Bringing high-speed rail to Upstate New York is one of Rep. Slaughter's highest priorities. The improvement of existing tracks and the creation of a third track dedicated to passenger rail will allow people to move efficiently back and forth across the upstate region, improve commerce, generate new tourism opportunities and spark revitalization in our region for years to come.

Rep. Slaughter has led meetings with U.S. Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood , Congressional leaders, representatives from Governor Paterson's office, the N.Y. Department of Transportation, the Federal Railroad Administration, Amtrak, and CSX to bring high-speed rail to Upstate New York.

Rep. Slaughter formed the Upstate Caucus to advocate for Western and Upstate New York, and members of the caucus have pushed for high-speed rail funding for the region. The FY 2010 funding bill contains over $4.5 million for high-speed rail in upstate.

On January 28, 2010, President Obama announced that $151 million in rail projects for Upstate New York.

The projects include:

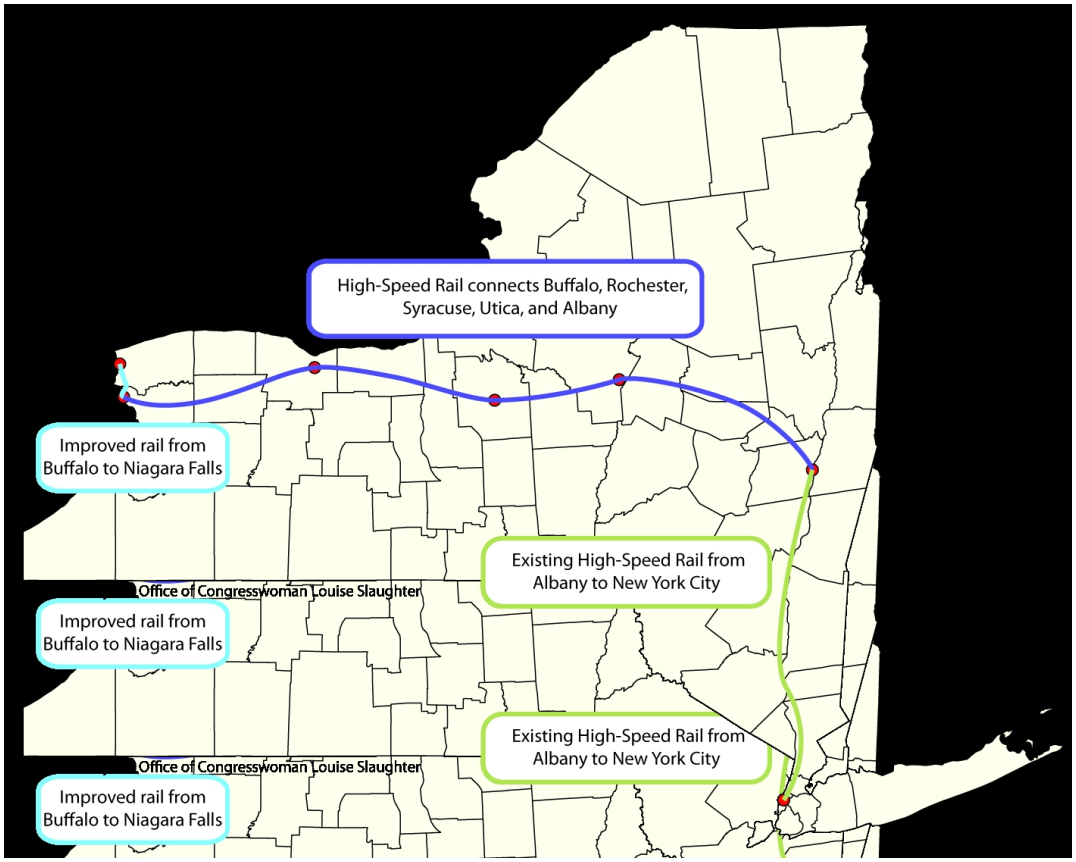
- $147 million to go to

1. The installation of 10 miles of second track, interlocking reconfigurations and grade crossing warning device systems to eliminate an existing bottleneck and improve safety.
2. The preliminary engineering and environmental analysis for 11 miles of third track which

will allow for high-speed passenger rail.

3. The Buffalo-Depew Station to upgrade its facilities.
4. The construction and repair of the Rochester Station.
5. Improvements to existing warning devices at 12 crossings.

6. $3 million for the final design and construction of 2.27 miles of third track mainline track used by Amtrak's state-supported Adirondack (New York-Montreal) and Ethan Allen Express (New York-Rutland, VT) services, which will improve the reliability and on-time performance of these services.
7. $1 million has been allocated to prepare a service development pan and environmental plan and environmental studies for high-speed rail enhancements throughout the Empire Corridor.



Learn about what high-speed rail can do for Niagara Falls , Buffalo , Rochester , Syracuse , Utica
, and
Albany

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The High-Speed Rail New York Coalition released a Statement of Regional Impact , analyzing the benefits of bring high-speed rail to New York.