



Cuomo to commit \$100 million for I-390 interchange

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Gov. Andrew Cuomo is expected to commit \$100 million for interchange improvements at I-390 and Kendrick Road to ease congestion along the corridor.

The project was listed by the Rochester Community Coalition as one of its four priorities for state investment in 2011.

The upgrades will support and accommodate increased traffic from growth at the University of Rochester, Rochester Institute of Technology and Monroe Community College, officials said. It also will complement growth from projects along Mt. Hope Avenue and East Henrietta Road.

“The I-390/Kendrick Road interchange project will be transformational to the region’s economic future and is also a signal moment in the university’s history,” University of Rochester president Joel Seligman said in a statement Friday.

“By increasing capacity, easing congestion and improving safety, this project will remove a major bottleneck in the current transportation network and significantly contribute to the region’s economic revitalization.”

The state previously committed \$22 million to the interchange project, which will redo an area from the Genesee River to the I-390/I-590 interchange.

The Center for Governmental Research Inc. has estimated that the work could result in 850 construction jobs, \$42 million in income from labor and 20,000 new jobs over 20 years.

The official announcement, expected next week, could take some of the sting from Cuomo’s announcement Wednesday in his State of the State Address that Buffalo will be getting \$1 billion for economic development efforts.

Rochester was not mentioned in Cuomo’s speech.

“This project would not have moved forward without the decisive leadership of Gov. Andrew Cuomo,” Seligman said of the interchange work. “For that, and his vision for a stronger, better New York, I am deeply grateful.”

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