

**A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY
LEGISLATOR MORTON**

Re: Support for NYS Action on Widening of Route 78

WHEREAS, Route 78 (Transit Road) is a vital section of road that spans the entire county from Lockport and East Amherst to West Seneca and East Aurora passing through many of our towns and villages on the way; and

WHEREAS, as it runs through Depew, Cheektowaga, and Lancaster the Transit corridor contains an exceptionally narrow segment of road between French Road and Gould Avenue where four deteriorating bridges crossing Transit limit the width of the road; and

WHEREAS, the narrow width of Route 78 at this location and the limited shoulder area makes this section of Transit dangerous for pedestrians, difficult to snow plow, and impossible for first responders to navigate despite being a highly trafficked area; and

WHEREAS, the New York State Department of Transportation is responsible for repair and maintenance of this vital thoroughfare and have estimated the cost to remove the bridges and redesign the road to be between \$50 and \$60 million; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Industrial Development Agency is currently responsible for one of the unused bridges spanning Transit Road and will be conducting badly needed maintenance on an unused bridge this summer; and

WHEREAS, Erie County is the lone stakeholder yet to weigh in with the Village of Depew, the Town of Lancaster, the Town of Cheektowaga, and the Town Highway Superintendents' Association of Erie County having all passed resolutions urging the Department of Transportation to increase funding to this section of Route 78.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that this honorable body hereby urges New York State to take action on widening of Route 78 in the interest of public safety and in support of the businesses that operate in that area; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the New York State Department of Transportation, Hon. Andrew Cuomo's office, the offices of the Western New York Delegation to the New York State Legislature, and any party deemed necessary and proper.

Fiscal Impact: None