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FINAL COPY	
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey Public Hearing - Toll & Fare Proposals	•
August 16, 2011	
John F. Kennedy International Airport 6:00 p.m.	
JANE ROSE REPORTING	
Marie Foley, RMR, CRR, Court Reporter	
JANE ROSE REPORTING 1-800-825-3341	
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Page 2		Page 4
HEARING OFFICER: Michael B. Francois, PP, AICP	1 HEARING OFFICER FRAN	ICOIS: Okay.
	2 We're going to get going.	•
SPEAKERS: Steve Mazza	3 My name is Michael Franco	ois. I
Jose Castillo	4 am chief of real estate and	
Bernard Callagari	5 development at the Port Author	ity of
Byron Silva	6 New York and New Jersey, and	d Í will be
Michael Halpin	7 serving as the hearing officer for	or
Matthew Carrol	8 today's public comment meetin	g.
Barry Panicola	9 The purpose of this hearing	
Steve Perez	0 to inform the public about the P	
Jerome Wilson	1 Authority's proposed toll and fa	
James Messemer	2 increases on its interstate bridg	
John Sullivan	3 and tunnels and the could ev	erybody
Michael Thomsen	4 hear me?	
Karl Lanfrit	5 AUDIENCE: Yes.	
James Heyliger	6 HEARING OFFICER FRAN	
Ruth Ruales	7 PATH rail system and to solicit	
Daniel Krupnski	8 comments on the proposal. To	
James Conway	9 solicit comments from the publi	
Matthew Casey	0 Port Authority is holding the mo	
Tony Duff	1 number of hearings it has ever	
Carlos Ortega	2 for a revenue proposal - eight o	
Ray Rowdino	the course of the day in location	
Richard Altacho	4 throughout New York and New5 well as one additional online he	
	5 well as one additional online he	
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TABLE OF CONTENTS	1 To provide everyone who w	<i>i</i> ishes
	2 to speak with an adequate opp	ortunity
Proceedings Page 4	3 to be heard, anyone who has n	ot yet
	4 registered and who wants to pr	
	5 comments at this meeting must	t register
	at the registration desk at the	
	7 entrance to the room by 6:30 th	ıis
	8 evening.	
	9 Spanish translators are	
	0 available for speakers who wisl	
	1 deliver their comments in Span	
	2 ASL interpretation is also available.	
	3 General information and co	
	of notice of today's hearing are	
	5 available at the registration table	
	6 All comments presented at this	
	7 and those submitted and receiv	
	8 7:00 p.m. on August 16th, 2011	
	9 accepted by the Port Authority	
	o consideration of the actions that	it are
	1 subject of this public hearing.	4.1
	Written statements should be s	
	Public Hearing Comments, 225	
	4 Avenue South, 18th Floor, New	
	5 New York 10003, or submitted	online

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1 1	at www.panyng.info. The Port		1	Island Bridge "Discount Plan" for	
2	Authority's Board of Commissioners		2	_	
3			3	E-ZPass users, giving these frequent	
	will receive a copy of today's			users a 50 percent toll discount on	
4	transcript and any written comments		4	the peak E-ZPass toll.	
5	received prior to the deadline.		5	In addition, qualified energy	
6	At this time, I will make a		6	efficient vehicles with GreenPasses	
7	short opening statement explaining the		7	will see no toll increases during	
8	Port Authority's toll and fare		8	off-peak hours in 2011, and the	
9	proposal and why the Port Authority		9	car-poolers discount rate is preserved	
10	believes a toll and fare proposal is		10	in 2011 with a 50 percent discount off	
11	necessary. The toll and fare proposal		11	the E-ZPass peak hour rate. Both	
12	under consideration is as follows:		12	GreenPasses and car-poolers will see	a
13	Tolls for autos using E-ZPass on		13	two dollar increase in 2012.	
14	Port Authority's crossings to increase		14	Finally, the PATH fare would	
15	from six dollars to ten dollars		15	increase from \$1.75 to \$2.75 in 2011,	
16	round-trip for off-peak travel and		16	with the average discount fare	
17	from eight dollars to twelve dollars		17	increasing to \$2.10 from \$1.30 given	
18	in peak hours. An additional two		18	the steep 25 percent discount, which	
19	dollar increase during peak and off		19	will be fully preserved. The 30-day	
20	hours will be implemented in 2014.		20	unlimited pass will increase to	
21	A cash toll surcharge of three		21	eighty-nine dollars from fifty-four	
22	dollars to increase the cash rate from		22	dollars.	
23	eight dollars to 15 dollars during the		23	This proposed toll and fare	
24	peak period in 2011 for the 25 percent		24	increase will fully fund a 33 billion	
25	of toll-payers who still use the		25	dollar ten-year plan, and will	
		Page 7			Page 9
1 1	optional cash system, similar to the		1	generate 167,000 jobs.	
2	MTA. The surcharge will increase by		2	This toll and fare proposal is	
3	an additional two dollars in 2014.		3	necessary because the Port Authority	
4	Truck tolls per axle using		4	is facing three unprecedented	
5	E-ZPass off-peak to increase from		5	challenges: one, an historic economic	
6	seven dollars to thirteen dollars		6	recession that has sharply decreased	
7	round-trip and peak from eight dollars		7	revenue below our projections; two,	
8	to fourteen dollars, with an		8	more than six billion dollars in	
9	additional two dollar per axle		9	security costs since 9/11, which have	
10	increase in 2014 for both off-peak and	;	10	more than tripled from pre-9/11	
11	peak hours. A similar cash surcharge		11	security costs; and three, the cost	
12	of three dollars per axle will be		12	of rebuilding the World Trade Center,	ł
13	applied to trucks in 2011 that		13	which is now estimated at 11 billion	1
14	continue to use the optional cash		14	dollars.	
15	system with an additional two dollars		15	The proposal comes only after	
16	per axle in 2014.		16	the Port Authority has initiated an	
17	There will be no toll increases		17	aggressive cost-cutting plan starting	
18	in 2011 on trucks that cross during		18	in 2008 to manage its resources as the	
19	the overnight discount period and the		19	impact of the economic recession	
20	Port Authority will expand this		20	became clear: cutting five billion	
21	overnight period an additional two		21	dollars in capital projects and	
22	hours each weekday night from ten p.m	۱.	22	deferring billions more; holding	
23	to six a.m. Presently it's midnight		23	operating expenses at zero-growth for	
24	to six a.m.		24	three consecutive years; and cutting	
25	Fully preserving the Staten		25	the agency headcount to its lowest	
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			agains in an area in the life in the l	

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1	level in forty years, an eleven	1	opportunity to speak, we require that
2	percent reduction of non-police staff	2	speakers keep their oral presentations
3	in the past five years.	3	to no more than three minutes. Please
4	The Port Authority does not	4	note that there is a timer placed on
5	receive tax revenue, making its toll	5	the table in the front of the room and
6	and fare structure the primary way to	6	will count down three minutes. We
7	fund the region's critical interstate	7	remind you to be considerate of other
8	transportation network. At this	8	speakers and conclude in a timely
9	point, after a multi-year effort to	9	fashion.
10	control spending in recognition of	10	I will call the names of those
11	declining capital capacity, failure to	11	who have preregistered and are here to
12	act risks 240 critical infrastructure	12	speak. I will read the name of the
13	projects and thousands of jobs, and	13	person who is first and the two names
14	will prevent the largest overhaul of	14	on the list that will follow so that
15	the agency's aging facilities in its	15	everyone will be aware of the order in
16	90-year history.	16	which they are speaking.
17	Projects that are contingent	17	When it is a person's turn to
18	upon the proposed toll and fare plan	18	speak, that person should use the
19	include:	19	microphone available. When you come
20	The first replacement of all 592	20	forward to offer comments, I ask if
21	suspender ropes at the 80-year old	21	you identify yourself, to give your
22	George Washington Bridge, the world's	22	name and your organizational
23	busiest crossing, joining other	23	affiliation, if appropriate, for the
24	suspension bridges like the Golden	24	record.
25	Gate and RFK, which have already	25	If you have written comments,
20	Page 11		Page 13
	•	_	·
1 1	replaced theirs.	1	please provide them to the staff at
2	The replacement of the Lincoln	2	the registration table at the entrance
3	Tunnel Helix. It will require major	3	to the room so that these comments can
4	lane closer and load restrictions if	4	be included in the final transcript of
5	not replaced.	5	these proceedings.
6	The raising of the Bayonne	6	Finally, we remind you that the
7	Bridge, which will solve the current	7	purpose of this hearing is to afford
8	clearance problems, preventing the	8	you an opportunity to make statements
9	post-PANAMAX ships from accessing key	9	and comments about the proposed toll
10	ports within our metro area.	10	and fare increase. This is not a
11	And significant security	11	question and answer session. It is an
12	investments at our region's airports,	12	opportunity for you to present your
13	including the installation of security	13	views so the Port Authority can
14	barriers.	14	consider them in making a final
15	The complete replacement of 340	15	determination.
16	PATH cars, replace the 100-year old	16	Now I'm going to call the first
17	signal system and duct bank network,	17	three names. Steve Mazza, Joe
18	upgrade PATH security with tunnel	18	Castillo and Bernard Allegari.
19	hardening and flood mitigation	19	MR. MAZZA: Good evening, My
20	measures, and rehabilitate the	20	name is Steve Mazza. I am a
21	system's aging stations.	21	vice-president business agent with the
22	We're now going to begin the	22	International Union Of Elevator
23	public comment portion of this	23	Constructors Local 1. Local 1
24	hearing.	24	represents 2800 men and women who
25	In order to give everyone an	25	construct, modernize, maintain and

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1	repair elevators, escalators and	1	lately, and I know it's a personal
2	moving walkways throughout the	2	issue for a lot of Americans, as well
3	metropolitan area. Our members live	3	as our government. One of the things
4	and work both in New York and New	4	I like about this proposal is that it
5	Jersey.	5	funds the work now rather than
6	Local 1 realizes that the Port	6	creating unreasonable debt to be
7	Authority's faced with a historic	7	passed on to our children.
8	financial challenge. How we react to	8	Our country built its way out of
9	this challenge will certainly impact	9	the great depression. The recession
10	the working families of the region.	10	may be over in name, but New York City
11	The IUEC Local 1 supports the	11	workers need help. Let's build a
12	proposed toll structure. We support	12	stronger New York today using the Port
13	the generation of 167,000 jobs, and we	13	Authority's plan.
14	support the ongoing transportation and	14	Thank you.
15	infrastructure projects undertaken by	15	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank
16	the Port Authority. We support	16	you.
17	putting America back to work.	17	Mr. Callagari?
18	Thank you.	18	MR. CALLAGARI: Good evening.
19	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Mr.	19	My name is Bernard Callagari. I'm an
20	Castillo.	20	organizer for the Laborers' Local 79.
21	MR. CASTILLO: Yes. Good	21	I'm a proud laborer and a lifetime
22	evening. My name is Jose Castillo,	22	residents of Queens. I'm here tonight
23	and I am speaking tonight about the	23	to express my support for the Port
24	need to pass the Port Authority	24	Authority proposal.
25	proposal.	25	I grew up in a tough neighborhood
	Page 15		Page 17
1	I'm a proud construction worker,	1	where a few people had real jobs. I'm
2	and organizer for Laborers' Local 10	2	one of the lucky ones who found a
3	and residents of New York City.	3	career and a way out, but that was
4	I live in the Bronx, and every	4	only possible because the jobs were
5	day I go out my door I see unemployed	5	there if a person really wanted them.
6	men and women who have lost hope.	6	Now with almost 20 percent real
7	I drive on the streets of this	7	unemployment, it is a different story
8	great city to get to work crossing	8	for most.
9	bridges that need repairs, through	9	The Port Authority is promising
10	traffic congestion that tie me up, and	10	over 180,000 real middle class jobs
11	I think that we can do better than	11	for a region that was hit hard by this
12	that. Our city needs us to invest in	12	decline. I, for one, am happy to pay
13	it. Our residents need jobs that can	13	higher tolls if it means bringing good
14	move them into the middle class.	14	jobs back to our city.
15	Even though it means sometimes	15	The ten-year 30 billion dollar
16	I'll pay more to get to and from work,	16	capital plan will be a lifeline for
17	I applaud the Port Authority for	17	New York City workers. It will also
18	committing to us. When we share the	18	be a lifeline for our infrastructure.
19	load to improve infrastructure, we	19	The fact that the George
20	move our city forward. Our bridges	20	Washington Bridge cables haven't been
21	and tunnels need maintenance and the	21	replaced scares me. I drive over that
22	Port Authority has come up with a fair	22	bridge with my children and I expect
23	and responsible plan to make it	23	it to be safe. I read all the time
24	happen.	24	about how across the country
25	We've hea <u>rd a lot about debt</u>	25	infrastructure is aging and failing.

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1	Our economy in this city depends on	1	peak hours. A similar cash surcharge
2	the systems working, on our ability to	2	of three dollars per axle will be
3	move people, goods and services in and	3	applied to trucks in 2011 that
4	out of our city. It's at a point	4	continue to use the optional cash
5	where we can't just look the other	5	system with an additional two dollars
6	way.	6	per axle in 2014.
7	I applaud the Port Authority for	7	To further incentivize trucks to
8	creating a plan to invest in our	8	cross during the overnight period, to
9	bridges and tunnels.	9	reduce the congestion during the day,
10	Thank you.	10	there will be no toll increase on
11	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank	11	trucks that cross during the overnight
12	you for your comments.	12	discount period and this overnight
13	The next three speakers are	13	period will be expanded an extra two
14	Byron Silva, Mike Halpin and Matthew	14	hours each weekday night from ten p.m.
15	Carrol.	15	to six a.m., previously from twelve
16	MR. SILVA: Good evening. My	16	a.m. to six a.m.
17	name is Byron Silva. I am the	17	This will result in a 61 percent
18	business manager of Laborers' Local	18	discount for typical two-axle truck
19	10. I'm here today to comment on what	19	which will continue to pay eleven
20	consider to be a very important	20	dollars overnight as compared to the
21	aspect of the Port Authority's	21	twenty-eight dollars toll in 2011 for
22	proposed toll and fare increase: its	22	the same truck using E-ZPass during
23	potential benefit to our environment.	23	the peak period.
24	Traffic cause many things,	24	Truck traffic is often the cause
25	delays, frustration, fender-benders,	25	for congestion during early morning
	Page 19		Page 21
4	•	4	_
1	congestion, noise and air pollution	1	and evening rush hour commutes.
2	among them. From my perspective, the	2	Trucks idling in bumper-to-bumper on
3	proposed toll and fare increases offer	3	bridges and the ramps, on the tunnels
4	several ways to mitigate some of these	4	spew fumes and pollution into the air
5	negative traffic factors.	5	during the day the most when most
6	For one, the Port Authority is	6	New Yorkers are out and about going to
7	proposing a cash toll surcharge of	7	work, to school, running errands.
8	three dollars to increase the cash pay	8	The steep discount for crossing
9	from eight to fifteen dollars in 2011	9	at night could potentially eliminate
10	for the 25 percent of toll-payers who	10	much rush hour truck traffic and
11	still use the optional cash system	11	improve air quality as a result.
12	similar to the MTA. The surcharge is	12	Around the world, cities
13	expected to increase the E-ZPass	13	restrict the hours of commercial
14	market share to approximately 85	14	deliveries to relieve traffic and
15	percent, which will reduce travel	15	reduce pollution during the peak
16	delays during the peak of traffic	16	commuter and work hours. No one is
17	congestion by ten to twenty minutes.	17	suggesting that New York implement
18	Second, the Port Authority	18	such a plan, though it might be
19	proposed that trucks' tolls per axle	19	prudent.
20	using E-ZPass off-peak are to increase	20	A byproduct of the Port
21	from seven to thirteen dollars	21	Authority's proposed increases may be
22	round-trip and during peak hours from	22	a shift in commercial deliveries from
23	eight to fourteen dollars with an	23	the peak to the off-peak hours.
24	additional two dollars per axle	24	Trucking companies, as well as
25	increase in 2014 for both off-peak and	25	truckers, lose money when their goods

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1	and drivers are stuck in traffic	1 1	Mr. Halpin?
2	entering or exiting the city, as well	2	MR. HALPIN: Good evening. My
3	as in the crosstown traffic. Make it	3	name is Michael Halpin. I'm an
4	more expensive to sit in traffic and	4	organizer with the International Union
5	maybe logistic experts will see the	5	of Elevators Union Local 1. I'm a
6	value of overnight deliveries, plus	6	resident of Woodside, Queens.
7	eliminating some of the traffic and	7	Local 1 represents men and women
8	pollution caused by commercial	8	throughout the metropolitan area. Our
9 10	vehicles during peak hours. In addition to the above	9 10 -	members construct, modernize, maintain
11		11	and repair elevators and escalators. Our members live and work in both New
12	mitigation measures, qualified energy-efficiency cars with	12	York and New Jersey.
13	GreenPasses will see no toll increase	13	The Port Authority does not
14	during off-peak hours in 2011, and the	13	receive tax dollars. Failure to raise
15	car-poolers discount rate is preserved	15	revenues would result in the loss of
16	in 2011 with a 50 percent discount off	16	some 3900 jobs. Our unemployment is
17	the E-ZPass peak hour rate. Both	17	at its highest rate in years. We
18	GreenPasses and car-poolers will see a	18	cannot afford to lose a single job.
19	two dollar increase in 2014.	19	The new 33 billion dollar
20	Family budgets are tight.	20	capital program will generate 9.7
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Mr.	21	billion in wages. This is why we need
22	Silva, will you complete your	22	to rebuild our region and restore our
23	comments, please.	23	economy.
24	MR. SILVA: Sure.	24	This isn't an easy decision for
25	For those who commute via the	25	us to come to as a union in that our
	Page 23		Page 25
1	PATH train, the fare increase of one	1	members commute via the bridges and
2	dollar will help pay for much-needed	2	the tunnels and the mass transit, but
3	improvements in the hundred-year-old	3	the bottom line is this is what the
4	PATH infrastructure in the PATH	4	economic kick that our region needs to
5	stations.	5	move forward and we support the
6	The alternative to approving the	6	proposed toll structure.
7	proposal which will result in hundreds	7	Thank you.
8	of repair projects, lane closure,	8	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank
9	other time-intensive delays on Port	9	you.
10	Authority crossing, just the opposite	10	Matthew Carrol?
11	of what I have outlined, will have	11	MR. CARROL: My name is Matthew
12	more traffic, more congestion, more	12	Carrol. I am a resident of Ozone Park
13	intended pollution that no one wants.	13	and a member of the International
14	For the potential positive impact the	14	Union Of Elevator Constructors Local
15	proposal could have in reducing	15	Number 1. I am one of 2800 members
16	traffic, improving the region's air	16	that my union is concerned for.
17	quality, mitigating congestion and	17	The 167,000 jobs that this
18	increasing use of mass transit, I	18	proposal will generate will go a long
19	support the Port Authority's toll and	19	way towards relieving the pain of the
20	fare hike proposal and suggest those	20	families of the unemployed brothers
21	of you who care about the environment	21	and sisters.
22	to do the same.	22	I am proud that my union
23	Thank you, very much	23 24	supports this job-generating proposal,
24	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank	25	and I support this proposal.
25	you.	[20	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The

1	Page 26		Page 28
1	next three speakers: Christopher	1	closed in the last few years, hurting
2	Stadulis, Scott Roche and Barry	2	their employees and their families.
3	Panicola.	3	The truck toll's justification
4	MR. PANICOLA: Good evening and	4	used is an outdated and disputed
5	thank you for the opportunity to speak	5	statistic from the 1970s to
6	at this hearing. My name is Barry	6	demonstrate the truck damage to the
7	Panicola. I'm the director of	7	roads. More concerning is the fact
8	transportation for Metro New York Fuel	8	that the bridges and tunnels appear to
9	Supplier and have been in the trucking	9	be making money for the Authority,
10	industry for my entire career.	10	while other areas are being subsidized
11	The proposed increase of 75 to	11	by the toll money. This is money that
12	113 percent in 2011, an additional 12	12	should be used to improve the
13	to 36 percent in 2014, is a tremendous	13	condition of bridges and tunnels.
14	burden for the trucking industry.	14	The ratio of capital
15	Though we appreciate the overnight	15	expenditures to bridges and tunnels as
16	freeze for 2011, most trucks do not	16	compared to other Port Authority
17	choose to travel during the day and	17	projects is staggering. At a time
18	are dictated the hours are dictated	18	when the whole nation is faced with
19	by suppliers and customers.	19	infrastructure challenges, it is
20	Further damage in the increase	20	irresponsible for tolls not to be used
21	of the peak hours is the increase of	21	to improve infrastructure and not
22.	the peak hours by one hour on weekdays	22	subsidize other forms of
23	and two hours on the weekend.	23	transportation which are not
24	Eighty-one percent of the freight into	24	supporting themselves.
25	New York City comes in by trucks.	25	The New York region can't
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1	Freight brought in by rail, air or	1	function without trucks delivering
2	water ultimately ends up on trucks.	2	goods. There were many options for
3	Whether it was milk, bread or iPads,	3	people and their transaction needs;
4	it was delivered by a truck before it	4	trucks do not have those options,
5	made it to our door.	5	though it appears we're being punished
6	The increase cost to the	6	to support other forms of
7	trucking city will ultimately	7	transportation.
8	translate into higher cost of goods	8	I want to emphasize that the
9	coming to New York City, though in the	9	time between the announcement and the
10	short-term there will be no way with	10	effective date is unreasonable and
11	current contracts and arrangements for	11	does not give the industry or a
12	these costs to be passed on to the end	12	company like mine, which spends 150
13	user. They will be absorbed by an	13	thousand dollars per year in tolls,
14	industry which has been hit by high	14	the ability to look at our exposure or
15	fuel prices, the recession and	15	attempt to renegotiate contracts and
16	operates on small profit margins.	16	make necessary decisions.
17	Asking an industry to withstand	17	We deliver fuel to many
18	the 75 percent increase within two	18	government agencies, including the
19	weeks of announcing it is	19	Port Authority, and will not have the
20	unreasonable. Any increase should	20	ability to regain these costs.
21	allow for current contracts to	21	Additionally, these hearings
22	terminate or be renegotiated.	22	need to be better publicized and
23	The trucking industry employs	23	enough time given for more of the
24	close to 450,000 people in New York	24	affected parties to voice their
25	State. Many trucking companies have	25	opinion.

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1	Thank you.	1	Bus Terminal which will serve as a
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank	<u>2</u>	traffic reliever to the Lincoln Tunnel
3	you.	3	and Midtown Manhattan streets, saving
4	Before I go to the unregistered	4	two-thirds of the empty bus trips that
5	speakers, is Scott Roche or	5	must make two extra trips through the
6	Christopher Stadulis here?	6	tunnel each day. This will not only
7	(No response.)	7	serve to make the commute easier for
8	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The	8	many workers that must come into the
9	next three speakers will be Steve	9	city for work, but it will also
10	Perez, Kevin Kelly, and Jerome Wilson.	10	translate into more work for
11	MR. PEREZ: Hello. My name is	11	ironworkers. The creation of a new
12	Steve Perez. I am a proud member of	12	garage requires a great deal of time
13	the Metallic Lathers and Reinforcing	13	and work, and that translates into an
14	Ironworkers' Local 46, living in	14	800 million dollar job for
15	Queens.	15	ironworkers, as well as other
16	I understand the need for these	16	specialized and highly skilled union
17	toll increases. Not only to raise	17	workers.
18	revenues for the Port Authority, but	18	While the tolls will increase
19	to create more jobs for hard-working	19	and it won't be very popular, we have
20	men and women like myself.	20	to look at the bigger picture. Since
21	As a specialized ironworker,	21	2008, New York City building trades
22	these increase revenues translate into	22	have lost approximately twenty
23	more jobs for my union, as well as	23	thousand jobs, and we are experiencing
24	others throughout the city and both	24	our lowest employment rate in thirteen
25	New York and New Jersey.	25	years. I see many of my own friends
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1	The Port Authority has cited	1 1	and family members suffering from a
2	many locations throughout the city and	2	lack of jobs and loss of wages. These
3	surrounding areas which will receive	3	toll increases will help to alleviate
4	much-needed infrastructural updates,	4	the burden that has been thrust upon
5	for example, the first replacement of	5	many families in these tough economic
6	all 592 suspender ropes of the	6	times.
7	80-year-old George Washington Bridge.	7	Thank you.
8	The George Washington Bridge is the	8	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank
9	only suspension bridge in the United	9	you.
10	States that has not had its suspender	10	Kevin Kelly?
11	ropes replaced in the entirety of its	11	(No response.)
12	80-year existence. The Golden Gate,	12	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Jerome
13	the Ben Franklin and the	13	Wilson?
14	Triboro-slash-RFK bridges have already	14	MR. WILSON: Good afternoon,
15	replaced their ropes at least once to	15	ladies and gentlemen. My name is
16	ensure structural integrity. Needless	16	Jerome Wilson. I'm a 79 union labor
17	to say, this job is long overdue and	17	worker, and I just support the
18	critically important for the	18	proposal simply because better jobs
19	structural integrity and safety of the	19	and union work.
20	bridges.	20	Thank you.
21	This work would also translate	21	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Is
22	into one billion worth of much-needed	22	Kevin Kelly here?
23	work for ironworkers.	23	(No response.)
24	There will also be a new bus	24	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The
25	garage connected to the Port Authority	25	next three speakers are James
U	garage connected to the Fort Authority	120	HEVI THEE Sheavers are James

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1	Messemer, John Sullivan and Michael	1	this is a dual problem for me.
2	Thomsen.	2	This toll could be Southeast
3	MR. MESSEMER: Good evening. My	3	Queens stimulus package. The best
4	name is James Messemer, proud union	4	employer for minorities in this city
5	member of Local 79. I am also known	5	in the last ten years has been the
6	as John Q. Public, or at least one of	6	Port Authority. We had 123 million
7	the many faces of John Q. Public.	7	dollars on the AirTrain. We've got 40
8	Whichever you like to call me, James	8	million dollars coming to us for the
9	Messemer or John Q. Public, I wish to	9	Jamaica station. We have airlines and
10	say I am a supporter of the toll hike.	10	agencies working providing jobs for us
11	New York City needs these jobs, and as	11	now.
12	a proud resident of New York City, I	12	There must not be any
13	beg you, please, pass this.	13	republicans on the board of the Port
14	Thank you.	14	Authority since you're all going to
15	MR. SÚLLIVAN: Good evening. My	15	spend some money because the only way
16	name is John Sullivan. I'm a proud	16	for us to survive is to work.
17	member of Local 79 Mason Tenders.	17	We done lost our jobs, lost our
18	I grew up in New York City. I	18	cars, and when we had it we couldn't
19	now reside in Queens.	19	afford the gas. So I beseech you, I
20	I'm in favor of this proposal.	20	don't give a damn what you have to
21	It will bring another 167,000 jobs,	21	pay, raise the tolls so we can go to
22	and that's what we need for the	22	work.
23	economy.	23	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Is
24	Thank you.	24	Mr. Ulukbek Ajabbrov here?
25	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Is	25	(No response.)
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1	Michael Thomsen here?	1	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The
2	(No response.)	2	next three speakers are Ruth Ruales,
3	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The	3	Daniel Krupnski and James Conway.
4	next three speakers are Karl Lanfrit,	4	MS. RUALES: Hi. I am Ruth
5	James Heyliger and Ulukbek Ajabbrov.	5	Ruales for Local 78. I am here for
6	MR. LANFRIT: My name is Karl	6	support for Port Authority.
7	Lanfrit. I'm a proud member of New	7	The proposal, this proposal is
8	York City Local 79 Laborers.	8	going to create many, many jobs for my
9	I just want to say coming from a	9	brothers and sisters.
10	family history of hard-working people,	10	Thank you.
11	what helped us get out of the hard	11	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Mr.
12	times in the '70s was when the funds	12	Krupnski?
13	were given to construction.	13	MR. KRUPNSKI: Good evening.
14	I say get this thing passed and	14	Thank you for coming and participating
15	let's get to work.	15	in this event, and thank you for the
16	MR. HEYLIGER: Good evening. My	16	opportunity to speak at this hearing.
17	name is James Heyliger. I'm the	17	My name is Daniel Krupnski, and
18	president of the Association of	18	I proudly represent Laborers'
19	Minority Enterprises of New York.	19	International, as well as Laborers'
20	That's a 36-year-old minority-run	20	Local 78 members.
21	business trade association. That's	21	Ladies and gentlemen, today I
22	the largest minority trade association	22	have the opportunity to hear lots of
23	in the state of New York.	23	pros and cons about the Port Authority
24	I'm also the proud father of two	24	project, and I think that some of us
25	sons, one Local 79, one Local 731. So	25	here would want to win over our

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1 1	safety. Our bridges and tunnels are	1	result was empty shells and long
2	in terrible condition, and they need	2	lines. So by having low prices for
3	to be fixed and maintained properly.	3	tolls is the same scenario. You're
4	Yes, we all commute to work, to	4	going to have congestion. You're
5	school, or to visit our family	5 6	going to have poor infrastructure.
6 7	members, and all of us are paying	7	Our country deserves better so
8	toils, but now we are here all together at the table in order to	8	we need to improve our roads, have less congestion. So, therefore, let's
9	discuss to raise them or not.	9	raise the tolls and get that get
10	As a union member, I strongly	10	this through and make this country a
111	support and say yes to Port Authority	11	better country.
12	proposal. It will provide work for my	12	Thank you.
13	brothers and sisters, and at the same	13	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Let
14	time, it will cut down the	14	me repeat anyone who would like to
15	unemployment rate. Additionally, it	15	speak should register at the desk in
16	might be painful to our pockets, but	16	the rear, the registration desk, so we
17	in the long run it will improve our	17	can have a card and we can have a
18	economy for all of us residents of New	18	record of you speaking and organize
19	York and New Jersey and their family.	19	this more appropriately.
20	The time to address the Port	20	The next three speakers are
21	Authority proposal has come around.	21	Matthew Casey, Tony Duff, and Carlos
22	We can't procrastinate and act like we	22	Ortega.
23	don't see what is necessary to be done	23	MR. CASEY: Matthew Casey, Local
24	and it has to be done now. We	24	79.
25	shouldn't wait for what could happen	25	I kind of got put on the spot
	Page 39		Page 41
1	in one of the bridges with one of	1	tonight. Not really good with public
2	the bridges in the state of	2	speaking, but I'm all for the
3	Mississippi because it was a huge	3	proposal. If I got to pay an extra
4	tragedy. So let us all learn from the	4	couple bucks out of my pocket to cross
5	past in order not to face it here.	5	over the bridges, I don't care as long
6	Choose safety because it should	6	as I have a job coming up.
7	always go first. So let us all make	7	I travel the George Washington
8	it happen.	8	Bridge every weekend going to my house
9	Thank you. HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Is	9	in Pennsylvania, and like what Bernard
10		10 11	said I'm with my kids all the time. I
11	Mr. Conway here?	12	was watching America crumbling the
12 13	MR. CONWAY: Good evening. My name is James Conway. I'm with the	13	other night on T.V., and it kind of scared the hell out of me knowing that
14	International Union Of Operating	14	could happen here.
15	Engineers Local 14. I'm here to	15	So let's pass this thing.
16	support the project.	16	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Tony
17	Bridges, tunnels, airports are	17	Duff?
18	very expensive to build, but they are	18	MR. DUFF: Yeah, Local 79
19	very valuable and you need to pay for	19	member. Proud member that is. I kind
20	them.	20	of fell into it tonight. I didn't
21	Non-democratic governments, not	21	expect to be here.
22	like ours, did something similar.	22	However, I'm hearing a lot of
23	What they did was they imposed low	23	good things. The scariest thing that
24	consumer prices to their products.	24	I'm hearing is that bracing for the
25	What was the result of it? The	25	George Washington Bridge, I believe,

		<u> </u>	
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1	hasn't been hasn't had any type of	1	of New York and New Jersey's proposed
2	replenishment, plenishing [sic], I may	2	toll and fare increase.
3	not be pronouncing it right, but I'm	3	While we understand that toll
4	under the impression everyone gets the	4	increases are never easy to implement,
5	gist of what I'm saying.	5	particularly in tough economic times,
6	Safety, we deal with that every	6	we desperately need the revenue to
7	day on these jobsites. It's obvious	7	protect the structural integrity of
8	that we all should be safe driving	8	our city's infrastructure and rebuild
9	home from these jobsites we have to be	9	key transportation gateways allowing
10	safe on, our families, school buses,	10	us to continue our reputation as the
11	tourists.	11	best city in the world.
12	Let's pass this bill, make New	12	The new ten-year 33 billion
13	York City safe, make some money.	13	dollar program will generate 167,000
14	Good night.	14	jobs, 9.7 billion in wages, and 42.7
15	MR. ORTEGA: Good afternoon,	15	billion in sales. If this proposal
16	everybody. My name is Carlos Ortega.	16	does not move forward, it will cost
17	I'm from Laborers' Local 78.	17	the city an immediate 3900
18	I take it everybody knows why	18	construction jobs, 240 critical
19	I'm going to be here. Not only for	19	infrastructure projects, and 438
20	the jobs. We can to do right thing.	20	million in investment in 2011 alone.
21	So, you know, we have the tunnels, we	21	Infrastructure projects
22	have the bridge, this is old so we	22	contingent on this additional revenue
23	going to do something better not only	23	include significant security
24	for us, our children, for or parents.	24	investments at the region's airports,
25	You think every day how many people	25	replacement of all 592 suspender ropes
	Page 43		Page 45
4		4	
1 1	cross the tunnels, cross the bridge,	1	at the 80-year-old George Washington
2	you know.	2	Bridge, and a new bus garage connected
3	We I think so we can waiting	3	to the Port Authority Bus Terminal,
4	for something wrong to happen for do	4	raising of the Bayonne Bridge, and a
5	the right things. So we going to do	5	replacement of the Lincoln Tunnel
6	the right things and we're going to do	6	Helix.
7	it right now.	7	Since 2008, New York City
8	Thank you.	8	building trades have lost
9	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: The	9	approximately 20,000 jobs, and we are
10	final two speakers, which I have not	10	experiencing our lowest employment
11	mentioned, is Ray Rowdino and Richard	11	rates in thirteen years. The
12	Altacho.	12	unemployment rate in Plumbers Local 1
13	MR. ROWDINO: Good evening.	13	is currently twenty percent. These
14	First and foremost, I'd like to	14	critical projects will translate into
15	welcome all my brothers and sisters in	15	much needed work for plumbers.
16	organized labor. Nice to see	16	To create economic development
17	everybody here together in support of	17	and to promote growth, you need to
18	one issue.	18	invest in infrastructure, and in turn
19	I am Ray Rowdino, and I am here	19	you create great jobs for the middle
20	today on behalf of Plumbers Local 1	20	class.
21	representing thousands of highly	21	Thank you for your time and
22	skilled men and women in the	22	consideration.
23	industrial, commercial, and	23	MR. ALTACHO: Hello. My name is
24	residential sections of construction	24	Richard Altacho. I'm a proud member
25	industry to support the Port Authority	25	of Local 79.

			<u> </u>
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1	I'm all for this bill 'cause	1	desk, and we will resume at 7:00 to
2	it's going to create more jobs,	2	officially close the public hearing if
3	especially union jobs which we need	3	there is no further statements.
4	'cause we got to get back in there	4	Thank you.
5	'cause we're losing a lot of union	5	(Recess taken.)
6	jobs, and also it helped me and my	6	(,
7	family to be safe going across these	7	HEARING OFFICER FRANÇOIS: Let
8	bridges.	8	me make another announcement.
9	Like they say, we got hit with	9	Again, is there anyone else who
10	high prices of gas, we got hit with	10	would like to make a statement
11	the high taxes, what the hell. Let's	11	regarding the proposed actions?
12	get hit with this and let's get this	12	(No response.)
13	union working and this proposal	13	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: It's
14	passed.	14	been more than an hour since the
15	Thank you.	15	hearing commenced. So let the record
16	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Thank you	16	reflect that no one has answered
17	for your comments.	17	affirmatively to the question if
18	Let me again call Ulukbek	18	anybody wants to speak.
19	Ajabbrov?	19	The time is now 7:02, and
20	(No response.)	20	tonight's hearing is now adjourned.
21	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Kevin	21	Thank you, very much, and have a good
22	Kelly?	22	evening.
23	(No response.)	23	(Time noted: 7:02 p.m.)
24	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Scott	24	
25	Roche?	25	
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1	(No response.)	1	CERTIFICATION
2	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS:	2	
3	Christopher Stadulis?	3	
4	(No response.)	4	I, MARIE FOLEY, RMR, CRR, a
5	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Is	5	Notary Public in and for the State of New
6	there anyone else present who would	6	York, do hereby certify:
7	like to make a statement regarding the	7	THAT the foregoing is a true
8	proposed actions?	8	and accurate transcript of my stenographic
9	(No response.)	9	notes.
10	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Again,	10	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
11	is there anyone present who would like	11	hereunto set my hand this 16th of August,
12	to make a statement regarding the	12	2011.
13	proposed actions?	13	
14	(No response.)	14	
15	HEARING OFFICER FRANCOIS: Let	15	
16	the record reflect that no one has	16 17	MARIE FOLEY PMR CRR
17	answered affirmatively to the	I	MARIE FOLEY, RMR, CRR
18 19	question. The time is now 6:44. I'm going	18 19	
	~ ~	20	
20 21	to call a recess, a brief recess in these proceedings so we can go off	21	
22	record for a few minutes.	22	
23	Again, if anyone would like to	23	
24	make a statement, I would encourage	24	
25	you to register at the registration	25	
20	you to register at the registration	ZÜ	

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