Ranking Minority Member: Children and Families Consumer Protection Domestic Animal Welfare Committees: Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Banks Budget and Revenue Social Services



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August 21, 2019

Marie Therese Dominguez, Commissioner NYS Department of Transportation 50 Wolf Road Albany, NY 12232

**Dear Commissioner Dominguez:** 

I am writing today on a matter of public safety, to urge the Department of Transportation to install warning signs near the two Glenridge Road Rail Bridges in Glenville in order to stop frequent truck bridge strikes.

In recent years, there have been 56 bridge strikes and an additional 90 near-misses where trucks had to back up to avoid getting caught under the bridge, causing massive traffic jams. Police, fire and highway personnel responses to these incidents have cost Glenville taxpayers well over \$50,000.

Yesterday (August 20), a tractor trailer truck got stuck under one of the bridges and had part of its roof ripped off. As someone who travels on Glenridge Road on a daily basis, I frequently see trucks getting stuck and our first responders scrambling to ensure public safety and address the related traffic jams. These accidents can be mitigated by better signage before trucks enter the bridges, warning them of the low ceilings and to seek an alternate route. This is not only an economic issue for the people of Glenville and the 49<sup>th</sup> Senate District, but also a significant public safety matter. My fear is that a truck will gets stuck under the bridge and its roof will fly off and hit an oncoming vehicle, causing injury or loss of life. Given these concerns, I along with Glenville Town Supervisor Chris Koetzle, respectfully request that the DOT install better signage to prevent a tragedy from occurring.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely, unes N. Ledisco

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