

# 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Planning

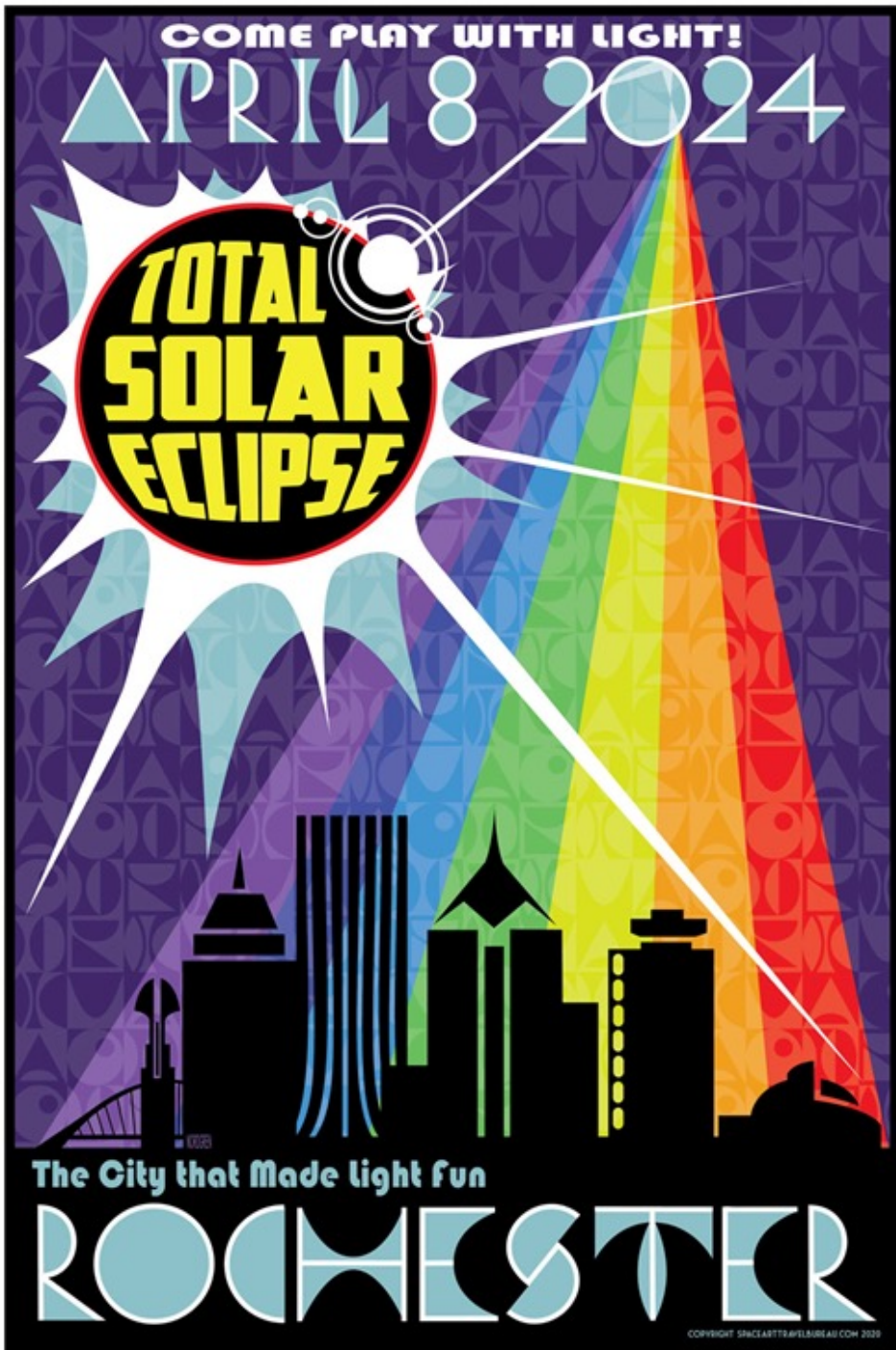


Single-biggest mass travel event in the USA.

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.



# Crowds and Traffic

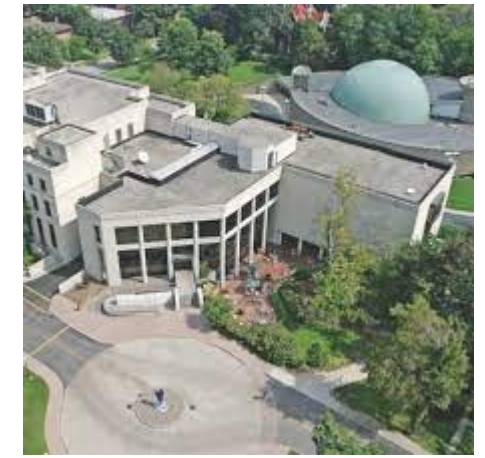
- **Expect huge crowds coming from the east and south will be driving**
- People from Boston, NYC, Albany, Syracuse, Binghamton, etc.
- People will arrive over 1-4 days pre-eclipse
- Rochester and the areas just west of us are the easiest place to get to
- If 2017 is a guide, most people will want to 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.

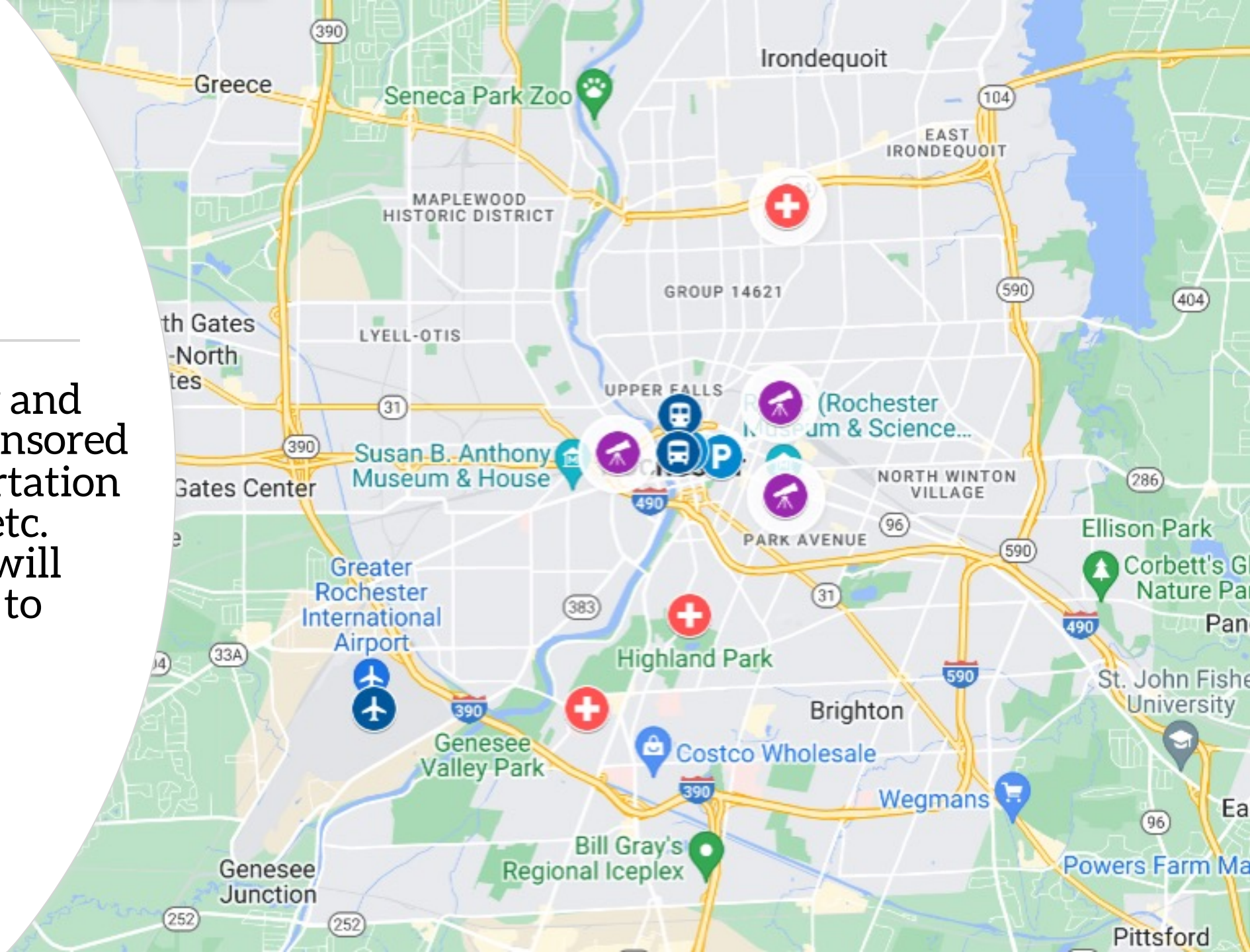
# Traffic Considerations



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



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## CHECKLISTS ARE HANDY!

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