NYC is pothole city

By Michael Gartland and Rebecca Harshbarger



Potholes litter the entrance to FDR Drive on E. 62nd Street. Photo: Chad Rachman

Welcome to pothole city.

Over 70 percent of the city's roads are in poor or mediocre shape— and just a paltry 16 percent can be deemed good, according to a new report.

New York City's crappy streets are significantly worse than those in Albany, Buffalo, Rochester, and Syracuse, an analysis by the nonprofit research group TRIP has found.

Albany has the second-worst roads for cities in the state, with about half considered poor or mediocre.

Drivers in New York City pay hundreds of dollars more a year because of its crappy conditions.

"Every year, New Yorkers spend close to \$700 maintaining their vehicles after they get beat up by the hundreds of potholes and unsafe conditions throughout our city and state," said Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez, who chairs the council's transportation committee, in a statement.

The DOT Commissioner said that the city's roads get a tremendous amount of use everyday.

"Hundreds of thousands of vehicles carry millions of New Yorkers in the five boroughs every day to make the city run smoothly," said Commissioner Polly Trottenberg. "So it's no surprise that our 6,000 miles of streets undergo significant wear and tear, especially after this year's cold and difficult winter."

The agency filled almost 160,000 potholes between Dec. 13 last year and March 15 this year.

The report also found that over a third of New York's bridges have significantly deteriorated or don't meet current bridge standards.

Twelve percent of the state's dilapidated bridges are structurally deficient, which means they have significant deterioration and often can't handle large trucks.



A Sanitation Department trash can warns drivers and pedestrians of a deep pothole.Photo: Chad Rachman