

How to Stay Informed

1 Visit Our Website:

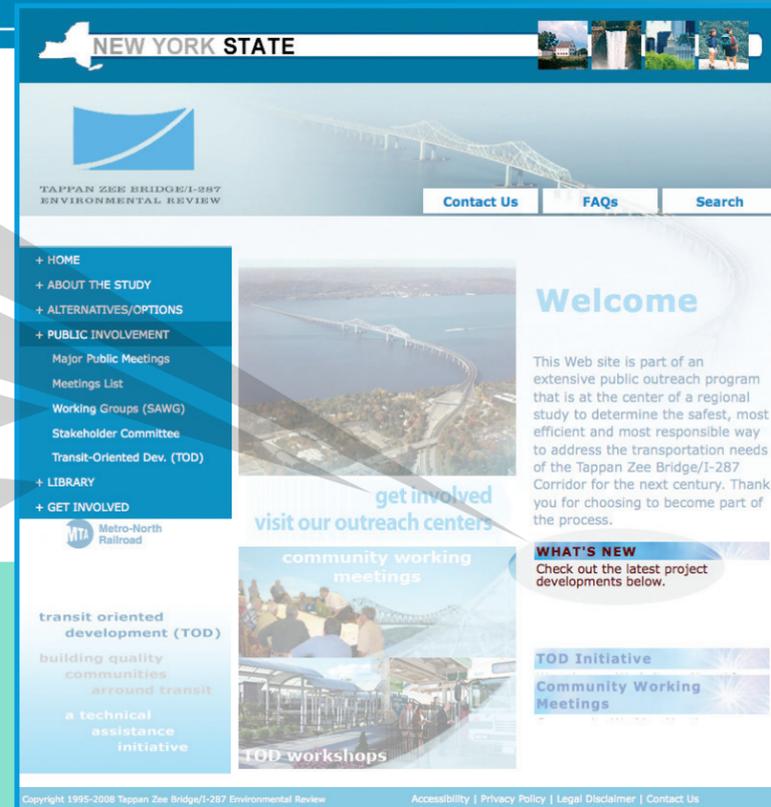
www.tzbsite.com

What's New: Check out the latest additions to the project website.

Get Involved: Send an e-mail, attend a meeting, and join the mailing list.

Stakeholders' Advisory Working Groups: Find meeting summaries.

Library: Browse through reports, press releases, newsletters, and more.



2 Visit Our Community Outreach Centers

Westchester
660 White Plains Road
Suite 340
Tarrytown, NY 10591
(914) 358-0600
Open Monday-Friday,
9:00 am-5:00 pm

Rockland
203 Main Street
Nyack, NY 10960
(845) 348-7714
Open Wednesday-Thursday,
4:00 pm-8:00 pm
Saturday, 11:00 am-4:00 pm

4



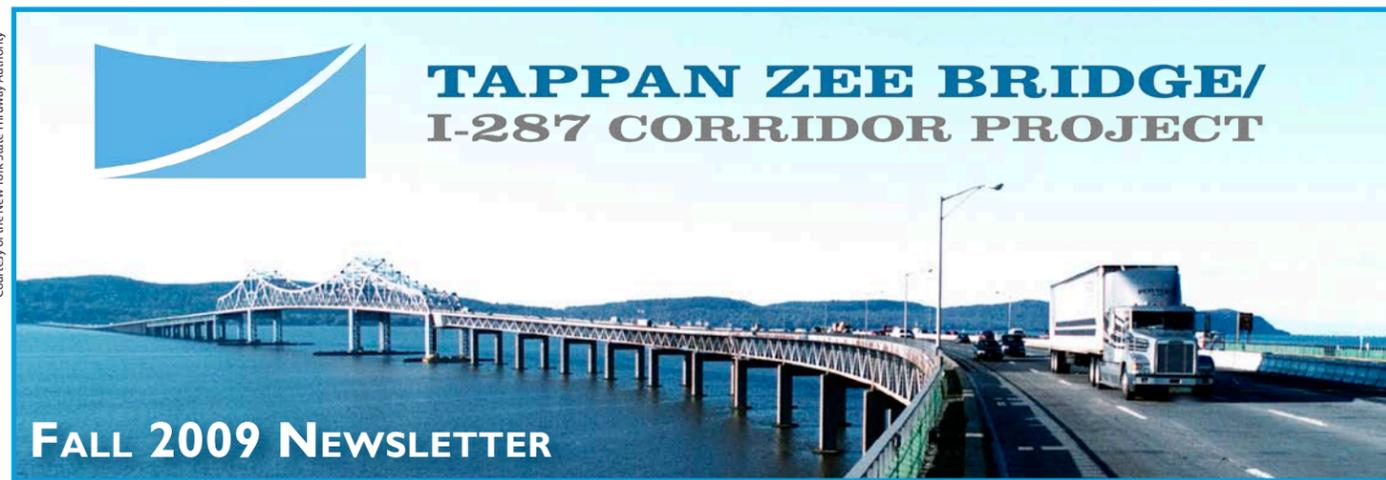
New York State Department of Transportation
Tappan Zee Bridge/I-287 Corridor Project
Westchester Community Outreach Center
660 White Plains Road, Suite 340
Tarrytown, NY 10591

Contact us

Please email us at:
tzbsite@dot.state.ny.us
Call us at:
(914) 358-0600
or write to:
Michael P. Anderson, P.E.
Project Director, at the
above address

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PROJECT TEAM ANNOUNCES TRAINING FOR CORRIDOR MUNICIPALITIES ON TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

The Project Team has launched a new initiative, called "Transit-Oriented Development: Building Quality Communities around Transit." Sustainable community development—called "transit-oriented development" (TOD) when located near transit facilities—is concerned with the design of successful communities that allow residents to enhance their quality of life with convenient, attractive places to live, work, and shop. The Project Team is providing TOD training to interested municipalities and stakeholders in Rockland and Westchester counties that are affected by the Tappan Zee Bridge/I-287 project.

The project team is making TOD training available in anticipation that the transportation improvements the study is considering will need to be thoughtfully integrated into the planning and land-use discussions of affected communities. TOD training started with two intensive full-day opening workshops—one in Westchester County and the other in Rockland County—followed by two-day workshops that highlight conditions in the following communities:

Rockland County

- Towns of Clarkstown and Orangetown
- Villages of Airmont and Suffern
(with the active involvement of the Villages of Sloatsburg and South Nyack)

Westchester County

- Town of Greenburgh
- City of White Plains
- Villages of Elmsford, Port Chester, and Tarrytown

To learn more about this technical assistance initiative, contact the project office at 914-358-0600 or via e-mail at tzbsite@dot.state.ny.us.

PROJECT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

This is a busy fall for both the Project Team and the public as the work on the Tappan Zee Bridge/I-287 Corridor Project continues. The redoubled effort began in June with the completion of the *Scoping Summary Report*, documenting recommendations made in the fall of 2008 to replace the bridge and add Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) and Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) to the corridor.

Finishing this phase of the study and supporting reports—a compilation of project issues, comments received in 2003 and 2008 and responses to them, as well as alternatives being examined through the federal environmental review process—formally marked the beginning of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) phase. In the DEIS, the study team will conduct detailed environmental analyses. The *Scoping Summary Report* is available on the project website (www.tzbsite.com), at either of the two community outreach centers (details on back cover), and at a number of repositories throughout the corridor. (To find a repository near you, see the above website for a list of those locations, contact one of the community outreach centers or call the project office at 914-358-0600.)

In June, a new Stakeholders' Advisory Working Group (SAWG) was created to provide information and obtain community input on the Finance Study that is underway. That study will make recommendations on viable options for funding the project. The Finance SAWG has met several times during the summer and will continue to do so through the fall and winter months until the Finance Study is completed.

Continued on Page 2

SEE INSIDE

COMMUNITY MEETINGS
ON ALTERNATIVES

FINANCING THE PROJECT



New York State Department of Transportation



New York State Thruway Authority



MTA Metro-North Railroad

PROJECT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

From Page 1

Also this summer, the Project Team started meeting with stakeholders across the corridor to discuss the bridge, transit, and highway options under consideration in the DEIS. These meetings will continue throughout the autumn months and beyond, as we intensify our outreach to the communities. We hope to present the outcome of our efforts in a series of Open Houses we will be hosting in 2010. The five SAWGs will continue to meet for the duration of the DEIS.

June also marked the initial rollout of a Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Technical Assistance Initiative. Local officials from municipalities along the corridor in Rockland and Westchester counties were briefed on the program. I am pleased to mention that we have begun providing this technical assistance in the form of two full-day county-wide workshops, one in Westchester and one in Rockland. The consulting team will then follow with even more intensive, two-day workshops in various communities in the two counties. This effort, supported and overseen by the Project Team, with input from planning and transportation officials from Westchester and Rockland counties, will continue through the spring of 2010.

There are many ways to learn more about these efforts. Please read this newsletter, continue to check the website for updates, or pay a visit to one of our two community outreach centers (**See the back cover for details**). The bottom line is this: We need and welcome your participation.

Michael P. Anderson, P.E.
Project Director

There are two keys to success for the TZB/I-287 Corridor Project—strong technical analyses and effective public involvement. These articles show how the two come together and will continue to do so as the project progresses. Besides the outreach opportunities described here—including briefings, local meetings, workshops, and SAWG meetings – there are two other ways for you to stay connected: the project website and the community outreach centers. Page 4 of this newsletter gives you more details on how to reach us.

PROJECT TEAM SEEKS INPUT ON BRIDGE, HIGHWAY, AND TRANSIT OPTIONS

In the Spring 2009 newsletter, the five Alternatives to be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) were introduced and described. There is one No-Build Alternative (Alternative A), which analyzes conditions if there were no action, and four Build Alternatives (B-E), each of them differing in how they accommodate transit in the corridor. After publishing the *Scoping Summary Report* in June, the Project Team began evaluating the various bridge, transit and highway options associated with these Alternatives.

Concurrently, the project team has been meeting with stakeholders across the corridor to present the various options under consideration, to share technical information, and to elicit input at the local level. The meetings—held with village and town officials and their planning teams—are proving instrumental in shaping the Project Team's understanding of the transportation and land use issues important to each community.

The DEIS will analyze single- and dual-level configurations of the new Tappan Zee Bridge. Additionally, the options associated with each configuration will be examined. To see more details, go to www.tzbsite.com and look at the Spring 2009 newsletter or the more detailed March 2009 *Alternatives Analysis for Rehabilitation and Replacement of the Tappan Zee Bridge Report*.

All of the Alternatives combine Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) across the two counties, with Commuter Rail Transit (CRT) in Rockland County (with the exception of the 'No Build' Alternative, which is a regulatory requirement that serves as a

baseline measure). For more information on the transit alternatives visit the project website and look at our Spring 2009 newsletter or the more detailed May 2009 *Transit Mode Selection Report*.

Once the Project Team has defined the transit alignments, it will move on to developing highway options to be evaluated as part of the Alternatives. This will entail (1) identifying highway deficiencies and recommending improvements (e.g., interchange modifications, clearances, etc.) and (2) identifying the necessary accommodations to be made for transit.

Another round of community meetings to review the Options is occurring this fall. Additionally, the team has held and will continue to hold technical meetings with various Cooperating Agencies at the local, state and national levels to assure the technical rigor of its analyses.

If you or your group would like more information on ways to participate, please see page 4 (**back cover**) of this newsletter or call the project office, at 914-358-0600.

STAKEHOLDERS HELPING TO FIND WAYS TO PAY FOR THE PROJECT

The Project Team has continued to work on the Financing Study and is now being assisted by the recently created Finance Stakeholders' Advisory Working Group (SAWG). The goal is to determine how to pay for the project. Since its inception in June, the Finance SAWG—which is made up of community residents, elected officials, representatives of public interest groups and professional experts—has met several times.

The financial work is being led by Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Inc., which will be responsible for developing financing solutions to fund the proposed \$16 billion bridge replacement and multi-modal transportation improvement project. The Finance SAWG will be informed by findings and insights as the Financing Study progresses. It will provide opportunities for public comments that will be considered by the study team.

If you would like to receive more information on the Finance SAWG—or any of the project's Stakeholders' Advisory Working Groups—please visit the SAWG section of the website: www.tzbsite.com. You are also welcome to contact the project office for additional information at 914-358-0600 or via e-mail at tzbsite@dot.state.ny.us.



Above Photos: Members of the public involve themselves in the planning process at SAWG (Stakeholders' Advisory Working Group) meetings.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT PROCESS

