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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 20[™] DISTRICT, NEW YORK

September 1, 2022

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg Secretary of Transportation U.S. Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Ave, SE Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

I write in support of the application from the New York State Thruway Authority to the Bridge Investment Program. Funding from the Bridge Investment Program will enable the Thruway Authority to replace the bridge deck and rehabilitate the superstructure of the Berkshire Spur Castleton Bridge.

The Berkshire Spur Castleton Bridge serves as a vital corridor for commerce and travel in Upstate New York. Each year, 6.5 million trips are taken on this section of the Thruway which not only connects New York to Massachusetts but also the small towns of Coeymans and Schodack on each side of the Hudson River. It is critical that the bridge is restored to provide for the safe, efficient, and sustainable movement of people, goods, and services throughout the region.

Performing deck replacement and superstructure rehabilitation work to the Berkshire Spur Castleton Bridge will provide a long-term improvement to this corridor, maintaining community connections across the Hudson River and enhancing the overall safety for motorists and freight vehicles and the quality of life for residents in this area.

Like you, I am committed to restoring, protecting, and preserving our nation's infrastructure. Your full and fair consideration of this request, consistent with current laws, rules, regulations, and agency policy, is appreciated.

Sincerely,

PAUL D. TONKO

Member of Congress