

Cohoes Boulevard Revitalization Plan



The Cohoes Boulevard Revitalization Plan provides a vision for the redevelopment of the City's DPW facility on the Mohawk River in conjunction with the currently vacant parcel located to the south and across State Route 32 from Sheltertherm. The vision strives to increase public access to the waterfront, increase mixed use development opportunities, provide new housing options, interpret the former Champlain Canal alignment and allow for cross property traffic circulation.

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One of the greatest challenges to revitalization of the Cohoes Boulevard Study area is the lack of visual connectivity between the highway and the downtown core. Cohoes Boulevard is currently designed to move traffic as quickly as possible through the City. While functionally the current highway design is effective, it does not support the economic development goals of the community and can also be a significant barrier to safe pedestrian and bicyclist connection between the Hudson River Waterfront and the downtown core. Consistent with past plans, the Revitalization Plan recommends the installation of a true boulevard design including a vegetated center median with pedestrian refuges and raised speed tables at intersections. Additionally, the plan recommends using the original Juncta, or intersection, of the Erie and Champlain Canal as a gateway feature to visually align the highway at Dyke Avenue to Main Street. This wayfinding approach will help the City define a clear connection to the downtown core, reducing traffic pressure at Bridge and Ontario Streets. The Steering Committee recommended changing the name of Main Street to Canal Street in recognition of it being the original alignment of the Erie Canal.

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The City of Cohoes is focused on improving accessibility to healthy living infrastructure throughout the City. By centrally locating a park in the downtown core, the City will increase accessibility to greenspace for all ages, beautify an area of the community where investment is currently lacking, provide appropriate recognition to key architectural structures including the Armory and St. Josephs and increase parking availability close to Remsen Street.