



Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA
Comptroller

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA

Office of the
County Comptroller

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James V. Maturo
Deputy Comptroller

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Deputy Comptroller

August 1, 2008

Mr. Brian Donnelly, Commissioner
Onondaga County Department of Transportation
431 Montgomery Street, 11th Floor
Syracuse, New York 13202

Dear Commissioner:

Please find enclosed a copy of the New York State Department of Transportation highway bridge data of May 1, 2008 for Onondaga County.

As the one-year anniversary of the tragedy in Minneapolis is upon us, I was hoping you would advise my office as to the status of the bridges enumerated on the report. In the past I met with your predecessor on this issue and was advised our bridges are not at the level of posing a safety concern to the residents of Onondaga County.

I would ask you review the attached report and advise my office as to why some of the bridges on this report are indicated as structurally deficient and how this relates to safety.

Further if you would like to advise as to bridges that are functionally obsolete I would appreciate it but I understand that functionally obsolete does necessarily mean it is unsafe.

Thank you for your attention in this matter and for your assistance in protecting the citizens of Onondaga County.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Antonacci II, CPA

REA/nlc
enclosure

COUNTY OF ONONDAGA



DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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JOANNE M. MAHONEY
County Executive

BRIAN J. DONNELLY
Commissioner

August 26, 2008

Mr. Robert E. Antonacci II
Onondaga County Comptroller
421 Montgomery Street
Syracuse, New York 13202

Re: Onondaga County Bridge Conditions

Dear Mr. Antonacci,

Pursuant to your August 1, 2008 correspondence concerning the above referenced matter, our engineers have reviewed the status of our bridges and responded with the attached memo.

Of particular interest:

- ✓ Of the 113 bridges that are New York State inspected, 4 are currently categorized as structurally deficient. Although this doesn't imply that they are unsafe or likely to collapse, this office has plans in place to address all of them in both the short and long term. With 3.5% structurally deficient bridges, Onondaga County fares well when compared to New York State or the nation with 12% and 14% respectively.
- ✓ Onondaga County has 10 bridges that are currently categorized as functionally obsolete. A functionally obsolete bridge generally is one that no longer meets current geometric and design standards for the highway on which it is located. Again, these bridges are not unsafe or likely to collapse. With 9% functionally obsolete bridges, Onondaga County again fares well when compared to New York State or the nation with 25% and 14% respectively.

With the support of the County Executive's office and the County Legislature, this department has been able to commit the resources needed to ensure the County's bridge assets are both safe and functional. The 2008 – 2013 Capital Improvement Plan includes almost \$14 million for bridge rehabilitation and replacement projects. Of that total, \$9 million is local money in the form of tax revenues or authorized bonding.

I am confident that the state of the County's bridges is one in which every resident and taxpayer can take pride and solace. Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian J. Donnelly".

Brian J. Donnelly

BJD:ADS:ads

cc: Jean Smiley
Anthony Destefano
Paul Hood