

George Paschalis

From: Paul Richards [richards@ldeo.columbia.edu]
To: tzbsite@dot.state.ny.us
Cc:
Subject: request for copy of a recent report
Attachments:

Sent: Tue 11/4/2008 2:15 PM

Dear Sir or Madam

At the last meeting of all the SAWGs on October 16 in Westchester, we were informed that there has been another recent review of the tunnel options, and another written report on this subject has been generated. At the end of the meeting, I approached Mr. Michael Anderson and asked for a copy of that recent written report. He generously agreed to send it to me, and I supplied my address. But I have received nothing.

Personally, I have no strong opinion one way or the other --- because the level of discussion has not been sufficiently thorough for me to reach a conclusion. But it is obvious that some people do have strong opinions, and I think all of us participating in these discussions are owed a better explanation, than we have received to date, of why a tunnel cannot be competitive with a bridge.

Concerning cost estimates for various bridge designs, I am persuaded that they are based upon quite detailed and careful studies of the engineering challenges. If it is obvious to the Thruway Authority that a tunnel design is not competitive, then it should not be difficult to write those reasons down for the SAWGs and others to evaluate, listing the engineering challenges and cost estimates, and we can move on. Absent such a comparison of bridge and tunnel solutions, we may spend more time on this problem than is warranted.

Thanks for any help you can provide, in sending me a copy of the report referred to at our October 16 meeting, concerning tunnel options.

Yours sincerely --- Paul Richards (member, TZ Bridge SAWG)

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