry businesses located off I-81, including hotels, gas stations, restaurants and fast food establishments. The Draft Environmental Impact Statement suggests it would only be 1% decline in business. As a person dealing directly with the guests who choose to stay at our hotel because we’re right off I-81, I can assure you it’s not merely 1%!

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Name Andrew Wood
Position Front Desk
Hotel Super 8 Hotel
I-481 is not being sufficiently upgraded

Charles Wood <chuckwood55@gmail.com>
Sun 8/29/2021 5:59 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.

The study presented by the DOT is biased in favor of the Community Grid, and does not address the impact of the loss of a major highway.

I-481 is not being sufficiently upgraded to safely carry the additional traffic.

The I-690/I-481 intersection is not being upgraded at all. This intersection already has problems. It was never completed after the I-690 extension was cancelled. So the abandoned ramps have become a DOT work lot, which is a poor use of a very critical space. Because of the abandoned ramps, North-South through traffic must negotiate excessively tight turns in both directions. The abandoned ramps should be removed and the roadway straightened.

To address comments about East-West traffic between I-690 and Lyndon Corners, a change to I-481 exit 3 has been added to the plan. However, this change does nothing to accommodate Westbound traffic, and will actually make Eastbound traffic flow worse by adding a traffic light where there is none now. New dedicated ramps are needed so East-West and North-South traffic don’t have to merge through each other.

Obviously, the existing I-81 viaduct has problems. But this project should be done in a way that doesn’t create new problems.

Thank you
Charles Wood
63 Ely Dr
Fayetteville NY 13066
Dear Mr. Smith

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● Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
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Sincerely,

Terry Woodfork
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Terry Woodfork
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

cate=catewoodruff.com@mg.gospringboard.io <cate=catewoodruff.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Cate Woodruff <cate@catewoodruff.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 1:53 PM

To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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quinsworks=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <quinsworks=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Quin Works <quinsworks@gmail.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 9:15 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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quinsworks=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<quinsworks=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
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Quineese Works <quinsworks@gmail.com>

Tue 8/10/2021 9:46 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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x o
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linzyrubyd62@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io
<linzyrubyd62@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Ruby Y <linzyrubyd62@yahoo.com>
Tue 8/3/2021 3:37 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Ruby Y
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Sincerely,

Mariko Yamasaki
Sharon Millhouse

From: marikoyamasaki@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of Mariko Yamasaki
<marikoyamasaki@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 11, 2021 11:17 AM

To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov

Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

Dear

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Sincerely,

James Ash Yarbrough
Sharon Millhouse

From: james.ash.yarbrough@gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io on behalf of James Ash Yarbrough <james.ash.yarbrough@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:20 PM
To: i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov
Subject: Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

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Erin Yarrobino
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

lryates=panix.com@mg.gospringboard.io <lryates=panix.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Larry Yates <lryates@panix.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 10:53 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

zigedout=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <zigedout=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Azariah Yemma <zigedout@gmail.com>

Tue 10/12/2021 8:25 PM

To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Azariah Yemma
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alexandrayoest@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <alexandrayoest@yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Alex Yoest <alexandrayoest@yahoo.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:07 PM
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Sincerely,

Alex Yoest
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Carol Yost
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Sincerely,

Jane Young
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

kyoung=cwa1104.com@mg.gospringboard.io <kyoung=cwa1104.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Kim Young <kyoung@cwa1104.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 1:01 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Kim Young
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Sincerely,

Roberta Young
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

r1h1y=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io <r1h1y=optonline.net@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Roberta Young <r1h1y@optonline.net>

Wed 10/13/2021 12:11 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Roberta Young
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

key12061=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io <key12061=gmail.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Kristina Younger <key12061@gmail.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 9:12 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Kristina Younger
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

sealexonly@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <seaalexonly@aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Alex Zackrone <seaalexonly@aol.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:03 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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smlie=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io <smlie=mac.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Stephanie Zaientz <smlie@mac.com>
Tue 8/10/2021 12:54 PM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Stephanie Zaientz
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ca.films=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io <ca.films=yahoo.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
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Wed 10/13/2021 2:04 PM
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● Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
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Sincerely,

Cesar Zamora
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Julian Zavaglia
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Sincerely,

robert zeller
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

zhe.heimerman=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io <zhe.heimerman=outlook.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of Jeremy Zhe-Heimerman <zhe.heimerman@outlook.com>

Wed 10/13/2021 11:11 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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Sincerely,

Barbara Ziegler
I would like to express my concern for the proposed traffic circle by Dr. King Elementary School. I worked in Dr. King for 27 years. Most of the families live in that area and are very poor with limited resources. The school is one place they go for support. Most families do not have cars and rely on public transportation or they walk to places they need to go. The Pre School at Dr King sees 3 year old children who walk to school with their parents or others in the community. But children as young as 5 sometimes need to walk to school alone or with their siblings. A traffic circle would generate too much traffic to be safe for these children and families and would interfere with the general flow of traffic in the area. I81 is the main way for people who work downtown come into the city. There would be a large amount of traffic and congestion every day. Traffic would be slowed as there would be children and families trying to cross through this traffic circle. This circle and new I81 proximity to a school would be a disaster waiting to happen.

I am also concerned because I am unable to find any information about where the people who live in the housing by Dr. King School and I81 would go while the highway is under construction. Placing I81 down onto the main grid instead of an elevated highway is right in the middle of the housing currently there. Syracuse has many slum landlords and it is not easy to find low income housing right now, so where would these people have housing after you tear up the neighborhood for the reconstruction of the highway.

Please send me a response to my questions and concerns

Get Outlook for iOS
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Paula Zimmerman
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Paula Zimmerman
I would like to express my strong support for the Community Grid concept for the need to address I81 degradation. I work in the area at Syracuse University and use the exit 3E ramp off 481. Thank you for considering my comments.

My concerns are the environmental and community support.

- it is important that the section of the BL81 going through the city have no higher than a 30 mph speed limit and no wider than 11 foot lanes (preferably 10 foot). Higher speeds and wider lanes will make it too easy for thru-traffic to cut through the city. It is necessary to remove as much traffic from the city as possible due to the negative impacts on health - higher incidence of asthma and other lung diseases exist in city populations due to the current viaduct.

- it is important to keep the round-about located as far as possible from MLK School. The SIGH Act being considered by the NYS Legislature requires a minimum of 500 feet between a major roadway and a school for good reasons - both health and safety impacts on young students.

- it is important to make all roadways in the Community Grid pedestrian and bicyclist friendly. Well-marked crosswalks, narrow traffic lanes, good crossing signals, etc. Put people's safety and security over vehicle convenience, and there will be more people opting to commute via foot-power or pedal-power, thereby reducing street traffic.

- it is important to incorporate accommodations for public transit into street design - space for bus pull-overs, bus-stops, etc. More public transit will benefit all commuters, especially those without the means to own cars. It will provide more opportunities of employment due to the ability to commute to more locations. It will also benefit visitors to the city. It will reduce both traffic and the need to allocate more space for parking.

- it is important to have a north-bound exit at Colvin Street to give more choices in entering the city. This will spread traffic out on city streets and reduce the impact on any single roadway. The more choices that can be incorporated into the street grid design, the better.
- it is important to provide training and jobs to the local community, especially the people who have suffered the most negative economic impacts from the viaduct going through the city.

- it is important to take into consideration improvements to 481 around the DeWitt and Fayetteville on and off-ramps. These are heavily trafficked, and, if possible, bottle-necks should be solved with this project, not made worse. The smoother the traffic-flow on 481 and the connecting roadways, the less likely it will be for thru-traffic to cut through the city.

- it is important to reduce the footprint of roadways through the city anywhere possible by keeping traffic lanes narrow and curvatures less wide. This will not only reduce vehicle speeds and make it safer for both pedestrians and commuters, it will open up more area for development and greenspace.

- Please incorporate climate-friendly solutions for the design.

Thank you for considering.

Molly Zimmermann

4889 Firethorn Circle, Manlius, NY 13104
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The recommendations will also help right a historic wrong and create more equitable outcomes for the entire region.

Sincerely,

Tyler Zinck
Dear Mr. Smith

More than 50 years ago, Interstate 81 ripped through a working-class Black neighborhood in Syracuse. It displaced long-time residents and ensured that poverty, pollution, and a lack of resources would hurt the community that lived in the highway's shadow that persists today.

I agree with the New York State Department of Transportation’s current preferred option to remove the 1.4 mile stretch of the viaduct and replace it with a street-level grid. Removing the viaduct is a great first step toward racial justice. However, we need to continue to advocate for environmental, racial, and economic justice to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of community members who live in the shadow of the viaduct.

The permanent removal of the viaduct could improve housing conditions, health outcomes, and economic and educational opportunities for all people in Syracuse. In order to do that, the NYSDOT should consider the following recommendations in its Environmental Impact Statement which will guide the construction project moving forward:

Protect Land Use

● A land transfer policy must be put in place before returning the land to the City of Syracuse that restores and enhances communities impacted by I-81, specifically the predominately Black community adjacent to the viaduct.
● Create a land trust for the eight acres directly east of Martin Luther King Boulevard East for development by residents connected to the community.
● Accommodate residents who would like to relocate with an automatic right to return.

Protect Health and Wealth

● Conduct a cumulative exposure analysis for residents who live in the communities within 600 feet of the viaduct that includes a lead, noise, and air analysis and abatement.
● Conduct a community health needs assessment.
• Do not use Wilson Park as a staging site for construction or construction materials.
• Create a Community Restoration Fund.
• Offer market-rate buyouts, rent subsidies, and/or temporary relocation assistance for people who want to move.
• Conduct an easement reassessment so that renters receive easement payments.

Access to Opportunity

• Jobs generated by the project must go to the people who live directly adjacent to the viaduct and 30 percent of them should go to Black and Brown Syracuse residents.
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• Expand roads starting east of MLK Blvd. to the street grid and east side of Syracuse.
• Provide governmental oversight on all aspects of this project until it is complete.

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• Create a comprehensive construction plan in collaboration with parents, faculty, and staff at the Syracuse City School District.
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Tyler Zinck
Tear Down the Structural Racism of I-81

andreazinn050=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <andreazinn050=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io>
on behalf of
Andrea Zinn <andreazinn050@aol.com>
Thu 8/19/2021 5:33 PM
To: David Smith <i81opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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andreazinn050=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io <andreazinn050=aol.com@mg.gospringboard.io> on behalf of
Andrea Zinn <andreazinn050@aol.com>

Thu 10/14/2021 9:06 AM
To: dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities <dot.sm.mo.I81Opportunities@dot.ny.gov>

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