



Governor's Office of Storm Recovery

Governor's Office of Storm Recovery Announces Completion of \$1.6 Million Flood Protection Project in the Town of Rosendale

*Resiliency Upgrades Along James Street Strengthen and Secure Roadway to Better Withstand the
Impacts of Future Storms
Project Completed as Ongoing Flooding Continues to Affect the Region*

July 25, 2019 – The Governor's Office of Storm Recovery today announced the completion of the Flood Control Along James Street Project, a more than \$1.6 million undertaking to transform a critical connector road between Main Street and Route 32/213 in the Town of Rosendale. The project, which was carried out in partnership with the Town of Rosendale, institutes improved storm water management measures to strengthen and secure James Street for future storm events— as recent heavy rains continue to flood the region.

In 2011, the severe one-two punch of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee sent powerful flood waters surging from the Rondout Creek— causing James Street to collapse, stranding residents in their homes and restricting the access of emergency vehicles. Construction on the project, developed through the bottom-up NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program, began in the summer of 2018.

“Reliable transportation infrastructure is vital to the ongoing safety and sustainability of our beloved communities,” said **Executive Director of the NY Rising Community Reconstruction and Infrastructure Programs for GOSR, Alana Agosto**. “Through the NY Rising Community Reconstruction Program, Governor Cuomo has provided municipalities like the Town of Rosendale with the resources and framework for producing meaningful change. Today, we are proud to give James Street the green light!”

The Flood Control Project replaced an existing small-bore stone-built culvert that passed underneath James Street near the intersection of Parkcrest Drive and installed a series of strategically-placed catch basins which had collapsed due to undermining caused by Hurricane Irene. The creek's south bank was reinforced to protect the road and riverbank from erosion, using the installation of bulkheads and thousands of tons of medium and heavy rip-rap armoring. A new walkway (with guide rails) was constructed for pedestrians, providing scenic views of Rondout Creek along James Street.

“I'd like to thank Governor Cuomo and the hard working team members at the Governor's Office of Storm Recovery for helping us make the James Street project a huge success,” said **Town of Rosendale Supervisor Jeanne Walsh**. “This project has not only stabilized and protected a vital flood control project, replaced an aging and undersized storm water culvert with one that will withstand future storms like Hurricane Irene, it has also enhanced the quality of life for our residents with the addition of a beautiful linear park. The NY Rising Program took ideas from our community residents and worked

with us to develop important, resiliency building projects that will protect our community for years to come. On behalf of the entire town – thank you!”

Altogether, more than 650 New Yorkers served on 66 NY Rising Community Reconstruction Planning Committees across the State and have together proposed hundreds of projects inspired by the unique needs and assets of their regions. Collectively, NYRCR committees have held 650 planning meetings and 250 large-scale public engagement events as they have worked to rebuild more sustainable communities, reinforce infrastructure, mitigate the risks of loss and damage associated with future disasters, and spur revitalization.

Now in the implementation stage, GOSR works with a variety of municipal, county and non-profit partner to bring locally-devised proposals to fruition.

Established in June 2013, GOSR coordinates statewide recovery efforts for Superstorm Sandy, Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Through its NY Rising Housing Recovery, Small Business, Community Reconstruction, Infrastructure and Rebuild by Design programs, GOSR invests \$4.5 billion in federal Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery funding to better prepare New York for extreme weather events. More information about GOSR and its programs is available online at <http://stormrecovery.ny.gov/>.

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