



**Local Concept Development Study for
PASSAIC COUNTY
Sixth Avenue Bridge over the Passaic River**

City of Paterson, Borough of Prospect Park and Borough of Hawthorne



Community Input Survey - SUMMARY

Total Sent: 281 Received: 25 (8.9%) As of: 3/31/17

1. Were you aware of this Bridge Improvement Study? Yes No

Yes (12) One respondent noted "on TV/cell phone"
No (18)

2. How often do you use the Sixth Avenue Bridge per month? (please check)

Everyday (30 days) A lot (16-29 days) Often (5-15 days) Seldom (1-4 days) Never

Everyday (30 days) (11)
A Lot (16-29 days) (10)
Often (5-15 days) (7)
Seldom (1-4 days) (2)
Never (0)

**3. Do you use public transportation in this area? Everyday A lot Often Seldom Never
If so, what type? NJ Transit Private Bus Other _____**

Do you use public transportation in this area?	If so, what type?		
	NJ Transit	Private Bus	Other
Everyday	2		
A lot			
Often	1		
Seldom	3		
No answer	1		
Never	22		

One of the Everyday-NJ Transit respondents noted "Access Link"
One respondent checked "Seldom" but did not indicate type
One respondent checked "Never" but noted "commercial" after "Other"

4. Do you walk or ride a bike or both over bridge? Yes Often Sometimes No

	Walk	Ride a bike	Both	No answer
Yes	1			
Often		1		
Sometimes	2	1	1	
No	23			

**a. If walking, is existing sidewalk okay Yes No Yes (4) No (2)
and would like to use:**

- Northside (existing) (3)
- Southside (eastbound traffic) (0)
- Both (1)
- Not on bridge (1)

**b. If bicycling, is existing roadway okay Yes No Yes (0) No (6)
and would like to use:**

- Northside (existing) (1)
- Southside (eastbound traffic) (1)
- Both (2)
- Not on bridge (2)

One respondent commented "No opinion" for 4b





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5. How is this study important to you - your involvement/representation? (circle any that apply)

- a. Resident or Commuter (how do you use this bridge for travel, local or regional)? (23)
- b. Type of Mobility and Access (local use - walking, biking, transit) (6)
- c. Economic interest (business owner, chamber of commerce member)? (13)
- d. Social service provider (non-profit agency, house of worship, human resources)? (4)
- e. Historic features of interest (member of historical society or organization)? (0)

Written comments:

- Emergency services
- f. Adjacent municipality

6. What are the key issues near the Sixth Avenue Bridge as you see them (access, safety, traffic, mobility, aesthetics, marine activity)?

	<i>Circled responses</i>	<i>Total (circled & written)</i>
Access	(10)	(12)
Safety	(11)	(14)
Traffic	(13)	(16)
Mobility	(3)	(4)
Aesthetics	(2)	(2)
Marine activity	(2)	(2)

Written comments:

- Access for Bunker Hill workers. and other – During flooding, this bridge stays open the longest; it is the most accessible and path between the North side and downtown
- Access, safety, traffic
- I used to use this bridge going to William Paterson University, and Passaic Tech High School all the time. The biggest thing I noticed is it needs a left turn arrow added to the street light.
- No lights on the bridge - very slippery - frequent truck accidents
- No lights on the bridge, very slippery, frequent truck accidents.
- Safety
- Safety and access
- The bridge is a critical piece of transportation infrastructure that should be rebuilt and expanded to allow for heavy truck traffic and to include adequate bike lanes and pedestrian walkways
- The bridge/intersection with Goffle Rd/E. Main St is not wide enough for all the trucks and buses, especially when they are making turns onto or off of the bridge
- Traffic
- Traffic and traffic congestion
- Traffic, mobility

7. Is the bridge wide enough to service the transportation needs (vehicles, pedestrian, bicyclists) in the project vicinity? How many lanes are needed each way?

Circled responses:

- Vehicles (2)
- Pedestrian (2)
- Bicyclists (1)

Written comments:

- 1 each way
- 1 lane each way
- 1 lane each way. Access on the Prospect Park side could be wider to accommodate 18 wheelers
- 1 lane for both directions
- 2
- 2
- As is
- As is
- I think 1 lane in each is sufficient, but maybe the lanes could be a little wider to accommodate the buses and trucks





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- *If it was possible to be wider it would not hurt*
- *It works, but could be wider*
- *No – trucks often have accidents turning*
- *No: slightly larger and & more space to walk*
- *One lane each way sufficient but needs widening for truck traffic (turn radius)*
- *One lane each way would be adequate IF wide enough and included shoulders and a dedicated bike lane*
- *Sufficient for the current traffic load*
- *Total of 3 lanes total*
- *Two are sufficient. The walkway needs improvements.*
- *Wider lanes (truck traffic)*
- *Yes*
- *Yes 1 each way*
- *Yes, 4 seems fine, trucks have a hard time turning*

8. What should the study team be aware of concerning any traffic changes or detours near the Sixth Avenue Bridge (past, present, or future)?

Circled responses:

Past (2)
Present (3)
Future (2)

Written comments:

- *5th Ave detour for over 1 year*
- *5th Ave detours for over 1 year*
- *Because of the lane closure on 5th Avenue (for about 1 year already) I don't use the bridge as much as previously*
- *Debiacion*
- *Fifth Ave is under constant construction*
- *Flooding on 5th Ave*
- *For Prospect Park, Haledon and Paterson 1st Ward residents, this bridge is part of the fastest route to Route 20*
- *Heavily used bridge*
- *Heavy truck traffic*
- *Impact to other river crossings which are already hammered with rush hour traffic making it impossible to get out of local side streets near the Lincoln Ave bridge*
- *It would be a nightmare at commuter time between 3 and 6 pm*
- *Left turns cause traffic*
- *Lots of traffic will be impacted*
- *None*
- *This is one of the last bridges in Paterson to close when the area gets flooded. When the bridge closes, I need to add 45 minutes to an hour to my 15 minute commute from Wayne.*
- *Traffic*
- *Truck traffic*
- *Very difficult for area when it is closed*

9. Do you currently use the Passaic River in the vicinity of this bridge for recreational or business activity, or plan to in future? Please explain. If marine vessel, please provide type and height.

*Two respondents circled "business" with one of them noting "Bunker Hill"
Twelve (12) respondents wrote "No" in the answer space*

Other written comments:

- *Check local kayakers from Crossroads Ministries in 4th W(ard)*
- *Yes – kayaking*
- *Yes, water rescue vessel is very low in height*





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10. Are you interested in becoming a stakeholder representing your organization, business, school, neighborhood or interest group (attend 2-3 meetings)? Yes No

Yes (10)

No (18)

One respondent wrote "Maybe"

a. If so, what days and times of the week are preferred? (M, Tu, W, Th, F) (am, afternoon, pm)

M (5) am (1)

Tu (6) afternoon (2)

W (6) pm (7)

Th (5)

F (5)

Written comments:

- After 4 pm
- Any day

11. Are any special provisions needed for you to attend a meeting such as mobility, hearing, visual or language assistance? Yes No If yes, please indicate: _____

Yes (1) Spanish

No (19)

One respondent circled "mobility"

12. Are there any organizations or individuals you would suggest we contact as possible stakeholders?

- Bunker Hill District
- Bus company and D&H
- Casa Dominicana (club)
- Emergency services
- Jeanette Thompson, Exec Dir Paterson Habitat Homeowners Association
- Kessler Management, Bob Kilgannon
- Mayor and Council - Borough of Hawthorne
- Members/Employees of the Bunker Hill Business District
- N/A
- Police and OEM
- Police depts.
- The Bunker Hill Special Improvement District

Three respondents wrote "No"

13. Do you have any comments/questions about the study or any other suggestions you wish to share about the study that may help with planning future meetings?

- Delayed traffic lights may be good
- Ensure that Fire Department is aware of bridge closures
- I have seen two 4 lane wide bridges on Interstate 80 be completely replaced within 4-5 months each. This included removal and new pouring of abutments. I'm pretty sure that this bridge can be done in a similar if not a shorter amount of time.
I assume the abutments are in good shape. Is it possible to seek engineering for a panel type bridge deck which can be mounted on the current bridge mountings. My thinking is that once all the panels are manufactured off-site, they can be brought on site through extended working times, the old bridge can be removed and the new put into place reducing the rebuild time significantly.
- If the bridge is closed it will create a financial hardship for all business in Bunker Hill section of Paterson
- No
- Please make sure you use a contractor that can build the bridge on time (3 month) penalty if not, bonus if sooner. Egress from Goffle Road must be larger than it is now.





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- *The bridge is very important to the neighborhood as the other bridges around would have twice the traffic. It is better for walking to the bus too.*
- *Trucks coming over bridge to East Street tight turn on corner*
- *Why are you considering this if the bridge is structurally intact and safe, when there are so many other bridges in the state that need immediate attention?*

Two respondents wrote "None"

One respondent attached a handwritten letter:

To whom it may concern.

The 6th Ave Bridge is good for auto traffic, not tractor trailers & buses.

#1 The trucks can't make the turns without holding up traffic in all directions, trying to come off the bridge from Paterson or turning on to the bridge to go to Paterson.

#2 The school buses parked in Bunker Hill.

There's a lot of traffic in the morning & evening when they pull out of the lot on to 6th Ave, and go across the bridge.

There's nothing wrong with the bridge. I've walked the sidewalk from my house in Prospect Park to 100 6th Ave. everyday, 5 days a week, for over 35 years. It may be a little slippery when it rains, or shake a little when a big truck goes across. I'd still walk the walkway, even when it snowed.

Even during a lot of the floods I walked to the bridge, never seen water go over it.

I even remember growing up in Paterson, coming across the bridge and seeing men & boys fishing on the bridge.

Again, there's nothing wrong with the bridge!

