

KATHY HOCHUL  
Governor



ADRIENNE A. HARRIS  
Superintendent

Date: March 8, 2024

To: All New York Banks and Credit Unions

Re: Preparing for the April 8, 2024, Total Solar Eclipse

A total solar eclipse will traverse through much of Upstate New York on Monday, April 8, 2024. State officials anticipate significant interest and a potential influx of hundreds of thousands of visitors to the region, including many rural areas that are not typically heavily trafficked.

During an eclipse in 2017, many states in the path of totality experienced record high visitors and unprecedented traffic congestion.<sup>1</sup> This traffic also led to significant demands on businesses along these routes by visitors purchasing gas, food, and other supplies. To prepare for the 2024 eclipse, Governor Kathy Hochul convened an interagency task force to collaborate on plans to ensure a safe and memorable viewing experience for New York State's residents and visitors.<sup>2</sup>

The task force has been asking businesses to prepare for significant traffic along the path of totality on April 8, 2024. Banks and credit unions operating in Upstate New York should take appropriate steps to prepare for a high volume of customers on the days leading up to the eclipse and on April 8. This may include ensuring ATMs are filled on April 8.

The eclipse will begin in western New York shortly after 2 P.M. Full totality will begin in Chautauqua County at 3:17 P.M., moving through the state to Plattsburgh at 3:25 p.m. More information can be found at [www.iloveny.com/eclipse](http://www.iloveny.com/eclipse).

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<sup>1</sup> *Transportation Research Board*. (Sept – Oct 2018) "Traffic Impacts of the 2017 Solar Eclipse." Retrieved at: [trnews317.pdf \(trb.org\)](http://trnews317.pdf(trb.org))

<sup>2</sup> *Press Release from the Office of Governor Kathy Hochul*. (January 10, 2024) "Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers on State Plans for the April 2024 Total Solar Eclipse" Retrieved at: <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-updates-new-yorkers-state-plans-april-2024-total-solar-eclipse>