

**Benjamin Boykin II****Legislator, 5th District**

Chair, Public Safety &amp; Social Services Committee

Co-Chair, Minority Affairs Task Force

*Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years***Committee Assignments:**

Appointments

Budget &amp; Appropriations

Environment &amp; Health

Infrastructure

Legislation

**MEMORANDUM**

**FROM:** Ben Boykin, Chairman of the Board, Legislator – 5<sup>th</sup> District

**DATE:** October 10, 2018

**RE:** LoHud article 10-9-18 - Westchester OKs \$8.7M to update North County Trailway

Please add the attached article to the October 15<sup>th</sup> Agenda for referral to the proper committees. I suggest it be forwarded to the following committees:

- Parks, Planning & Economic Development
- Public Works

# Westchester OKs \$8.7M to update North County Trailway

**Mark Lungariello, Rockland/Westchester Journal News** Published 6:00 a.m. ET Oct. 9, 2018 | Updated 7:41 a.m. ET Oct. 9, 2018

An extension of the South County Trailway opened in Elmsford that now connects the North and South County trailways for a continuous path from the Bronx to Putnam County.

***Work will also be coming to the South County Trailway***



*(Photo: File photo by The Journal News)*

Westchester County lawmakers will spend \$8.7 million to improve the North County Trailway, a 20-mile trail from Putnam County down to Eastview.

It'll be the first major construction project on the popular trail since it was built in sections in the 1980s.

The county Board of Legislators voted on Oct. 1 to unanimously approve borrowing for the project, which is estimated to last 14 months once it begins.

Safety enhancements will include work to a 500-foot bridge over the Croton Reservoir in Yorktown, which lawmakers said has been used occasionally by thrill seekers to jump into the reservoir. Work will include curved fencing and spikes to discourage people from climbing around the fence.

New York State owns the trailway and Westchester has leased it since 1994, but the county legislature has asked the administration of County Executive George Latimer to try to strike up a deal to take ownership of the property. But lawmakers approved another 25-year extension lease at a \$1 cost to Westchester while negotiations are sparked.

Although the state owns the property, the county is responsible for any injury, property damage or death claims. The county approved a \$3.2 million settlement with the family of a bicyclist who died after crashing on a stretch of the trailway in Yorktown.

The property runs through the towns of Mount Pleasant, New Castle, Yorktown and Somers. It connects to the South County Trailway, which runs to Westchester's border with the Bronx. Lawmakers OKed this month another \$300,000 for a study and design preparation to an area of the South County Trailway, particularly a stretch near Yonkers' border with Hastings-on-Hudson.