

Transportation Researcher: Damaged Roads Costing Rochester Drivers

BY SPECTRUM NEWS STAFF | ROCHESTER



Rough roads and bad driving conditions cost the average driver in the Rochester area more than \$16,000 every year.

That money goes toward vehicle repairs, wasted fuel, lost time, and crashes.

According to research by national transportation researcher TRIP, 12% of major roadways in the Rochester region can be considered in poor condition and another 19% are considered in mediocre condition.

TRIP says 8% of the Rochester region's bridges are in immediate need of repair or replacement, and that Rochester-area drivers are spending an extra 40 hours and wasting 20 gallons of fuel in jams every year, caused by traffic congestion.

A senior manager at the Buffalo-Niagara Partnership says TRIP's report shows that even though the pandemic has areas re-thinking budgets for next year, transportation safety cannot be one of the areas where the budget is cut

"Western New York simply cannot afford to lose any of those minutes, those dollars, those fuel costs. In order to be competitive, we need every advantage, and that includes a reliable and consistent transit system," said Seth Piccirillo, Buffalo-Niagara Partnership senior manager of economic development.

TRIP says fixing roadways would not only save people money, but it would save lives.