



**BOROUGH OF MONTVALE
BERGEN COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
RESOLUTION NO. 225-2017**

Resolution In Support Of The Widening Of The George Washington Bridge Sidewalks

WHEREAS, the George Washington Bridges sidewalks are the only connection across the Hudson River between New York City and New Jersey for pedestrians, runners and bicyclists; and
WHEREAS, the paths are heavily used, with an average of 1,700 cyclists and 900 pedestrians crossing each day; and
WHEREAS, according to Federal Highway Administration guidelines, shared-use paths should be at least ten feet wide and up to fourteen feet wide if they are heavily used; and
WHEREAS, the sidewalks are currently ten feet wide except where the bridge's suspender ropes pass through, where they are even less than seven feet wide; and
WHEREAS, the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey is planning an extensive renovation that will replace all of the bridge's suspender ropes beginning in 2017 and lasting until 2024; and
WHEREAS, as part of the project the sidewalks will be replaced and new ramps that will provide access to the sidewalks will be constructed, but the sidewalks will not be widened; and
WHEREAS, the Port Authority's own Bicycle Policy states that its goals are to integrate "improved bicycle access: and "safe bike lanes" and to "promote the safe coexistence of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians" at its facilities; and
WHEREAS, the width of the bridge's sidewalks do not meet federal standards for high pedestrian and bicycle paths; and
WHEREAS, the planned renovation project presents a unique opportunity to build sidewalks that would be able to safely and comfortably accommodate the increasing number of pedestrians and bicyclists expected to use the bridge in the decades to come.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Montvale that the Borough fully supports the widening of the George Washington Bridge Sidewalks.

Councilmember	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Arendacs			✓			
Curry		✓	✓			
Gloeggler			✓			
Koelling			✓			
Lane	✓		✓			
Weaver			✓			

Adopted: November 28, 2017

ATTEST:


Maureen Larossi-Alwan
Municipal Clerk

APPROVED:


Michael Ghassali
Mayor