



TZB-010E

Three Hudson Place  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Mr. Michael P. Anderson  
NYSDOT  
Tappan Zee Bridge/I-287 Corridor Project Director  
660 White Plains Road, Suite 340  
Tarrytown, NY 10591

**Re: Scoping Update Comments**

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Thank you for the update on plans for the Tappan Zee Bridge and the opportunity to ask questions about the project. We live in the cul-de-sac directly south of the toll plaza in the Van Wart/Paulding neighborhood.

**Construction**

How will equipment move to and from the various worksites? Will the small access road directly behind our house be used? Will that road have to be widened to accommodate this traffic? Will we lose the sparse, but precious screening we have at this time? Will any homes have to be removed to provide access the construction site?

How much work will be done in the yard directly behind our house (Van Wart Avenue work yard)? How frequent and noisy will the work there be? Will the schedule of work require lighting at night?

What hours of the day will construction take place at various locations? Will there be increased noise and lights?

We have heard that under some options, houses in the Van Wart/Paulding neighborhood will need reinforcement to their foundations before construction starts. What would that entail and how would it be handled? What if damage occurs despite reinforcement? What if we don't want to have that type of work done?

A rat infestation occurred when blasting was done during the interchange 8 project a few years ago, and houses near Route 9 were seriously affected. How will this potential problem be handled for this much larger project?

**Pedestrian Bike Path**

Most options include a pedestrian bike path leading out onto the bridge. This path would go along the other side of our backyard fence. What type of screening and landscaping will be done to preserve our privacy? Will the trail be open at night? Will there be lighting for the trail? If the trail is not open at night, how will it be secured against entry?

**Affect on Current Problems**

When we moved into our house in 1998, we were obviously aware of the bridge and the amount of noise it produced. But over time, the noise problem has increased. The deterioration of the bridge causes vehicles to make loud noises as they pass over its uneven surfaces. Sound barriers placed on the opposite side of the Thruway in 2002-3 seem to reflect noise from the toll plaza in our direction. (There are no sound barriers on our side of the Thruway.) We no longer open our windows in the summer and have had to install sound proof windows and attic sound proofing. Still, the traffic noise inside our home is sometimes louder than it was during the first five years we lived here. Also, lights installed around the toll plaza over the last few years shine into our back and side windows.

How will noise and lighting problems be managed during and after construction? Increased traffic and trains will mean increased noise and potentially more lighting. How will this be managed?

**Condemnation**

If our property is required for the selected project option, how soon will we be notified? Will we be able to sell our home immediately and then rent it back until the property is actually needed? Right now, we would be very disadvantaged if we needed to sell our home. The uncertainty surrounding the Tappan Zee project makes our home practically unsalable. Is there any provision to buy people out of their homes during the period of scoping and planning?

Thank you for the opportunity to ask our questions.

Sincerely,  
*Elaine & Douglas Lucas*  
Elaine and Douglas Lucas