

For Immediate Release: 05/14/24

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TRAVEL ALERT: SOUTHBOUND THRUWAY (I-87) BETWEEN GREENE AND ULSTER COUNTIES TO FULLY CLOSE TO ALL TRAFFIC SATURDAY NIGHT, MAY 18 FOR APPROXIMATELY 8 HOURS

Closure is Required to Safely Perform Pavement Repairs on Crossover Sections as Part of Catskill Creek (MP 113) and Kaaterskill Creek Bridge (MP 111) Preservation Project

All Southbound Traffic to be Diverted at Exit 21 (Catskill) and Follow Posted Detour to Reenter at Exit 20 (Saugerties)

I-87 Northbound Traffic Will Not Be Affected

The New York State Thruway Authority today announced that the southbound lanes of the Thruway (I-87) from exit 21 (Catskill - Cairo - NY Route 23) to exit 20 (Saugerties - Woodstock - NY Route 32) will fully shut down to all traffic **beginning at 11 p.m.**Saturday, May 18 through approximately 7 a.m. Sunday, May 19, weather permitting. The temporary closure is necessary to allow crews to perform pavement repairs on two crossover sections as part of the \$9.3 million project to preserve bridges on I-87 in Greene County. Motorists should seek alternate routes while this work takes place or avoid travel in the area during these times, if possible. The northbound lanes will remain open.

During the temporary closure, all southbound traffic traveling on I-87 will be diverted off the Thruway at exit 21 (Catskill - Cairo - NY Route 23). Motorists should follow the posted detour to Route 23 West, travel six miles and then turn left onto Route 32 South. After approximately 16 miles, vehicles will turn left to reenter the Thruway at exit 20 (Saugerties - Woodstock - NY Route 32). The posted detour is approximately 23 miles. Motorists should expect reduced speeds on Routes 23 and 32 and may encounter delays.

Variable Message Signs (VMS) have been illuminated to advise motorists of the scheduled closure.

As announced in April, a \$9.3 million <u>project</u> is underway to preserve four bridge structures on I-87 in Greene County – the Thruway bridge over Kaaterskill Creek (milepost 111.13) northbound and southbound, and the Thruway bridge over the Catskill

Creek (milepost 113.22) northbound and southbound. Built in 1955, both bridges are original to the Thruway system.

Motorists are urged to be alert and follow the posted in work zone speed limits. Fines are doubled for speeding a work zone.

As part of the Thruway Authority's continued efforts to modernize and reinvest in the 70-year-old Thruway system, the Authority's 2024 Budget invests a total of \$451 million to support its Capital Program, which is expected to invest \$2.4 billion into capital projects over the next five years—a \$500 million increase following the recently enacted toll adjustment. The increased investment will lead to work on approximately half of the Thruway's more than 2,800 lane miles as well as projects on approximately 90 of Thruway's 817 bridges.

For up-to-date travel information, motorists are encouraged to download its <u>mobile</u> <u>app</u> which is available to download for free on iPhone and Android devices. The app provides motorists direct access to real-time traffic and navigation assistance while on the go. Travelers can also visit the Thruway Authority's interactive <u>Traveler Map</u> which features live traffic cameras. Motorists can also sign up for <u>TRANSalert</u> e-mails, which provide the latest traffic conditions along the Thruway.



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