



The Authority is charged with and committed to maintaining & operating the highway, implementing a capital improvement program to deliver high levels of safety & service and improving the travelers' experience.

## Investments Necessary to Preserve the Highway & Bridges

The Authority has maintenance responsibility for **807 bridges and 2,430 lane miles** of pavement.

One of the goals of the current Capital Program is to retain "good" highway and bridge condition ratings. Without the planned \$2.1 billion of capital spending on highway and bridge projects contained in the Program, bridge and highway condition ratings would drop. In contrast, by pursuing the Program as currently planned, an overwhelming percentage of bridge and highway

ratings will remain in the good category – preserving high levels of safety and service for customers. Despite these favorable ratings by 2011, at the end of the current Program, the Authority will have **reconstructed less than 17 percent of pavement and less than 19 percent of the bridges** on the 55-year-old-system. It is important to note that **638 of the Thruway's 807 bridges and 500 of the 570 miles of roadway** are currently more than **50 years old** and major capital investments are required to maintain current levels of safety and service. ▪

## Impact of the Proposed Toll Adjustment

### A Penny Per Mile

The **cash** rate for passenger vehicles under the proposed plan would **increase by 0.43 cents per mile** (from 4.27 to 4.70 cents per mile) and the **E-ZPass** rate would **increase 1 cent per mile** (from 3.49 to 4.47 cents per mile).

Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index, has increased by approximately 73% between 1988 to 2008. While the Authority has taken on additional responsibilities since 1988, the increase in tolls on the Thruway remains **lower than the rate of inflation**. ▪

	CASH	E-ZPASS	ANNUAL PERMIT <i>(Based on trip length of 30 miles or less)</i>
CURRENT RATE	4.27 cents per mile	3.49 cents per mile	20 cents per trip*
PROPOSED FOR 2010	4.70 cents per mile	4.47 cents per mile	22 cents per trip*
CHANGE	1/2 a penny per mile	one penny per mile	2 cents per trip*
			* assumes 200 round trips annually

## Protecting the Most Frequent Users

The E-ZPass **Annual Permit Plan** is \$80 (unchanged since 1988), and the first 30 miles of each trip falls within the parameters of the plan; proposed to increase from \$80 to \$84 in 2009, and to \$88 in 2010.

A commuter making 200 round trips annually pays 20 cents per trip if 30 miles or less (\$80 fee/400 trips).

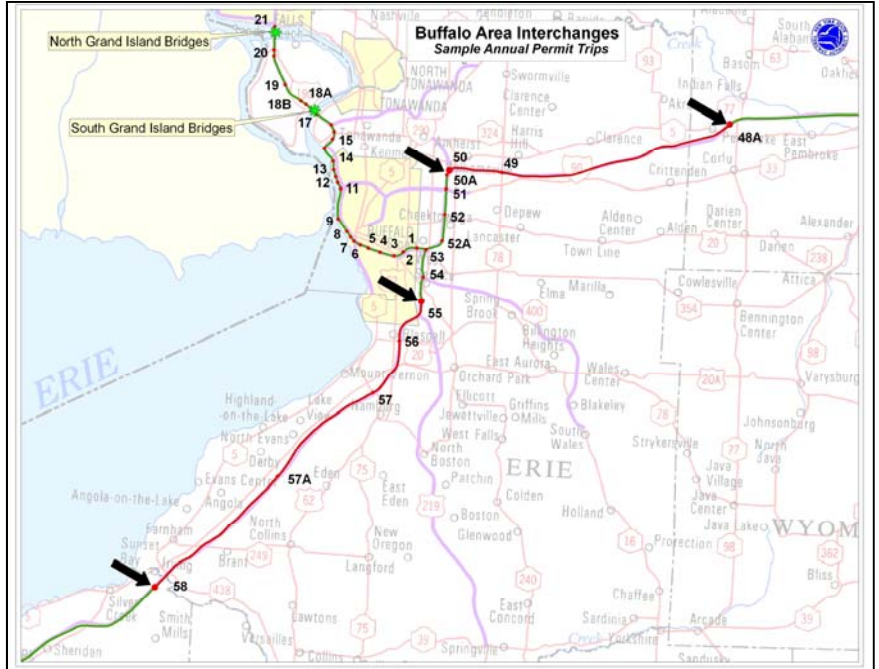
If implemented under the current proposal, the same trip would be 22 cents when fully phased-in, **an increase of 2 cents per trip** (\$88 fee/400 trips).

The Annual Permit Plan (see map) allows a customer to travel from Interchange 48A (Pembroke) to Interchange 50 (Williamsville), approximately 17 miles, for no additional charge.

Another example, the Annual Permit Plan allows a customer to travel from Interchange 55 (Lackawanna) to Interchange 58 (Silver Creek), approximately 26 miles, for no additional charge.

Visit the Authority's Toll & Distance Calculator and Annual Permit Comparison information online at [www.nysthruway.gov/tolls/calc/](http://www.nysthruway.gov/tolls/calc/).

Additionally other discount plans are available. For example, if implemented under the current proposal, Grand Island residents enrolled in the **Grand Island E-ZPass Resident Plan** would



continue to pay **9 cents per trip**; they would see **no increase**. If implemented under the current proposal, customers enrolled in the **Grand Island E-ZPass Commuter Plan** who pay 25 cents per trip today, would see **an increase of 3 cents per trip when fully phased in**.

To sign up for any E-ZPass plan, new customers can visit [www.e-zpassny.com](http://www.e-zpassny.com). To change plans, current customers can call the E-ZPass Customer Service Center at 1-800-333-TOLL (8655).

## Commercial Volume Discount Program

The Authority is committed to continuing to work with the public to finalize a plan that would strike a balance between the financial needs of the Authority, the traveling public and the State's economic well being.

In addition to offering commuter plans for frequent customers traveling in passenger vehicles, the Authority offers a Volume Discount Program to its commercial charge account customers as well.

In 2007, **commercial** vehicles participating in the **Volume Discount Program** saved a total of more than **\$21 million**.

A commercial charge account customer qualifies

for a volume discount when their cumulative toll charges total more than \$1,000 per month. The discount applies to the monthly toll billing as follows:

TOTAL MONTHLY CHARGES	DISCOUNTS
\$1,001 to \$2,000	10 percent discount
\$2,001 to \$3,000	15 percent discount
More than \$3,000	20 percent discount

## \$1+ Billion in State Mandated Responsibilities...and Growing

Since the early 1990s, the Authority has assumed responsibility for operating and maintaining I-84\* and I-287, operating, maintaining and capital responsibility for the New York State Canal System and the funding of numerous other non-Thruway related projects (such as the Syracuse and Buffalo Inner Harbors). **These mandated projects have cost the Authority more than \$1 billion in toll revenue since 1990**, revenue that would otherwise have been spent on the System’s highways and bridges, thereby reducing the Authority’s reliance on debt to finance these capital projects.

**In 2008 and beyond, it is estimated that the Authority will have to spend at least \$85 million per year for these mandated projects**, predominately to support the Canal System. Without these mandated costs, the general toll increases being proposed for 2009 and 2010 would not be necessary. ▪

\* Maintained by the Authority, under contract with NYS Department of Transportation)

### Mandated Non-Thruway Expenditures

(In Millions)

Cross Westchester Expressway I-287	\$100.7
Canal System	\$700.4
Interstate 84	\$164.1
Syracuse Inner Harbor	\$ 22.6
Buffalo Inner Harbor	\$ 11.7
Tonawanda Harbor and Trail	\$ 3.3
Syracuse Inter-Modal Center	\$ 4.7
Tappan Zee Ferry	\$ 0.2
Stewart Airport Access Project	\$ 14.4
Interchange 26 Bridge	\$ 2.8
Interchange 32 Tandem Lot	\$ 1.7
<u>Local Bridges</u>	<u>\$ 5.6</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,032.2</b>

### The Public Process

In addition to speaking and providing written testimony at the public hearings, comments may also be submitted in writing to the Department of Public Affairs, New York State Thruway Authority, 200 Southern Boulevard, Albany, NY, 12209, or via email at

**[Public.Comment@thruway.state.ny.us](mailto:Public.Comment@thruway.state.ny.us)**.

Comments must be *received* by the Authority no later than April 10, 2008.

More information is available on the Authority’s website at **[www.nysthruway.gov](http://www.nysthruway.gov)** under **“News & Updates.”**

The Authority plans to seek Board approval for any toll adjustment this Spring ▪

### Cost Containment Measures

Operating under Board-imposed cost containment measures, the Authority has already:

- eliminated more than 450 positions since 1995 (plans to eliminate **at least** 50 more positions by end of 2012);
- limited its overall operating expense budget growth to 3.2 percent annually (2008 - 2012); and
- cut more than \$300 million in projects from the \$2.1 billion highway and bridge Capital Program due to inflationary costs.

The Authority will continue to evaluate its operating costs; however, it must continue to rely upon Thruway tolls to **preserve the safety of its roads and bridges and maintain the Canal System.** ▪

**2008-2011 BUFFALO DIVISION CAPITAL PROGRAM PROJECTS**  
**Thruway and Canal Projects**

Let Year	Project Description	Est. Construction Cost
2008	Buffalo Division: Bridge Painting, Various Locations	\$ 6,000,000
	Milepost 366, 447.1: Upgrade Emergency Generator at Scottsville & Angola Service Areas	\$ 700,000
	LeRoy (Exit 47): Ramps Pavement Rehabilitation and a Higher Speed E-ZPass Lane	\$ 1,900,000
	Thruway Bridges over Black Creek: Rehabilitations	\$ 1,500,000
	Monroe, Genesee, Erie & Chautauqua Counties: Install Protective Screening on 20 Bridges	\$ 700,000
	Buffalo Division – 3 DMS, 15 TRANSMIT and 17 CCTV	\$ 11,000,000
	Steel Repairs – 5 Bridges in Buffalo Division	\$ 500,000
	Buffalo State Police Zone Headquarters: Construct New Building Adjacent to Existing Bldg	\$ 4,000,000
	Near Lackawanna Toll Barrier: Construct Noise Wall	\$ 3,400,000
	I-190 Thruway near South Ogden Street (Exit N1): Construct Noise Wall	\$ 700,000
	I-190 Thruway, Scajaquada Expressway (Exit N11) to Hamilton Street (Exit N12): Pavement Restoration; Black Rock and City Line Toll Plaza Area Pavement Reconstruction; milepost N8.8 - N9.1 Pavement Reconstruction, I-90 to Exit 5, Limited Pavement Restoration	\$ 10,800,000
	South Grand Island Bridge (NB) Deck Replacement, Substructure & Bearing Rehabilitation to the Northbound & Southbound Bridges	\$ 33,000,000
	Grand Island Bridge (#18A) to Niagara Barrier (Niagara Section): Pavement Resurfacing	\$ 4,300,000
	North Grand Island Bridge Washing – 2009	\$ 400,000
	Orleans County: Culverts 74/76/89/94/97/102/103 Repairs, Orleans County	\$ 1,000,000
	Orleans County: Bank Repair Phase 2, Orleans County	\$ 200,000
	Buffalo Division: Pavement Striping 2009	\$ 800,000
	Buffalo Division: Highway Resurfacing at Various Locations	\$ 3,500,000
	Amherst to Lockport: Canalway Trail, Erie/Niagara Counties	\$ 3,700,000
	Pittsford to Fairport: Canalway Trail Rehabilitation, Monroe County	\$ 2,400,000
2009	Buffalo Division: On-Demand Bridge Repairs 2010-2011	\$ 1,000,000
	Victor (Exit 45): Toll Plaza Rehabilitation and add 1 Higher Speed E-ZPass Lane	\$ 4,300,000
	Henrietta (Exit 46): Toll Plaza and Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 3,700,000
	Henrietta (Exit 46) to LeRoy (Exit 47): Pavement Resurfacing	\$15,000,000
	Milepost 364.74: East River Road over Thruway Bridge Repairs	\$ 800,000
	Thruway Bridges over Genesee River: Bridge Rehabilitations	\$ 6,500,000
	Thruway Bridge over Scottsville Road: Bridge Replacement	\$ 6,200,000
	Clarence Service Areas Flat Roof Replacement	\$ 300,000
	Depew (Exit 49) to Williamsville Barrier: Pavement Resurfacing	\$ 3,000,000
	Milepost 460.74, Fredonia-Silver Creek Road, Route 20 Bridge Rehabilitation	\$ 2,000,000
	East of Westfield (Exit 60) to Pennsylvania Line Eastbound: Pavement Resurfacing	\$ 8,000,000
	Milepost 485.00 Westfield Interchange Bridge Rehabilitation	\$ 2,000,000
	Grand Island Bridge (#18A) to Niagara Barrier (Niagara Section): Safety Upgrades	\$ 800,000
	Buffalo Division: Pavement Striping 2010	\$ 900,000
Rochester: West Guard Lock: Rehabilitation, Monroe County	\$ 1,100,000	
2010	Thruway Bridges over Abandoned NYCRR and Murder Creek: Rehabilitation	\$ 800,000
	Culvert Replacement CIN 363.12001	\$ 1,500,000
	Thruway Bridge over Livonia, Avon & Lakeville RR & Thruway Bridge over B&O RR: Substructure Repair	\$ 3,200,000
	Thruway Bridge over Reed Road: Rehabilitation	\$ 2,000,000
	LeRoy (Exit 47) - West of Batavia (Exit 48): Pavement Resurfacing Include EB Ramps at Batavia (Exit 48)	\$16,300,000
	LeRoy (Exit 47) - West of Batavia (Exit 48): Pavement Resurfacing Include WB Ramps at Batavia (Exit 48)	\$15,900,000
	Batavia (Exit 48) to Pembroke (Exit 48A): Pavement Resurfacing	\$ 6,500,000
	Williamsville Toll Barrier: Relocation	\$67,000,000
	Lackawanna Toll Barrier: Toll Barrier Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 4,000,000
	Hamburg (Exit 57): Ramp and Toll Plaza Pavement Rehabilitation	\$ 1,900,000
	Hamburg (Exit 57) to Seneca Nation of Indians: Pavement and Bridge Rehabilitation	\$69,000,000
	Milepost 455.54: Silver Creek Interchange Bridge Deck Rehabilitation	\$ 1,000,000
	Buffalo Division: Install Protective Screening 2010	\$ 800,000
	Buffalo Division: Pavement Striping 2011	\$ 900,000
	Spencerport: Union Street Lift Bridge: Maintenance Rehabilitation, Monroe County	\$ 600,000
Middleport: Main Street Lift Bridge: Maintenance Rehabilitation, Niagara County	\$ 600,000	
Knowlesville: Knowlesville Road Lift Bridge: Maintenance Rehabilitation, Orleans County	\$ 500,000	
2011	West Bergen Road Bridge over NYS Thruway: Replacement	\$ 2,500,000
	West of Pembroke (Exit 48A) to Depew (Exit 49): Pavement Resurfacing	\$ 8,500,000
	Thruway Bridges over Harris Hill Road and Transit Road (Rte. 78)	\$ 2,200,000
	West Seneca (Exit 54) to Lackawanna Barrier: Pavement Reconstruction with Congestion Relief	\$77,700,000
	Near Silver Creek (Exit 58): Seneca Nation of Indians Area Pavement and Bridge Rehabilitation	\$10,000,000
	Mile Strip Road Bridge Rehabilitation and Four Mile Level Road (Rte. 438) Bridge Replacement	\$ 5,100,000
	NYS Thruway over Silver Creek: Rehabilitation and Deck Replacement	\$ 2,500,000
	Ripley Toll Barrier: Reconstruction Including E-ZPass	\$16,000,000