

Know Your Community Day 2021

Here are Simpson's answers to additional member questions that he was not able to respond to during his presentation.

With all the corporate business going on, are many still driving to the Rochester Airport for lower airfare?

Fortunately, this is no longer accurate. The combination of new direct flights, thanks to the work of the Syracuse Hancock International Airport, and lower fares continues to drive traffic at the airport. Additionally, new service opportunities are being pursued currently.

What is the estimated STEAM School opening date?

The district has said 2022 but it is likely that may not open until 2023.

Is there any update on mass transit plans?

Just yesterday, Centro announced it is rolling out its new service called the "SYRculator," which will run around downtown in a 15-minute loop. Centro says it has more plans for additional services in the coming months. <https://www.localsyr.com/news/local-news/centro-adds-service-to-make-moving-around-downtown-syracuse-easier/>

There is also the strong possibility of a major federal infrastructure bill which has the potential for funding for new transit.

What is your outlook on the home building industry for CNY?

We know that sales of existing homes is up and that housing stock is down and so we do anticipate the home building industry will rise following the pandemic.

Are there any plans to restore some of the historical buildings in the city?

This is something that has been going on for the better part of a decade and we have seen this transform our city center. This work really started following the passing of the Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit, which we championed.