

**TZB-151E**

To Whom It May Concern:

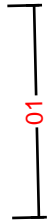
For what my opinion is worth I believe that The Tappan Zee Bridge - Alternative 4A would be the best option. This is not only the best option for the present time, but also for our future. Commuter rail is the fastest and most reliable way to move a large number of people, as MTA has already proven with the Hudson Line, Harlem Line and New Haven Line. These three lines all join down at Grand Central, but are missing a northern interconnect.



This is a great opportunity for a change in the way travel is done between Rockland and Westchester. Most of the vehicles crossing The Tappan Zee Bridge during rush hour only have one person. These vehicles do not only cause traffic on the bridge, but on the many other area roadways they then go to. If these commuters had an option of taking a train to work it would not only relieve the traffic on the bridge, but on the many other roadways they would have traveled on.

It is obvious that which ever mass transit option is chosen must be fast, convenient and reliable for people to truly embrace it. I feel that the bus option would not be as accepted as the train. Busses are not as fast, not as reliable, only can transport a small amount of people, and they can get stuck in traffic. They would not get stuck in traffic if they were given their own lanes on the bridge, but that would reduce the number of lanes available for other traffic. If the lanes did not go the entire length of the bus route they would eventually get stuck in traffic at other locations on the route. On the other hand, trains can overcome all of these obstacles.

Any option that is chosen is going to be extremely expensive and Alternative 4A will cost more than the others, but I believe that the extra investment for our future is well worth it. It will be a very long time before we will have another opportunity like this to decide what to build across the Hudson River and we do not want to look back at the decision and regret not adding commuter rail to this great project. If commuter rail needed to be added years down the road, the cost would be much higher and everyone would wonder why we did not have the foresight to realize this need and to make it a reality. If commuter rail is added that connects New Jersey, New York and Connecticut, more funding may be available by getting these other states to understand the mutual benefit of this project.



The construction of this option would most likely take longer, so it would probably be constructed in multiple phases. As the rail comes across from Rockland and joins up with the Hudson Line, that portion can be placed into service, and then work can be done on the portion between the Hudson Line and the Harlem Line. When that is completed it can become operational and then the final section to the New Haven Line connection can be completed. This would get people traveling by rail sooner instead of waiting to put the entire length in service all at once.

I am sure that all of this has already been stated, but I felt that I should at least state my

opinion. Thank you for your time and good luck with which ever plan is chosen.

From,  
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