

Kelly, Testa Discuss Details of Planned Road Repairs on Brown Street in Peekskill

October 25, 2005

Congresswoman Secured Nearly \$1 Million in Federal Funds to Aid City Efforts

PEEKSKILL U.S. Congresswoman Sue Kelly and Peekskill Mayor John Testa met in Peekskill today to further discuss the planned uses of federal funds that Kelly obtained in Congress to help the City make local street repairs and improvements.

Kelly and Testa worked together to identify road needs in the City that qualified for federal assistance under the Transportation Equity Act. The legislation, which was signed into law in August, distributes federal funding for highway, road, and mass transit improvements.

As a senior member of the House Transportation Committee, Kelly successfully wrote provisions into the bill that secured a total of \$989,600 in federal transportation money for Peekskill's transportation-related needs. Kelly worked through the committee to obtain the funds in the bill, and Testa provided the project details and paperwork necessary for federal funding consideration.

"It is very important for Peekskill residents that their federal and local governments work together in ways like this to identify and address their local needs," Kelly said. "It was very productive working together with a hardworking mayor like John Testa to obtain this federal money that will make a difference in the City."

Standing in front of Paramount Theatre on Brown Street today, Testa and Kelly previewed how the federal transportation funds would be used for road improvements on Brown Street.

"Safe and convenient driving and pedestrian access on Brown Street and throughout downtown Peekskill is vital to the City's business district, so this federal money will help benefit area residents and small businesses alike," said Kelly, who also is a senior member of the House Small Business Committee.

Other City streets that will benefit from the federal assistance are Riverview Avenue and Hudson Avenue.

"A good return of federal money like this for Peekskill helps our local community and local residents. Obtaining federal funding assistance helps

keep cities like Peekskill from having to collect extra local taxes to pay for necessary downtown improvements," Kelly said.