

November 2, 2015

Mr. Donald Spero
Acting President
MTA Bridges and Tunnels
Randall's Island
New York, NY 10035-0035

Dear Mr. Spero:

We hope this letter finds you well.

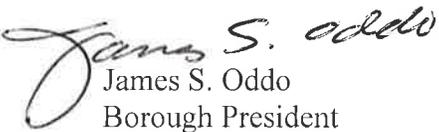
We write to respectfully ask for accident data on the Verrazano Narrows Bridge from July 1, 2014 to October 30, 2014 and from July 1, 2013 to October 30, 2013. Please also include the data for the same time period in 2015. We appreciate that you have been making recent data available, but we believe this lookback will make for an insightful comparison.

We ask for this information because, anecdotally for the last several months, there has appeared to be more accidents on the Verrazano during the morning rush than at any other time period we can remember. These almost daily accidents on the bridge are leading to traffic jams on the Staten Island Expressway and the local roads approaching the bridge, and a more difficult commute for our frazzled constituents.

The data will show if there has, in fact, been an uptick in accidents. If it does show this, then it is important to have a conversation to determine what is causing the increase in accidents, and to discuss what steps can be taken to mitigate this problem. Obviously sometimes an accident is just that – an accident – caused by driver error or some other factor. At other times when there is a pattern of crashes it makes you wonder whether there are factors at play that if addressed could minimize the risk of such accidents.

We thank you for your time, courtesy, and consideration.

Very truly yours,


James S. Oddo
Borough President


Steven Matteo
Minority Leader

