



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

○ | SNOW REMOVAL

The center median will be used to provide a snow storage area during the winter. There will be enough room to provide additional snow storage adjacent to the median in the case of large snow events and this snow will be removed at night as is currently done by DPW forces.

○ | DELIVERY TRUCKS

Short-term delivery trucks will double park like they currently do. For longer period deliveries, loading zones may be provided in select areas.

○ | BICYCLES

By adding bike lanes and having slower traffic, more cyclists will use N. Union Street for both recreational and utilitarian purposes.

○ | ROUNDABOUTS

Roundabouts are included in the design to improve traffic flow by slowing vehicles and eliminating the stops and starts associated with traffic signals.

○ | MEGA-TRUCKS

The design team is working with Dresser Rand to accommodate the dimensions and requirements of the oversize trucks that use Wayne Street and N. Union Street.

Walkable Olean Fact Sheet

The North Union Street Restoration Project

The Walkable Olean Project will rebuild our crumbling water, sewer lines and lighting infrastructure and restore downtown N. Union with traffic safety improvements and beautification investments. This is an \$8.8 million project, funded with a \$6.5 million federal grant (TIGER grant), \$1.2 million City capital funds, and \$1.1 million State and private funds.

Why: The transformation of N. Union Street to a “Complete Street” provides the opportunity to improve safety for all users and to create a vibrant place that encourages economic investment. Enhancements to the business district such as traffic calming, landscaping, street furniture, lighting and signage will contribute to increased vitality and greater revenue generation potential.

Safety: Crash data shows N. Union is 4½ -times more dangerous than roads like it in New York State. This project will calm the traffic, reduce accidents and restore pedestrian safety and ambiance.

On-going maintenance of the new downtown design: With new water, sewer, and lights, this project will provide lower on-going maintenance costs. In addition, medians and roundabouts can be maintained for about the same as the cost of operating traffic signals.

Parking and Emergency Vehicles: We have listened to the public’s concern and changed the design to retain pull-in diagonal parking. We have lengthened the parking spaces to help with safety while backing out. In addition, the bicycle/ multi-purpose safety lane will give parked cars some maneuvering room away from moving traffic and may also be used by delivery trucks and emergency vehicles.

Our Wide Main Street: It will still be wide; we’ll simply use the space more like the early 1900’s when trolleys ran down the middle and stores poured out onto sidewalks.

Public Involvement: The N. Union Street design project included an extensive public outreach process that engaged more than 180 stakeholders over six months. This involvement will continue throughout the project as we work with merchants along N. Union Street and ask the community for feedback as the project progresses.