

2024 Total Solar Eclipse Planning

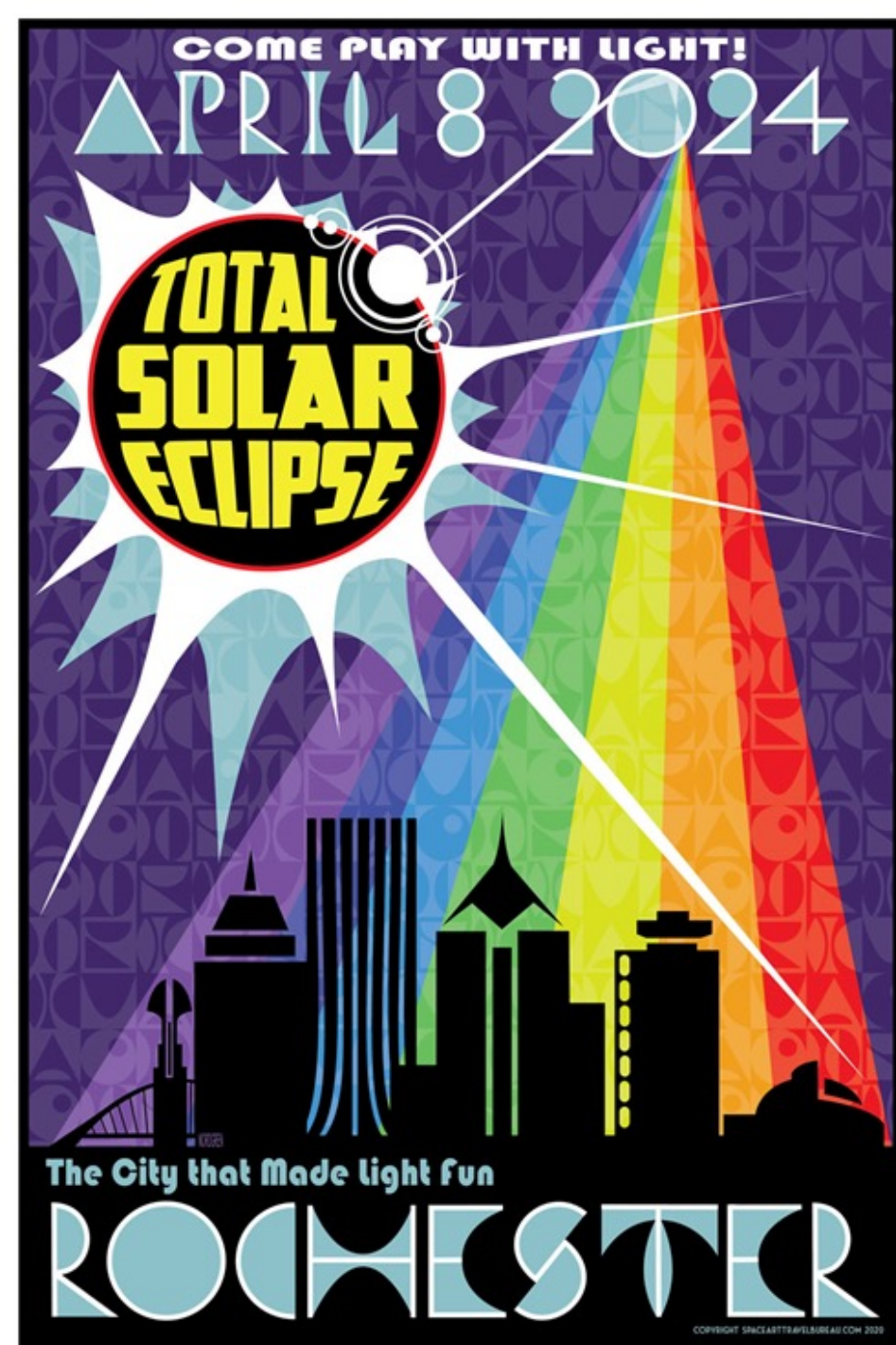


Single-biggest mass travel event in the USA.

Transportation & Emergency Response
Challenges

AAS Solar Eclipse Planning Workshop
October 22, 2022

Jim Stack
Genesee Transportation Council, Executive Director



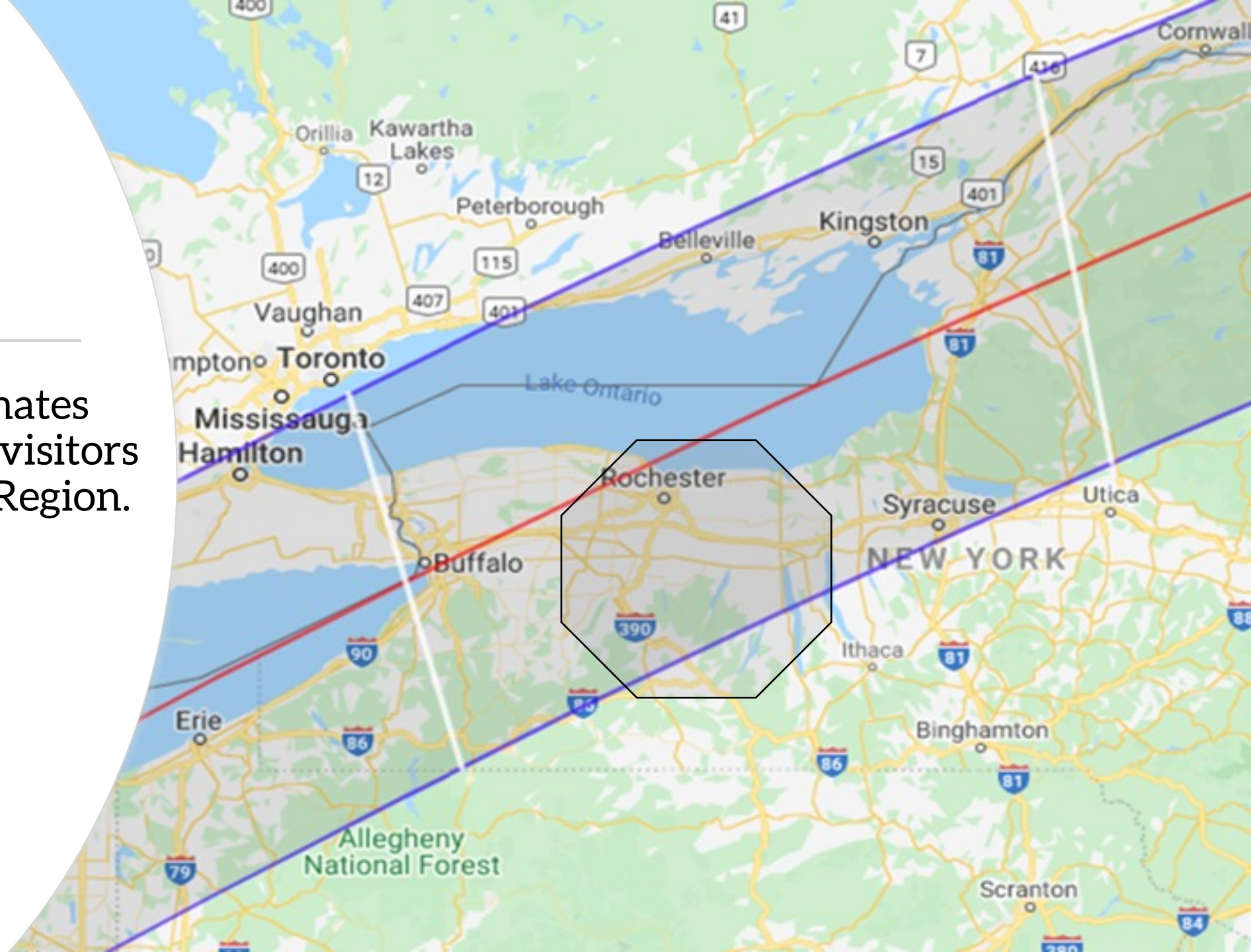
GTC's Role

We are proud to be part of a larger community working to put the Greater Rochester Region in the spotlight. We want to be part of the success stories, not traffic-related horror stories.

We don't own, operate or maintain transportation systems, but our member agencies do.

As a planning agency, we hope to inform, convene, connect, share resources, and assist our member agencies and stakeholders.

VisitRochester estimates
350 – 500 thousand visitors
to the Finger Lakes Region.



Crowds and Traffic

- **Expect huge crowds coming from the east and south will be driving**
- People from Boston, NYC, Albany, Syracuse, Binghamton, etc.
- People will arrive over 1-4 days pre-eclipse
- Rochester and the areas just west of us are the easiest place to get to
- If 2017 is a guide, most people will want to depart in the 2 hours post-totality,
- **Majority leave right after the first 15 minutes post totality**
- **THIS** is the biggest issue!
- Traffic jams should be expected on all roads leading out of the region - particularly East and South - **Can't go NORTH!**



Wyoming 2017, Denver Post

Venue Considerations

- Audience experience will differ
 - Science museum
 - Baseball stadium
 - Downtown location
 - Open areas in parks, farms, etc.
 - State park camping areas
 - Suburban High School
 - Urban public market
 - Rooftop restaurant
- Activities before & after eclipse
- Visitor comfort related to weather, food, restrooms, etc.



Traffic Considerations



Illinois 2017, Chicago Tribune

- Where do people park?
- Should roads be closed?
- Need to plan for emergency services – create a lane?
- Pre-planned signal patterns?
- Pre-deployed response vehicles such as tow trucks?
- Routine travel still needs to be accommodated.

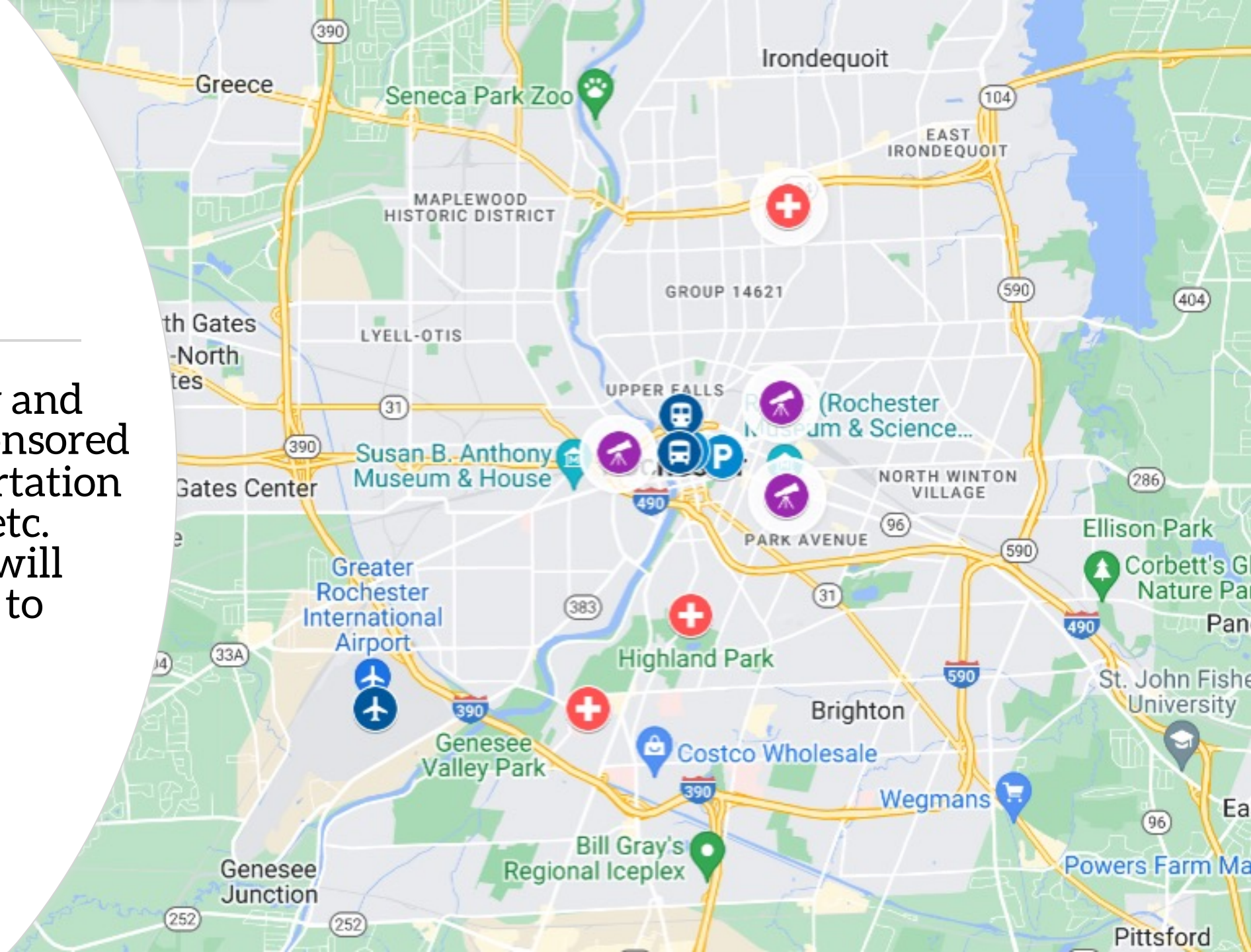
Traffic Considerations



Illinois 2017, Chicago Tribune

- Will venues in proximity to each other cause conflicts?
- Should we have satellite parking with shuttles?
- Long distance travelers need information.
- Multiple agencies have jurisdiction, so coordination is key

Working to identify and map sanctioned/sponsored events, key transportation facilities, hospitals, etc. Using Google Maps will allow visitors to use to navigate the area.



University of Rochester
Medical Center (URMC) –
Strong Memorial Hospital is
the region's only Level 1
Trauma Center and Burn
Center.



UR Medicine Mobile Stroke Unit

Life saving stroke care in minutes.





Emergency Management

- ✓ NYS Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services (DHSES) -Office of Emergency Management
- ✓ County Emergency Management Offices
- ✓ Local Municipalities Emergency Management Offices
- ✓ Department of Transportation
- ✓ County Sheriffs
- ✓ State and Local Police Departments
- ✓ County Fire Coordinators
 - ✓ Fire Departments (paid)
 - ✓ Fire Districts (volunteer)
- ✓ Ambulance Services
 - ✓ Private (contracted)
 - ✓ Volunteer
- ✓ Incident Command System
- ✓ But how do we manage a Planned Event at multiple venues of different sizes in multiple counties ?

New York State Mass Gathering Planning Guide

June 2018



CHECKLISTS ARE HANDY!

- PRE-EVENT PLANNING
 - ✓ Identify & Coordinate with Key Partners
 - ✓ Risk Assessment
 - ✓ Develop plan
 - ✓ Exercise plan
 - ✓ Implement Critical Infrastructure Protection & Other Mitigation Measures
 - ✓ Identify Personnel and Equipment
 - ✓ Trainings & Exercises and Protocol Reviews
 - ✓ Communication & Info. Management Protocols
 - ✓ Permits & Notifications
 - ✓ Mass Casualty Plan Review

New York State Mass Gathering Planning Guide

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CHECKLISTS ARE HANDY!

- OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS
 - ✓ Maintain Situational Awareness
 - ✓ Maintain Incident Action Plans
 - ✓ Maintain Lines of Communications
 - ✓ Ingress/Egress/Parking
 - ✓ Screening & Security
 - ✓ Law Enforcement Operations
 - ✓ Fire Rescue/Hazmat Operations
 - ✓ Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Operations
 - ✓ Facility Lockdowns & Evacuations
 - ✓ Emergency Alerting/Public Information
 - ✓ Crowd Control
 - ✓ Monitor Cyber/Technological Threats

New York State Mass Gathering Planning Guide

June 2018



CHECKLISTS ARE HANDY!

- POST-EVENT ACTIVITIES
 - ✓ Debriefs
 - ✓ Demobilization
 - ✓ Review of Medical Incident Response Procedures
 - ✓ After-Action Review and Plan Development