



**Bridge
Authority**

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NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY EXPANDS HOURS OF OPERATION AT NEWBURGH-BEACON PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY

The New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) today announced that the hours of operation for the pedestrian and bicycling pathway at the Newburgh-Beacon Bridge have been expanded to 24/7 access. The move is expected to help area residents better use alternative forms of transportation to travel between two of the mid-Hudson region's major communities. The expanded hours will also assist pedestrian and bicycle commuters utilizing the Metro-North train station in Beacon or commuting to work between the two sides of the bridge, especially those who work during early morning or night shifts.

The change in operating hours comes after the Authority received a number of public comments in favor of expanding pedestrian hours at Newburgh-Beacon. Reasons cited by the public for increased hours included the environmental and health benefits of increased walking and cycling, offering a free and consistent transportation option for those without vehicles, as well as improving pedestrian and bicycle connectivity within the region.

The Authority has ensured that the pedestrian walkway will be properly lit according to safety standards. The Newburgh-Beacon Bridge has 24/7 on-site security staffing, as well as remote security monitoring through the Authority's Command Center. The Authority reserves the right to temporarily close its pedestrian walkways due to weather, safety, and/or maintenance-related activity.

Currently, the hours of operation at the pedestrian facilities at the Authority's other vehicular bridges remain dawn to dusk. The Authority staff and Board of Commissioners will continue to evaluate the pedestrian and cycling needs of each facility in light of operational considerations and set appropriate hours of operation accordingly.

About the New York State Bridge Authority

The New York State Bridge Authority operates the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon, Mid-Hudson, Kingston-Rhinecliff and Rip Van Winkle Bridges. It also owns and maintains the bridge structure of the Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. The Authority is funded principally from bridge tolls and receives no state or federal tax monies for bridge maintenance and operation. Learn more at www.nysba.ny.gov.

The Bridge Authority encourages all drivers to make the switch to E-ZPass in order to save money during their travels. Information on setting up an account can be found at www.e-zpassny.com.

The Bridge Authority strongly encourages all drivers to sign up for traffic alerts for their local roadways at www.511ny.org. Additionally, traffic updates can be found on the NYSBA Facebook and Twitter profiles at www.facebook.com/NYSBridge and www.twitter.com/NYSBridge.

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