

# Fairport-East Rochester Post

## State of the Town talks highlight upcoming projects in Fairport, Perinton

For the first time in local history, the leaders of the town of Perinton and village of Fairport gave formal presentations on the state of both municipalities during the State of the Town and Village event today.

The event, hosted by the Fairport-Perinton Chamber of Commerce, was held today at the Burgundy Basin Inn.

### Perinton

Town Supervisor Jim Smith began the program with a recap of the town tax rate — the third lowest in Monroe County. He noted that unfunded mandates like state retirement and health insurance have made this increasingly difficult.

From a conservation standpoint, the town has been able to preserve 2,000 of open space within the town. It is also finalizing the purchase of **three parcels of privately owned property** near the White Brook Wetlands.

Last year's public works projects included the final installation of a floating dock and park area at Bushnell's Basin. The focus, however, turned toward upcoming projects.

Smith pointed out that the town has 36 miles of public trails. By 2013, the State Canal Authority will help fund upgrades to the Erie Canal Towpath and the five-mile Rochester, Syracuse, and Eastern (RS&E) Trail.

The public works department will oversee the construction of a new pedestrian bridge that will cross the canal near Cobb's Lane and connect the RS&E with the existing pathway. Smith said the project will be completed by the fall.

The reconstruction of Jefferson Avenue, which began last year, is slated to be finished by Monroe County this year. O'Connor Road will also be moved northwest of its current location, and as a result, the old Hess station on Fairport Road — known as an eyesore to many residents — will be demolished.

"It is our goal to see that disappear by the end of this year," Smith said.

### Fairport

Mayor Fritz May also gave a synopsis of public works projects set for this year.

The Office of Community and Economic Development (OCED) has several projects that will move forward in 2012, including a \$1.2 million promenade, a 500-foot long cement docking space with pedestrian benches along the canal. In the future, May said there are also tentative plans to install train spotting platform to help draw foot traffic.

Residential housing will also expand in the village. The first step is the addition of \$5.5 million in new housing, Towpath Park, to be built East of Parker Street. Construction is anticipated to start in the spring, May said.

A new five-unit apartment building will also be built at 29 Perrin Street, property located south of the Fairport Village Landing, which OCED previously bought before selling it to a private developer.

Now in its final design stages, High Street will see drastic upgrades, including new pavement, gutters, and sidewalks.

"The end product is going to be a more functional and residential-looking street," said May.

OCED will host a public hearing for residents to further discuss development opportunities in the village's northwest quadrant at the Village Hall on Monday, Jan. 30 at 6:30 p.m.

### Resident reaction

Listeners responded positively to the speeches overall.

"They were both well worth hearing," said Tracy Nadler, an educational consultant from Fairport. "I liked hearing all the future plans they have, especially with open space. It's good to see that they've done some thoughtful advanced planning."

Patrick Luke, a local photographer, said it was helpful to hear the progress of different development projects.

"Generally, we don't know about these things until we see construction happening," said Luke. "It's nice see that the town and village already have plans in place — it's very comforting."

To see photos from today's event, [click here](#).

Copyright 2012 Fairport-E.Rochester Post. Some rights reserved

Comments (0)

[Login](#) or [register](#) to post a user comment.

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Terms of Service](#) | [About our Ads](#)

[Fairport-E.Rochester Post](#) | Fairport, NY 14450

Copyright © 2006-2012 GateHouse Media, Inc. Some Rights Reserved.

Original content available for non-commercial use under a [Creative Commons](#) license, except where noted.

SEO by [eLocalListing](#) | [Advertiser profiles](#) | [RadarFrog Merchant Directory](#)