



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Shelley B. Mayer

Senators Shelley B. Mayer and Pete Harckham Call for a Pause to Toll Increases on NYS Thruway Roadways and Bridges

SENATOR SHELLEY B. MAYER June 8, 2023

| ISSUE: **TOLL INCREASES; NEW YORK STATE THRUWAY AUTHORITY**

(**Westchester, NY**) - On Monday, June 5, Senator Shelley B. Mayer (D-37) and Senator Pete Harckham (D-40) submitted testimony on behalf of their constituents of the 37th and 40th New York State Senate Districts expressing opposition to the proposed toll increase on roadways and bridges owned and operated by the NYS Thruway Authority until the Authority improves toll collection and accounting of costs and losses. Their full testimony can be found [here](#).

Senator Shelley B. Mayer said, “I oppose the proposed toll increases on the NYS Thruway, and urge the Thruway Authority to withdraw this proposal. While I am pleased that the Thruway Authority’s proposal maintains the commuter discount off the NY E-ZPass rate for those who opt into the commuter program, the recent report of Comptroller Tom DiNapoli strongly suggests that the Thruway Authority needs to do more to improve efforts at toll collection, improve its accounting, and increase transparency with more comprehensive reporting of costs and losses. All of these efforts should be undertaken before imposing a toll increase.”

Senator Pete Harckham said, “Proposed toll increases from the NYS Thruway Authority deserve necessary scrutiny because of the impact they will have on Westchester and

Rockland County commuters and small business owners. While road maintenance and construction certainly are expected to ensure driver safety, it is important that the Thruway Authority not simply rely on bridge and roadway tolls to cover costs. I'm grateful the NY E-Z Pass discount is being maintained for commuters on the Cuomo Bridge but unrealized revenue because of scofflaws needs to be addressed before tolls are raised."