

George Paschalis

From: Anil Suri [anil_k_suri@hotmail.com]
To: tzbsite@dot.state.ny.us
Cc:
Subject: Comments on Tappan Zee Bridge alternatives
Attachments:

Sent: Fri 9/26/2008 12:22 PM

Dear Mr. Anderson,

I am given to understand that plans for Tappan Zee Bridge are close to being finalized. Based upon my examination of public data for transportation I have reached the conclusion that the environmentally correct and financially sound thing to do is to build a rail link to New York City for commuters to the City from the West side of Hudson because:

1. Apparently 40% of the traffic across the bridge is to the City. Even assuming that only 50% of that traffic is due to commuters heading to Manhattan, making their commute to the city easier and faster by direct rail on the west side of Hudson (no, not by a link at Metro North in Tarrytown) will also, at the same time, reduce traffic on the bridge by 20%!
2. Given the high price of gasoline now and expected higher price of gasoline in the next 20 to 100 years, it makes sense to provide commuters more non-driving options. As you well know, buses are just not as efficient as rail for cheap transportation.
3. Transportation security is a growing concern - a distributed network of transportation provides reliability and security that a Hudson line dependent system can not.
4. Financing an independent rail line would be easier than any of your other alternatives - because it is easier to directly tie new revenue to bond servicing.
5. Tappan Zee Bridge needs to implement traffic reduction to reduce pollution in Westchester and Rockland. Building a new bridge with more lanes will lead to more pollution over time. I support the repair and maintenance of the bridge to the end of reducing traffic which can be sustained with a repaired bridge.

Sir, there are no good 100 year plans - only sustainable 10-20 year plans. Our energy and environmental picture will look markedly different in 20 years and I suggest that we owe it to the next generation to create an option in the future for better, more sustainable transportation technology rather than saddle them with a new bridge.

Sincerely yours,

Anil Suri
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