



April 2, 2025

Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner  
New York State Department of Transportation  
50 Wolf Road  
Albany, NY 12232

Dear Commissioner Dominguez,

You are no doubt familiar with the recent National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) [report](#) that raised significant concerns about the structural vulnerability of bridges in case of a vessel collision. The report was troubling, and we would like to learn more about how the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) views it.

About a dozen of the 68 bridges flagged by the NTSB are in New York State, and two are located in the Hudson Valley: the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge and the Rip Van Winkle Bridge. Both bridges serve as important transit links for residents and businesses, underscoring the importance of addressing any potential problems.

With this in mind, we are hoping you can address the following questions:

- Does NYSDOT agree with the report's findings?
- What is your timeline to address the structural vulnerabilities of these two bridges?
- What steps is NYSDOT taking to ensure overall bridge safety?
- What reviews has NYSDOT conducted and for which bridges?
- How are you assessing vulnerability?
- What protection projects are being prioritized?
- Is there state funding available for bridge repairs? If so, are there repair plans already underway?

We know you share our concern that infrastructure used daily by our constituents appears vulnerable. We are respectfully requesting a full and timely update on NYSDOT's activities in response to the safety concerns raised by the NTSB. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Hinchey".

Michelle Hinchey  
New York State Senate, District 41

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Skoufis".

James Skoufis  
New York State Senate, District 42

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Rolison".

Rob Rolison  
New York State Senate, District 39