

THE SENATE  
STATE OF NEW YORK



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December 28, 2022

Board of Directors  
New York State Thruway Authority  
200 Southern Boulevard  
Albany, NY 12209

Re: Proposed Thruway Toll Increase

Dear Chair and Board Members:

I am writing with respect to the toll rate increase proposed by the New York State Thruway Authority Board of Directors on December 5, 2022. It is my hope that the Thruway Authority will hear the voices of concerned New Yorkers, consider the costly and adverse impact this will have on New Yorkers and refrain from advancing this proposal any further.

As New Yorkers are facing record high inflation, seemingly endlessly high gas prices and basic necessities such as utilities and groceries becoming unaffordable for many families, too many are being pushed to the brink. With New Yorkers' dollars simply not going as far as they used to, there could not be a worse time to increase tolls. The Thruway Authority's "New York State Thruway Financial Requirements and Proposed Toll Adjustments" report offers plenty of input on the state of the Thruway and the impact the toll adjustment would have on the Thruway System, however, it does not cover the impact it would have on New Yorkers and their ability to make ends meet. In fact, the report does not even mention "inflation." Particularly with prices at the pump continuing to hover at record highs, further increasing the costs of driving—whether it is for work, visiting family or recreation—would be unconscionable.

I urge you to abandon this proposal so that New Yorkers can have the confidence they need that they can still afford to live—and travel—in New York.

I appreciate your time and attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Serino".

Senator Sue Serino  
41<sup>st</sup> District