

TZB-057E

To the Committee Soliciting Public Comments on the Tappan Zee Bridge:

I see that the present options really come down to two:

1. Maintain the existing structure as a vehicular bridge and make what improvements can be cost effectively achieved with in the context of the current bridge. This option would limit the near and midterm future for new transit in this corridor.
2. Build a replacement bridge with the appropriate vehicular capacity to address future traffic demand and accommodate commuter rail. While this would likely be the most expensive of all alternatives, a new bridge should have the ability to address the region's transportation needs for a very long time, say 100 years. This means it it must have the capacity to support commuter rail, which is the most viable mass transit mode for the foreseeable future and a very significant volume (larger than present) of vehicular traffic including commuter bus, trucks, etc. It must be flexible in design and with sufficient capacity so as to support modes of transport not yet in use and possibly not yet envisioned. Moreover it does not need to be designed in concert with the commuter rail line or as part of the overall transit plan, it will just need to be able to accommodate whatever is developed.



If the capital cannot be found to due the later, I am in favor of the former.

Sincerely,
Citizen,
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