STATE OF NEW YORK

5178

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 19, 2025

Introduced by Sens. COMRIE, FAHY -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring certain public authorities to develop a feasibility study to promote bicyclist and pedestrian access on bridges statewide and to consider the impact of capital projects on bicyclist and pedestrian access

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 543 to read as follows:

§ 543. Pedestrian bridge access feasibility study. 1. The authority shall develop a pedestrian bridge access feasibility study to analyze ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian access on roadway bridges under its jurisdiction. Such study shall include but not be limited to:

(a) identification of bridges within the authority's jurisdiction that are suitable for safe bicycle and pedestrian access;

(b) potential capital projects that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges; and

(c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty-four, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authority shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the authority's website.

§ 2. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 593 to read as follows:

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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§ 593. Pedestrian bridge feasibility study. 1. The authority shall develop a pedestrian bridge access feasibility study to analyze ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian access on roadway bridges under its jurisdiction. Such study shall include but not be limited to:

(a) identification of bridges within the authority's jurisdiction that are suitable for safe bicycle and pedestrian access;

(b) potential capital projects that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges; and

(c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty-four, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authority shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the authority's website.

§ 3. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 669 to read as follows:

§ 669. Pedestrian bridge access feasibility study. 1. The authority shall develop a pedestrian bridge access feasibility study to analyze ways to improve bicycle and pedestrian access on roadway bridges under its jurisdiction. Such study shall include but not be limited to:

(a) identification of bridges within the authority's jurisdiction that are suitable for safe bicycle and pedestrian access;

(b) potential capital projects that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges; and

(c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty-four, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authority shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the authority's website.

§ 4. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 718 to read as follows:

§ 718. Pedestrian bridge feasibility study. 1. The authority shall develop a pedestrian bridge access feasibility study to improve bicycle and pedestrian access on roadway bridges under its jurisdiction. Such plan shall include but not be limited to:

(a) identification of bridges within the authority's jurisdiction that are suitable for safe bicycle and pedestrian access;

(b) potential capital projects that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges; and

(c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty-four, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authority shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the authority's website.

§ 5. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new section 390 to read as follows:

§ 390. Pedestrian bridge access feasibility study. 1. The authority shall develop a pedestrian bridge access feasibility study to improve bicycle and pedestrian access on roadway bridges under its jurisdiction. Such plan shall include but not be limited to:

(a) identification of bridges within the authority's jurisdiction that are suitable for safe bicycle and pedestrian access;

(b) potential capital projects that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges; and

(c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty-four, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authority shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary president of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the authority's website.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.