

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5178--A

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 -- recommitted to the Committee on Transportation in accordance with Senate Rule 6, sec. 8 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

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:

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

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

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

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

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

16 2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authori-  
17 ty shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary presi-  
18 dent of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the  
19 pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this

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

LBD06127-03-6

1 section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the  
2 authority's website.

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

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

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

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

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

18 2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authori-  
19 ty shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary presi-  
20 dent of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the  
21 pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this  
22 section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the  
23 authority's website.

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

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

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

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

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

39 2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authori-  
40 ty shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary presi-  
41 dent of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the  
42 pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this  
43 section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the  
44 authority's website.

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

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

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

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

55 (c) a review of the authority's capital program plans in effect on and  
56 after January first, two thousand twenty-seven, to determine the impact

1 of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and propose amendments  
2 and modifications to such capital program plans that would allow for  
3 and/or expand bicycle and pedestrian access on bridges.

4 2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authori-  
5 ty shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary presi-  
6 dent of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the  
7 pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this  
8 section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the  
9 authority's website.

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

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

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

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

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

25 2. Within one year of the effective date of this section, the authori-  
26 ty shall submit a written report to the governor, the temporary presi-  
27 dent of the senate, and the speaker of the assembly, detailing the  
28 pedestrian bridge access feasibility study conducted pursuant to this  
29 section. Such report shall be made available to the public on the  
30 authority's website.

31 § 6. This act shall take effect immediately.