

GRAND  
OPENING

ct Magazine

NewNYBridge.com

# THE NEW NY BRIDGE

FALL 2017



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THE NEW NY BRIDGE





**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor of New York State

## MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR

In August, we celebrated the opening of the first span of the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. After 20 years of false starts, we are leaving the old Tappan Zee Bridge behind, setting an example for the rest of the nation and showing that government can still achieve great things.

For decades, this state and this nation failed to build for the future. In New York, we lost the bold spirit that made this state the Empire State in the first place. The new bridge is a symbol that New York's confidence, energy and dynamism is back, and that there is nothing that we can't do when we work together.

We have built a beautiful, safe and smart bridge that will last 100 years. When the twin-span structure fully opens to traffic next year, it will feature more lanes—including safety shoulders and space for bus rapid transit—state-of-the-art structural health monitoring and security measures and, ultimately, a bicycle and pedestrian path with unparalleled views.

Great accomplishments don't just happen. Taking on the big tasks requires a unique combination of talent, time and commitment by a large group of people. The Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge has taken dedication, ingenuity and the tireless efforts of some 7,000 workers. To date, the men and women who are

building this bridge have spent more than nine million hours in the cold, in the heat, in the snow, and in the sleet.

The economic impact of this project is far-reaching but also close to home. There are more than 764 companies from New York involved, including 219 based in Westchester and 97 based in Rockland. Tappan Zee Constructors, in partnership with the New York State Thruway Authority, has directed more than \$2.37 billion into the economy to date.

When we first started, our goal was to build a bridge that was artwork, and I believe we did. When you look at the bridge from a distance, it appears as an elegant blue line that stretches three miles with a gentle rise and curves and bends that mirror the movement of the mighty Hudson River herself. And in the middle stand eight towers, 419 feet from the water, reaching up to the sky, pointing up, echoing our state motto: Excelsior, ever upwards ■



**Andrew M. Cuomo**  
Governor of New York State

### FEEDBACK

We want to hear from you. Share your thoughts on the project and more by emailing us at [info@NewNYBridge.com](mailto:info@NewNYBridge.com)



### ON THE COVER

*The grand opening of the first span*



Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor



New York State  
Thruway Authority



New York State  
Department of  
Transportation



Federal Highway  
Administration

## THE NEW NY BRIDGE

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**Andrew M. Cuomo**, Governor of New York State  
**Joanne M. Mahoney**, Chair, New York State Thruway Authority  
**Matthew J. Driscoll**, Acting Executive Director, New York State Thruway Authority

# GRAND OPENING

## MAKING HISTORY ON THE HUDSON



Just after 1:30 a.m. on Aug. 26, 2017, the first vehicles crossed the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.

Opening the new bridge to Rockland-bound traffic was a historic milestone not only for the New York State Thruway Authority and Tappan Zee Constructors, who collectively make up the New NY Bridge project team, but for motorists and residents of the Hudson Valley and across New York State.

It was an achievement four years in the making. While we are thrilled to reach this stage of construction, there's still a lot of work left to do.

Tappan Zee Constructors will soon begin carefully taking down the old bridge so it can complete construction of the second crossing. Next year, both spans of the state-of-the-art Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge will fully open to

traffic with its wider lanes, emergency shoulders and dedicated space for buses. Following that, a bike and walking path with six unique overlooks will open to the public.

We look forward to celebrating another remarkable milestone with you in 2018.

This is just the beginning. Our continued achievements are possible when we all pull in the same direction ■



**Jamey Barbas**

*Project Director*



**Jamey Barbas, P.E.**  
Project Director for  
the New NY Bridge Project

» Students from the Nyack and Tarrytown school districts joined the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.









# THE GOVERNOR MARIO M. CUOMO BRIDGE NOW OPEN





# DAWN OF A NEW DAY

AUGUST 26, 2017

## POWERING UP

ACTIVATING LIGHTING  
SYSTEMS ON THE FIRST SPAN

The Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge features an aesthetic lighting system that accentuates the iconic features of the new bridge, specifically its 419-foot towers, stay cables and concrete piers.

TZC conducted numerous lighting tests throughout the year to help confirm the aiming angles of each lighting fixture, which needed to precisely follow the rendering plan set forth by lighting designers.

The project's Visual Quality Panel, made up of the local community and design professionals, helped TZC develop the lighting plan.

TZC prepared for these systems well in advance, installing parts of the utility and systems infrastructure into the steel girder assemblies while they were fabricated off-site. This reduced the amount of work required over the Hudson River.

Once the steel was safely secured atop the bridge's concrete piers,

TZC electricians began splicing and extending material, tying the bridge utilities into the systems in Rockland and Westchester counties.

Utility lines provide electricity for the roadway and aesthetic lighting systems and will also power the bridge's structural health monitors, security systems and Intelligent Transportation Systems.

Much like the bridge's roadway lighting, the aesthetic lighting utilizes energy-efficient light emitting diodes, or LEDs. The project's LEDs are designed with 100,000-hour lifespans, using an estimated 75 percent less energy compared to traditional lighting technology.

You can view the latest progress and updates online by subscribing to our monthly newsletter and visiting [NewNYBridge.com/Webcam](http://NewNYBridge.com/Webcam) ■

“After years of designing and planning the complex electrical and lighting systems, it's very gratifying to see that they look and perform better than we expected.”

– Marco Perez  
TZC Facilities Manager





# LOOKING AHEAD

## FINISHING THE SECOND SPAN



**W**ork on the new bridge's eastbound span will continue throughout 2017 and into 2018. Once the structure is completed, motorists will experience the full benefits of the new twin-span crossing with its wider driving lanes, the addition of safety shoulders and lanes for emergency vehicles.

In order to complete the second structure, design-builder Tappan Zee Constructors will demolish the landings of the old bridge, which occupy the same footprint as the second span, and connect the second span to land.

Many of the old bridge's materials, including more than 130 deck panel units, two moveable barrier machines and approximately 16,500 feet of barrier wall, will be transferred to nearly a dozen state and local municipalities. The New York City Department of

Transportation may use the movable barrier system in multiple locations. It is estimated that the transfer will save approximately \$17.5 million as a result of not having to purchase a new movable barrier system.

The opening of the second span will also allow the project to complete the new Shared-Use Path, which will be built on the westbound span. Features of the bicycle and pedestrian path will include six overlooks—or resting points—above the Hudson River; visitor parking and pavilions; and interpretive exhibits, art and signage.

Keep up with the latest progress by subscribing to our monthly newsletter at [NewNYBridge.com/Contact](https://www.newnybridge.com/contact) ■





# MEET THE THRUWAY'S NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**M**atthew J. Driscoll was recently named Acting Executive Director of the New York State Thruway Authority. Nominated by Governor Cuomo and approved by the Thruway Authority's Board of Directors, Mr. Driscoll previously served as Commissioner of the state Department of Transportation where he helped launch the governor's historic \$100 billion, five-year plan to renew New York's aging infrastructure. Prior to that, he served as President and CEO of the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation.

Elected to two terms as the mayor of Syracuse, Mr. Driscoll's tenure in office was distinguished by his environmental and sustainability initiatives. His action plan for energy conservation, sustainability initiatives and environmental protection efforts earned Syracuse the title of "The Emerald City" and recognition by "Popular Science Magazine" as one of the nation's greenest cities ■



**Matthew J. Driscoll**  
Acting Executive Director  
New York State Thruway Authority

## Want to Learn More?



### Visit Our Outreach Centers

Located at 2 North Broadway in Tarrytown and 142 Main St. in Nyack, the centers provide a window into the project's latest efforts.

The centers include informative materials that detail many different aspects of construction, past and present, as well as the safety gear worn by the project team. Visitors also get hands-on experiences with different bridge elements.

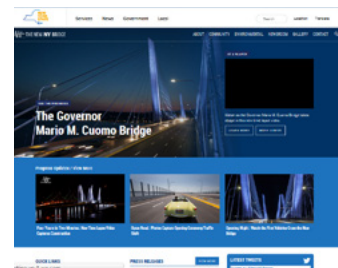
The outreach centers are open from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. seven days a week.

Learn more at  
**[NewNYBridge.com/Contact](http://NewNYBridge.com/Contact)** ■



### STAY INFORMED

Keep up with the latest project information and find the latest photography by visiting **[NewNYBridge.com](http://NewNYBridge.com)**







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**NEWNYBRIDGE.COM**

The project website provides detailed information about the design and construction of the New NY Bridge project. Check back often to see the latest progress.



**1-855-892-7434**

Our phone hotline is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, ready for your questions and comments. You can reach us at 1-855-892-7434.