

**George Paschalis**

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**Subject:** Tappan Zee Bridge  
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The state comptroller stated that the new bridge would cost around 17 billion dollars and that the state does not have the funds for this project.

First I believe a new bridge that would carry rail over it should be seriously considered along with a tunnel on the other end of 287 going from rye to long island.

This was the plan years ago and never completed. The Tappan Zee Bridge I believe is part of the Eisenhower Military Highway system and therefore federal funds should be made available. Senator Ted Kennedy has gotten the Feds to pour millions of dollars into the so called "Big Dig" in Boston. A project that has extended well over twenty years and this is not part of the Eisenhower Military Highway system. The Federal Government should be a major player in this project. It would create jobs at a time when the economy is dragging. If Kennedy can do it, then Schumer, Clinton and other congressional leaders from this area should also be asking for federal funds. These two projects would also save millions of gallons of fuel by eliminating the necessity of traveling to the Throgs Neck or Whitestone bridges to gain access to Long Island.

If a rail bridge along with the vehicle bridge is not feasible then maybe the rail road trestle in Newburg could be evaluated to see if it is safe and this would save millions. Before disaster strikes the Tappan Zee has to be rebuilt with or without the rail part of it. The question is not if the bridge is going to self destruct the question is when?

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