



Reconnect Rochester  
P.O. Box 67504  
Rochester, NY 14617

September 19, 2014

Adam J. Bello  
Irondequoit Town Hall  
1280 Titus Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14617

Dear Mr. Bello,

As a resident of Irondequoit, I have been watching the progress on our new town library with excitement. As the steel goes up and we now consider the overall site design and landscaping, I want to point out that this project presents an important opportunity to keep Active Transportation on the radar in Irondequoit.

As I've stated at previous town meetings, having Active Transportation called out as a top priority in our new Town Master Plan is excellent and commendable. We must now begin to take serious steps to achieve the vibrant and walkable town we all desire.

If the Town had an Active Transportation Plan completed today, undoubtedly the Town Hall campus and the new library would be identified as priority community destinations. In this case, the construction is coming before the planning. But this shouldn't stop us from thinking ahead.

The library site design will provide a rare opportunity and an ideal platform to demonstrate the integration of Active Transportation planning into the design of Irondequoit's public spaces. The Town has the chance to use the library, and the Town Hall campus, to begin establishing an Active Transportation "vocabulary" that can be applied Town-wide.

A few ideas that I would suggest be applied to the library landscape are:

- Bike parking shelters—as opposed to open racks—should be installed on site. Covered bicycle parking encourages people to ride more often, and in more weather. This also sends a powerful message that bicycles are a legitimate transportation mode and not just toys.
- 10' wide multi-use pathways—instead of 5' sidewalks—should be considered (where driveway conflicts are minimal). This strategy is an important tool where there are likely to be a higher percentage of B and C level riders. Utilizing pervious pavements would offset the stormwater impacts of the additional pavement width.
- All crosswalk treatments should apply best available practices for pedestrian safety, not just meet the minimum requirements. Crosswalks should be raised or utilize a different surface material or color. Whether on street or in the parking lot, motorists should be made highly aware that this is a pedestrian zone.

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- Parking lots can also be made safer for pedestrians by providing designated walkways and strategic placement of ADA aisles.
- The #3 bus line stops at the town campus, connecting this site to Irondequoit Plaza, East Ridge Road and points beyond. We should be actively encouraging more Irondequoit residents to use this important transportation tool. An appropriate bus stop shelter would spur transit use and the associated pedestrian travel.

In conclusion, I would like to ask you and your staff to show a willingness and commitment to prioritize Active Transportation in the library site planning process, and all future town developments. And, as always, I thank you for your service to our town. If I, or Reconnect Rochester can be of help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Governale". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and "G".

Michael Governale  
President (and resident at ---- )

cc: Nicholas Weatherbee  
Kerry Ivers  
Terry Buford  
Lorie Barnum  
Irena Skrobach  
David Seeley  
John Perticone  
Planning Board  
Zoning Board  
Conservation Board