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## TRANSPORTATION NEWS

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### **New York State Department of Transportation Begins Construction on Intersection Improvement Project in Mount Kisco**

#### *Project will Enhance Pedestrian and Vehicle Safety*

New York State Department of Transportation Acting Commissioner Paul A. Karas today announced that construction has begun on a \$2.2 million project to realign the intersection of Routes 172 and 117 in the town of Mount Kisco, Westchester County, to enhance safety for motorists and pedestrians. The project will include installation of new traffic and pedestrian signals and new crosswalks at all four legs of the intersection. The intersection connects the two state highways with Northern Westchester Hospital and sees more than 16,000 vehicles per day. Numerous pedestrians also use the intersection to access retail locations and restaurants near the local hospital.

“The Department of Transportation is working hard to advance important intersection projects like this one to enhance safety for pedestrians and motorists,” **Acting Commissioner Karas said.** “The realignment and addition of pedestrian facilities will provide motorists with a better sight-line at this busy intersection, enhancing safety for all users of the roadway.”

The new intersection will be configured as a traditional four-leg intersection, eliminating the slip ramps, and will instead have dedicated turn lanes controlled by traffic signals. A right-turn lane headed southbound on Route 117 will be modified at the entrance to the Northern Westchester Hospital to assist pedestrians crossing Route 117.

**Village of Mount Kisco Mayor Gina D. Picinich said,** “The Village of Mount Kisco appreciates that NYSDOT continues to invest in improving our infrastructure. The benefit of a safer and more efficient intersection will outweigh the short-term inconvenience resulting from construction. We will continue to strengthen our partnership with NYSDOT, as we look to implement traffic calming solutions throughout our community that are both pedestrian and bicycle friendly.”

Lane closures during construction are expected to occur predominantly in the overnight hours, from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m., on weekdays. Motorists may experience brief daytime lane closures or traffic shifts while work is underway. Traffic will be maintained in the area without the use of a

detour. Lane closures that are expected to occur will be announced in advance. The project is anticipated to be substantially completed next year.

NYS DOT and the Governor's Traffic Safety Committee recently unveiled a new public service announcement and social media campaign focused on the importance of respecting flagging personnel. This year's work zone safety campaign, "Flaggers have families too," is designed to remind motorists that flagging personnel are not attempting to disrupt traffic – they are simply doing their jobs and want to get home safely at the end of each work day. The PSA can be viewed [here](#) and [here](#).

Motorists are reminded that fines are doubled for speeding in work zones. In accordance with the Work Zone Safety Act of 2005, convictions of two or more speeding violations in a work zone could result in the suspension of an individual's driver's license.

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