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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VILLAGE OF LAKEWOOD TO UNVEIL NEW CHAUTAUQUA AVENUE GREEN STREET
RETROFIT PROJECT**

The Chautauqua Lake and Watershed Management Alliance (Alliance) is pleased to announce that the Village of Lakewood's Chautauqua Avenue Green Street Retrofit Project is nearing completion. The Village will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony on Saturday, November 20 at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate the milestone. The event will feature live music from 11:30 AM -3 p.m. and the Cherry Bomb Food Truck will be open from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. All are welcome to attend the ceremony.

Green infrastructure construction along the Avenue commenced in April 2021 by Kingsview Enterprises and is in the final stages of completion, thanks to the efforts of all parties involved. This capital improvement project was made possible by a grant from the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation (NYSEFC) Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) and Clean Water State Revolving Funds awarded to the Village in 2018. Local matching funds from the Village (in-kind construction), Chautauqua County, and the Alliance via its Alliance-Foundation match fund were used to secure the grant. Design and engineering services were provided by Barton and Loguidice, D.P.C.

This project is one of several in the Village and Town of Busti sourced from the 2018 Stormwater Management Engineering Study. Chautauqua Avenue and adjacent curb areas between Second Street and Summit Avenue were identified as potential spaces for green infrastructure improvement and downtown revitalization as part of this study. Key features of construction include permeable interlocking concrete pavers at three intersections and in curb areas, continuous tree trenches, porous flexible pavement tree surrounds, 11 storm water street trees planted in structural soil, new storm water drainage features and curbs, native plantings, and interpretive signs detailing the project and its benefits. By replacing traditional gray infrastructure, these features help to improve water quality for Chautauqua Lake and its watershed by increasing infiltration and biofiltration of storm water. Permeable surfaces (permeable interlocking concrete pavers and Flexi-Pave) and tree trenches promote infiltration and biofiltration of stormwater, thus reducing the burden on storm water infrastructure in downstream areas and improving water quality entering Chautauqua Lake. Storm water improvement projects such as this play a crucial role in addressing water quality impairment issues, such as Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs), along with providing a variety of aesthetic benefits and revitalization of the main street corridor.

The Alliance would like to thank the project team members for all of their hard work in an effort to bring this project to completion. Lakewood continues to lead by example through its work on several watershed improvements including this project, the Crescent Creek Wetland project, and the Grandview Stormwater Management Project, which will directly aid the health of Chautauqua Lake for its multitude of uses and users. This revitalization of the Village center will benefit residents and visitors alike in addition to providing aesthetic and environmental improvements for many years to come. For more information about the project, please contact the Alliance or Village.



Figure 1. The newly completed intersection of Chautauqua Avenue and 2nd Street is shown facing north, with porous pavers seen in the foreground.



Figure 2. From left, Taylor West and Randall Perry of the Alliance inspect a catch basin, while Nicole Cleary of Barton and Loguidice speaks with Lakewood Mayor Randy Holcomb and DPW Supervisor Tom Pilling. Porous pavers, Flexi-Pave, and one of 11 new storm water street trees can be seen at the bottom of the frame.