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Capital Roots' Healthy Streets Program Brings Safer Streets to Schenectady *The Intersection Enhancement Project*

SCHENECTADY - Capital Roots' Healthy Streets program completed the installation of an Intersection Enhancement Project for Schenectady at the corners of Liberty and Jay Street. This project was one of two planned that was made possible with support from Capital District Transportation Committee's (CDTC) Capital Coexist campaign, NYS-DOH Creating Healthy Schools and Communities program, the City of Schenectady and Schenectady Art Society (SAS). After collecting traffic data, these intersections were deemed areas of high conflict between drivers and pedestrians. Artwork from local artist, Zach Harrington, was designed specifically to calm traffic, making a once dangerous intersection safer for pedestrians. Capital Roots' staff and volunteers spearheaded this project which includes bump-outs, stop-bars and posts that will improve public accessibility, safety and a higher quality of life for neighborhood residents.

Capital Roots' Healthy Streets program will complete the final phase of the Intersection Enhancement Project in early October at the Schenectady County Bike Demofest at Wallingford Park and Hamilton Elementary School.

"Capital Roots is delighted to continue our long-standing work in Schenectady with this Healthy Streets' Intersection Enhancement Project," said Capital Roots' Chief Executive Officer Amy Klein. "Thanks to the support of many Regional partners, this project will improve the safety of the neighborhood for walkers and bikers and help create a healthier environment for all."

"Pedestrian and bicycle friendly infrastructure improvements provide communities with sustainable transportation options while also promoting healthy, active lifestyles for residents and visitors alike," Mayor Gary McCarthy said. "We are proud to partner with Capital Roots, CDTC, and the Schenectady Art Society to bring the Healthy Streets program to our community."

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Capital Roots is a 43-year-old nonprofit organization that nourishes healthy communities with more than 50 Community Gardens, the Veggie Mobile®, Healthy Stores, the Produce Project, Squash Hunger and more. Since 2012, Capital Roots' Healthy Streets program has been working to improve public spaces throughout the Capital Region. Our initiatives are creating communities with complete streets, designed to accommodate the transportation needs of all residents, regardless of their method of travel. By increasing opportunities for improved transportation, the Capital Region's cities are becoming more accommodating, accessible and safer places to live and work. Capital Roots is headquartered at the Urban Grow Center, a regional food hub focused on urban agriculture and produce distribution to four counties, enabling Capital Roots to deliver local food and services to underserved neighborhoods and low-income families. Learn more at www.capitalroots.org.

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