LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!
SAVE THE BRIDGE
Nelson Avenue Ext. Over Northway

The closure of the Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge would have a significant impact on neighboring communities, farms, and businesses, reduce emergency service and the City of Saratoga School District access, disrupt a popular bicycling and recreation route and create unsafe traffic conditions by increasing travel on unsuited roads.

We are asking for your help in ensuring that the Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge will continue to serve as a safe point of access to Saratoga Springs and other destinations for area residents, businesses, farms, emergency services, bicyclists and recreationists and others.

YOUR VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Please write or email your local officials concerning the closure of the bridge on Nelson Avenue Ext. over the Northway. Saratoga County is growing, let's keep our community and surrounding communities safe for all.

- Assemblywoman Carrie Woerner
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- Assemblyman James Tedisco
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- Senator Kathy Marchione
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- Congressman Paul Tonko
  61 Columbia Street, 4th Floor
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- Senator Charles Schumer
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- City of Saratoga Springs Supervisor Peter Martin
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- City of Saratoga Springs Commissioner of Public Works Anthony ‘Skip’ Sciorto
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- Town of Malta Supervisor
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- Chairman of the Board of Supervisors
  Arthur “Mo” Wright
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Petitions and info available at Balets Flowers & Design
Also Visit and Sign Petition at chn.ge/2a5p7hW

Bridge to Close Permanently Nelson Avenue Ext. Over Northway

DOT has declared that there is not enough traffic to warrant repair of the bridge. They plan to tear it down.
1. The Bridge is a critical linkage in a popular route for bicyclists, runners, walkers and others that includes Nelson Avenue, Malta Avenue Extension and Rowley Road. The route is popular as it enables riders and others to access a safe route from Saratoga Springs without having to travel on a major state road, like Route 9. The Bridge is used by hundreds of bicyclists as part of the popular Saratoga Lions Duathlon that is held annually on Memorial Day, as well as riders participating in the Annual Team Billy Ride and Walk for Research and Tour De Cure, or weekly bicycle rides for riders originating at Blue Sky Bicycles in Saratoga Springs. The route is also a popular means for moving boats to and from the Saratoga Lake Sailing Club located on nearby Manning Road.

2. Response by emergency vehicles is very time sensitive. Currently, if Malta Avenue Extension is blocked, emergency vehicles would have to travel over the bridge back into Malta to provide service to those residents living in the North-East quadrant of town. If the bridge closes they would have to travel farther to respond which would take more time and could be detrimental.

3. In the last 10 years, a growing number of area residents from Saratoga Springs, Wilton, Saratoga, Greenfield and other communities have traveled over the Nelson Avenue Extension Bridge to visit farms and businesses this way. The bridge closer will dramatically disrupt the sales. Most business sales in that area are sales made directly to consumers (not delivery, mail, etc.).

4. Developers, builders and real estate agents have been selling luxury homes in this area of Malta with the provision that a trip to Saratoga or the Saratoga Racetrack is a quick jaunt. Closing the bridge will lessen the appeal and reduce real estate earnings.

5. The alternate route, Kaydeross Avenue East, that will have to be used if the bridge closes, is a very rural, narrow, winding road with no bicycle lane, small shoulders, limited sightlines and wetlands on both sides as well as an access point to the Kaydeross Creek. The result would be very unsafe traffic conditions and a significant increase in the likelihood of major traffic accidents. In addition, with increased traffic comes more maintenance – will the state maintain this road adequately?

6. In 1960, when the bridge was built, the approximate population of Saratoga Springs was 16,000. Malta was 2,200. Today the population of Saratoga Springs is in excess of 27,000 and Malta is about 15,000 with almost a thousand more living units proposed or under actual construction. We needed the bridge then, we need it today.

7. Currently, emergency closures of Route 9 or the Northway, reroute the traffic to Nelson Avenue. That becomes overwhelming – how will traffic be handled when this travel route is the norm?

8. While secondary roads are often thought of only as roads for local traffic, in fact they serve another very important function. As traffic builds on main roads, motorists will often travel by parallel local routes. Ex: Saratoga Racecourse traffic that travels by way of Nelson Avenue. This results in smoother traffic flow on major routes and less traffic through extremely high-crash areas such as the intersection of Old Post Road and Route 9 at Northway Exit 13.

9. Saratoga Race tracks will be affected - Many horses are raised in Malta, but the tracks are in Saratoga. How will this pan out for those horse owners, trainers and staff that have to be inconvenienced by adding to their travel time?

10. For more than 70 years, residents of Saratoga Springs and Malta have travelled between the two municipalities for both social and business reasons. If the bridge closes, people who use this exention to dine and shop in these respective cities may switch their business to a more convenient locale – resulting in lost sales for many of our businesses.

11. Alternative routes are longer and more confusing for travelers.

12. Residents who live on Kaydeross Avenue chose the rural area – they want their privacy and will lose that.