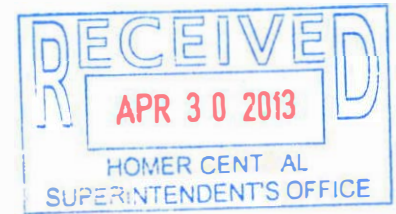




STATE OF NEW YORK  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
REGION 3  
333 EAST WASHINGTON STREET  
SYRACUSE, NY 13202  
[www.dot.ny.gov](http://www.dot.ny.gov)



CARL F. FORD, P.E.  
REGIONAL DIRECTOR

JOAN MCDONALD  
COMMISSIONER

April 26, 2013

Honorable Genevieve Suits  
Mayor, Village of Homer  
53 South Main Street  
Homer, NY 13077

Ms. Nancy Ruscio  
Homer School Superintendent  
PO Box 500, 80 South West Road  
Homer, NY 13077

Mr. James Doring  
Town of Preble Supervisor  
1968 Preble Road  
Preble, NY 13141

Mr. J. Francis Manning  
District Superintendent, OCM BOCES  
PO Box 4754, 6820 Thompson Road  
Syracuse, NY 13211

Mr. Fred Forbes  
Town of Homer Supervisor  
31 North Main Street  
Homer, NY 13077

Mr. Scott Roman  
Cortland County Dept. of Emergency Response  
54 Greenbush Street  
Cortland, NY 13045

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to meet with you to discuss the traffic operation plan for the I-81 over Preble Road bridge replacements.

As you recall, our original plan involved performing most of the work underneath the existing northbound bridge, then closing it for a 10 – 14 day period in late October or early November of 2013 and detouring all traffic onto Route 281. Traffic would be managed by the use of temporary signals, flaggers, temporary turn lanes and real time video surveillance. Backups were expected during both the a.m. and p.m. peak hours. The southbound bridge would be done in the same way in the spring of 2014, with the same duration detour along Route 281.

Based on the comments received from all of the outreach sessions and taking Governor Cuomo's "Drivers First" program into account, a decision has been made to change the work plan to avoid detouring the Interstate traffic onto Route 281. The work will now use a median crossover and provide a single lane in each direction on the existing southbound bridge for the same 10 – 14 day period. Once the northbound bridge is replaced, normal traffic operations will resume and remain in place over the winter of 2013/2014. In the spring of 2014 the southbound bridge will be replaced using staged construction with pre-cast components, resulting in one lane of southbound traffic for two separate 10 -14 day periods while the new superstructure is put into place. While the one lane traffic operation may cause slight delays to motorists, the traffic will remain on I-81 and not be detoured onto Route 281, avoiding significant impacts to area schools, businesses and residents.

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Thank you for your interest in this project. Should you have questions regarding the project, please contact Gene Cilento, Public Information Officer, at 315-428-4351 or via e-mail at [Gene.Cilento@dot.ny.gov](mailto:Gene.Cilento@dot.ny.gov).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Ford', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

CARL F. FORD, P. E.  
Regional Director of Transportation