



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Pamela Helming

Senator Helming and Thruway Authority Announce First of Five Adult Changing Stations at Service Areas

PAMELA HELMING March 25, 2024

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PRESS RELEASE

— *from* —

NYS SENATOR PAM HELMING

Representing the 54th District

Warners Service Area in Onondaga County is the first to include an adult changing station
From the New York State Thruway Authority:

The New York State Thruway Authority today announced the reopening of the new Warners Service Area (I-90 westbound mile marker 292) in Warners, NY. The location is the 15th new service area to open to Thruway customers as part of the \$450 million private investment to

redevelop and modernize all 27 Thruway service areas and the first of five select service areas that will include an adult changing station to improve accessibility for all motorists.

“The Service Area Redevelopment project is more than halfway complete, and with the opening of the Warners Service Area, we’re increasing accessibility for motorists with the addition of an adult changing station,” **Thruway Authority Acting Executive Director Frank G. Hoare, Esq. said.** “Adult changing stations provide those with special needs a safe and secure space for caregivers to provide assistance. We thank Senator Helming for her collaboration in this effort.”

Thruway Authority Board of Directors Chairperson Joanie Mahoney said, “With the Service Area Redesign project more than halfway complete, it’s important to recognize the addition of adult changing stations at five select service areas. Senator Helming’s support was instrumental in making this a reality and I’d like to thank her for her tireless advocacy on behalf of those with disabilities and their families and caretakers.”

Senator Pam Helming said, “Several years ago, I began conversations with the Thruway Authority about the need for adult changing stations at service areas. Board chair Joanie Mahoney was immediately receptive to the idea and took steps to make this happen as part of the planned service area improvements. I would also like to thank Acting Executive Director Frank Hoare for seeing this plan through. The opening of the first of five adult changing stations is welcome news to me, but more importantly, to our citizens with disabilities and special needs and their families and caregivers. These stations are about dignity and respect, and on a practical level, will help families plan their travel to meet their needs. I will always work to expand accessibility for individuals with disabilities and special needs and provide every opportunity they deserve.”

In addition to the Warners Service Area, an adult changing station will be included in the Angola, Ontario, Pattersonville and Sloatsburg service areas. A map with anticipated reopening dates can be found at thruway.ny.gov.

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