

February 29, 2016

Mr. Thomas Prendergast
Chairman, MTA
2 Broadway, 30th Floor
New York, NY 10004

RE: EZ Pass Lanes at Verrazano-Narrows Bridge

Dear Chairman Prendergast:

We hope this letter finds you well.

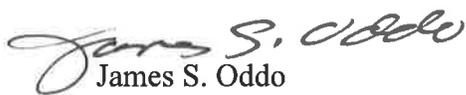
In our efforts to ease commute times for Staten Islanders, we have explored many areas that might help us effect improvements. While we know there is no magic wand that can be waved to make these problems disappear, we are willing to explore any and every small, incremental enhancement we can make.

At a recent meeting, we were informed that EZ Pass usage accounts for approximately 90% of tolls collected at the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge. With such high EZ Pass penetration, we are asking that you explore the possibility of having EZ Pass accepted at all cash toll lanes in an effort to lessen delays on the bridge. This would reduce cross-lane traveling and reduce queuing at dedicated EZ Pass lanes.

This is done at all other Staten Island crossings and appears to be a reasonably simple tool to improve the flow of traffic.

Thank you for your time and continued cooperation, and we look forward to hearing from you and working with you and the MTA to ease the burdens of Staten Island commuters.

Very truly yours,


James S. Oddo
Staten Island Borough President


Andrew Lanza
Senator, 24th District


Michael Cusick
Assembly Member, 63rd District

