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**TAPPAN ZEE BRIDGE/I-287
ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW**

- + HOME
- + ABOUT THE STUDY
- + ALTERNATIVES
- + PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT
- + WORKING GROUPS
- + PRESS RELEASES
- + LIBRARY

- Newsletters & Brochures
- Study Documents
- Research & Reports
- Glossary

Stakeholders' Advisory Working Group Kick-Off Meeting, May 22, 2007

The SAWG kick-off meeting was held on May 22, 2007 at the Best Western Nyack on Hudson. View minutes of the meeting [here](#) (PDF, 52KB).

Due to time constraints the presentation continued on June 12, 2007 at the Best Western Nyack on Hudson. View minutes of the meeting [here](#) (PDF, 341KB).

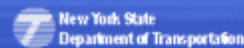
The presentation can be viewed in the following formats:

- [PDF format](#) (372KB)
- View the slides below with text narration



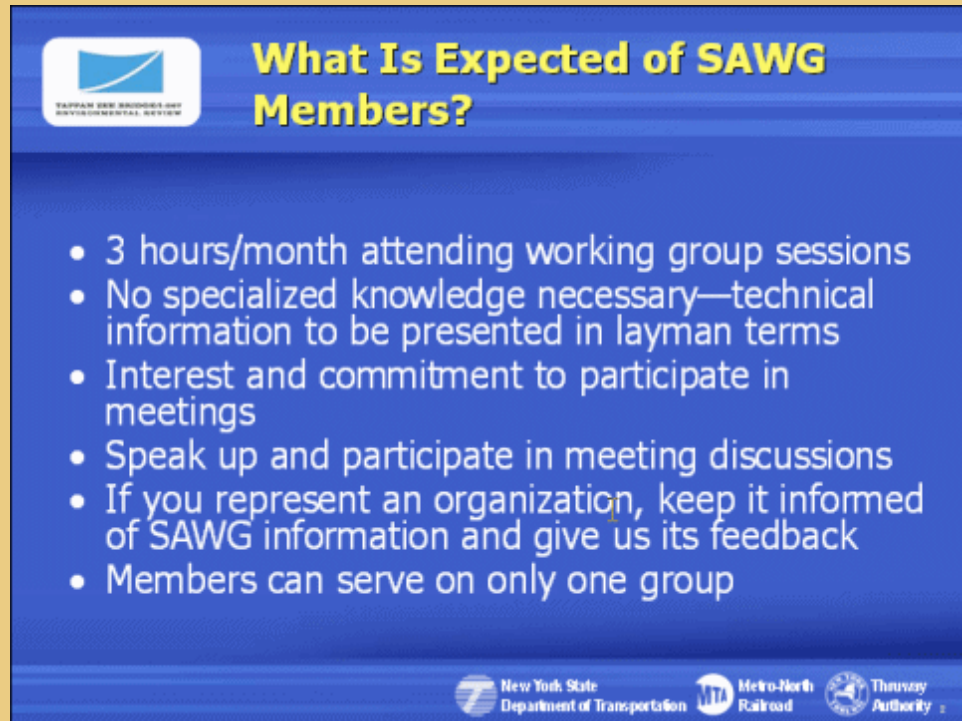
What Are the SAWGs?


- 4 Stakeholder Advisory Working Groups (SAWGs):
 - » Traffic and Transit
 - » Land Use
 - » Environmental
 - » Bridge Design
- Small, hands-on groups with reps from public, private, and nonprofit sectors
- Forum for exchange of information, discussion of issues, and solicitation of feedback the team will take into consideration






The Stakeholders' Advisory Working Groups (SAWGs) consist of four working groups focusing on the key issues of Traffic and Transit, Land Use, Environmental, and Bridge Design. These hands-on, roll-up-your-sleeves groups, populated by public, private, and nonprofit sector representatives from the local

communities, are an important part of the open and transparent public participation process developed for the Tappan Zee Bridge Environmental Review. They are envisioned as a valuable and unique forum for the exchange of information, discussion of issues, and solicitation of feedback that the team will take under consideration.



 **What Is Expected of SAWG Members?**

- 3 hours/month attending working group sessions
- No specialized knowledge necessary—technical information to be presented in layman terms
- Interest and commitment to participate in meetings
- Speak up and participate in meeting discussions
- If you represent an organization, keep it informed of SAWG information and give us its feedback
- Members can serve on only one group

 New York State Department of Transportation  Metro-North Railroad  Thruway Authority

Members are expected to spend up to three hours a month attending sessions of the advisory working group. They do not need specialized knowledge—just interest and a commitment to participate in the discussions on information presented at each meeting. While some material will of a technical nature, efforts will be made to present that material in layman terms. Members who are representing an organization are asked to ensure that those they represent are aware of the work and progress of the SAWG. Conversely, we ask that the organization make their representative aware of their views, concerns, and ideas. Each member can serve on only one SAWG.



Role of Facilitator

- Encourage full participation
- Promote understanding of the project
- Establish meeting rules of engagement
- Focus meeting discussions

Frequency of Meetings

- Every 4-6 weeks or more often if needed
- Frequency is subject to topics
- Location alternates between Westchester and Rockland
- Next meetings are expected in July & September 2007



Each group will be led by a facilitator, who will help the working group proceed as effectively as possible, encouraging full participation and promoting understanding of the study. The facilitator will set rules of engagement to focus and clarify the discussions, keep the meetings on track, and make sure everyone has a chance to speak and express views. The meetings will be held every four to six weeks or more often if needed and will vary according to the topic, development of the studies, and schedule. The location of the meetings will alternate between Rockland and Westchester Counties.




Description of the SAWGs

- Workshop-style sessions will explore technical details of the project
- Team representatives will aid in discussions
- Each group is a work in progress
- Overlap between topics is expected



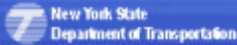


The format for the SAWGs is a workshop-style, hands-on, roll-up-your-sleeves session that allows the exploration of details of the study. Team representatives will be on hand to aid in the discussions. Each group is a work in progress, and we expect some overlap between topics to occur.




Traffic and Transit

- Possible topics include:
 - Regional mobility needs
 - Various transit modes (LRT, BRT, CRT) and service plans
 - Travel demand and simulation models and their results
 - Highway and roadway improvements in Rockland
 - Potential impacts to highway and local traffic patterns



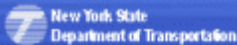


This slide lists some of the possible topics that could be discussed in the Traffic and Transit SAWG, including regional mobility needs, various transit modes (light rail, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit), the travel demand and simulation models, highway and roadway improvements in Rockland County, and potential impacts to highway and local traffic patterns.



Environmental

- Possible topics include:
 - Environmental process and where we are today
 - Cultural resources and visual character
 - Air quality and noise analyses
 - Wetlands, wildlife, endangered and threatened species in the corridor
 - Hudson River ecology
 - Socioeconomic conditions
 - Environmental Justice



This slide lists some of the possible topics that could be discussed in the Environmental SAWG, including the environmental process and its status; cultural resources; visual character; air quality and noise analyses; wetlands, wildlife, endangered and threatened species in the corridor; Hudson River ecology; socioeconomic conditions; and Environmental Justice.




Land Use

- Possible topics include:
 - Existing land uses in the corridor
 - County and local comprehensive plans and local zoning
 - Synergy between local land use policy and transportation projects (smart growth v. sprawl)
 - Potential for transit-oriented development near stations
 - Potential land use impacts of 6 alternatives including acquisitions and displacements


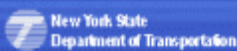


This slide lists some of the possible topics that could be discussed in the Land Use SAWG, including existing land uses in the study area, county and local comprehensive plans and local zoning, synergy between local land use policy and transportation projects (smart growth versus sprawl), potential for transit-oriented development near stations, and potential land use impacts, including acquisitions and displacements, of the six alternatives under consideration within the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.



Bridge Design

- Possible topics include:
 - History of the Tappan Zee Bridge including existing conditions
 - Limits, vulnerabilities, function, replacement of the causeway, and cost estimate of existing bridge
 - Rehabilitation issues of the bridge
 - Replacement bridge options
 - Bridge type selection and bridge construction
 - Summary of the alternatives



This slide lists some of the possible topics that could be discussed in the Bridge SAWG, including the history of the Tappan Zee Bridge and its current condition and function, rehabilitation and replacement options, selection of a bridge type and construction, and a summary of the alternatives.

