

**RESOLUTION**  
**TOWNSHIP OF MAHWAH**  
**P.O. Box 733**  
**MAHWAH, NJ 07430**

**Resolution #423-17**

**Date: December 14, 2017**

Name	Motion	Second	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Ariemma	X	X	X			
Ervin	X	X	X			
May	X	X	X			
Sbarra						X
Wong	X	X	X			
Wysocki	X	X	X			
Hermansen	X	X	X			

**WHEREAS**, the George Washington Bridge’s 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**, the sidewalks are ten feet wide except where the bridge’s suspender ropes pass through, where they are less than seven feet wide; 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 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;

**WHEREAS**, New York City has made efforts in recent years to make its roadways safer and more convenient for pedestrians and bicyclists, particularly through the Vision Zero street safety initiated and the expansion of the bicycle lane network; and


**WHEREAS**, the Port Authority’s own Bicycle Policy states that its goals are to integrate “improved bicycle access” and “safe bicycle lanes,” and to “promote the safe coexistence of motor vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians” at its facilities; and

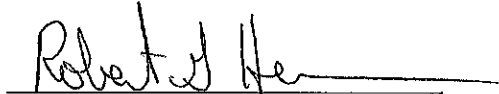
**WHEREAS**, the width of the bridge’s sidewalks do not meet federal standards for high-use pedestrian and bicycle paths; and

**WHEREAS**, the planned renovation projects 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; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah that Township Council calls upon the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to widen the George Washington Bridge's sidewalks.

I hereby certify that this resolution consisting of two page(s), was adopted at a meeting of the Township Council of the Township of Mahwah, on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 2017.

  
Kathrine G. Coviello, RMC/CMC/MMC  
Municipal Clerk

  
Robert Hermansen  
Council President