



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

1932 Arthur Avenue, Room 403-A, Bronx, NY 10457

Honorable Vanessa L. Gibson, Bronx Borough President

Honorable Oswald Feliz, New York City Council Member, 15th District

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MS. EVONNE CAPERS
Board Chairperson

MR. RAFAEL MOURE-PUNETT
District Manager

May 30, 2025

Marie Therese Dominguez, Esq.
Commissioner
New York State Department of Transportation

Bronx Community Board 6 has concerns about the community engagement process being used by the New York State Department of Transportation for the Cross Bronx 5 Bridges project. A year ago, the project was presented without an environmental assessment included. Community Board 6 sent a letter to State DOT and never received a written response, one of the concerns raised was the need for an environmental assessment (EA). We appreciate that an EA is now being done, however the community will only have 30 days to respond to the findings in the current timeline. This puts the community at a significant disadvantage in understanding and deliberating between the options presented for the “community connector” or no connector at all. Public input should be sought when the community is available and sufficiently lengthy for a project of this scale.

Considering that this project was pitched to the federal government without first notifying the community, we do not believe it is appropriate to move at breakneck speed to spend \$150 million dollars of federal money on a project the community may not necessarily support.

New York City Community Boards have served as the public forum for NYS DOT to present and update this project. A public review process conducted this summer deliberately excludes Community Boards from opining on the options for this project. Community Boards do not meet in July or August and would need to deliberate at the committee level before taking a position as a Board in the fall. We ask that NYS DOT extend the comment period on the environmental assessment to 120 days, allowing community and Community Boards enough time to consider their options.

Regards,

Evonne Capers
Chair
Bronx Community Board 6

CC:
Congress Member Ritchie Torres
New York State Senator Luis Sepulveda
New York State Assembly Member Karines Reyes
New York State Assembly Member Emerita Torres

New York City Council Member Oswald Feliz
New York City Council Member Rafael Salamanca
Bronx River Alliance
Bronx Community Board 3
Bronx Community Board 9