



# City of Saratoga Springs

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Joanne D. Yepsen, Mayor

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Meg Kelly  
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to the Mayor

**For Immediate Release:** [September 7, 2016](#)

## STATEMENT FROM MAYOR JOANNE D. YEPSEN

"On behalf of the City of Saratoga Springs, I could not be more pleased that The NYS Department of Transportation (DOT) has decided that the Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge will remain open.

We want to thank Governor Andrew Cuomo and NYS DOT Commissioner Matthew Driscoll for taking our concerns seriously and reversing their decision to close bridge. Concerned residents worked closely with my staff and me to convey to Sam Zhou, Region 1 Director of NYS DOT, the environmental and economic benefits of the bridge to our community."

The Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge over the Northway constitutes a vital link for daily access to employment, the Saratoga Springs Hospital, the City of Saratoga Springs School District, fire, ambulance services, farms, and businesses. This bridge is also a critical linkage in a popular route for bicyclists, runners, and walkers.

Please find the NYS DOT press release below.

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**For Immediate Release:** [Wednesday, Sept. 7, 2016](#)

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## State Department of Transportation Announces Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge to Remain Open

### Two Other Bridges over Northway to be Replaced

New York State Department of Transportation Commissioner Matthew J. Driscoll [today](#) announced that the Department will no longer consider removing the Nelson Avenue Extension bridges over Interstate 87, the Adirondack Northway, in Saratoga County. Plans for replacing two other bridges included in the project – Crescent Avenue bridge over the Northway in Saratoga Springs and the East High Street bridge over the Northway in of Malta – will move forward.



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“The Department of Transportation mirrors Governor Cuomo’s commitment to assuring that all State bridges provide safe, reliable service to the traveling public, but also to ensuring mobility for the communities we serve,” Commissioner Driscoll said. “Part of that commitment includes diligently monitoring our assets and carefully weighing public sentiment when selecting the best investment strategies for our infrastructure.”

In recent weeks, NYSDOT staff had numerous discussions with local and state elected officials, emergency response agency personnel and area residents regarding the Department’s initial proposal to remove the Nelson Avenue Extension bridge. Public consensus called for keeping the bridge open to traffic.

NYSDOT plans to hold a public meeting this fall regarding the proposed 2018 replacement of the Crescent Avenue and East High Street bridges over the Northway.

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