

Seneca Nation of Indians

President - Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.
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PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

September 16, 2019

Mr. Matthew J. Driscoll
Commissioner
New York State Thruway Authority
200 Southern Boulevard
Albany, NY 12201-2700

Commissioner Driscoll:

The Seneca Nation is in receipt of your letter, which was sent to the Nation and distributed to the news media on September 15. Given the Governor's recent remarks, the Nation was surprised to learn of the Thruway Authority's willingness and eagerness to address the progressively deteriorating condition of the portion of the New York State Thruway that crosses the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus Territory. We can all agree that repairs to this specific stretch of roadway are long overdue.

In the spirit of moving forward with the needed repairs in a cooperative manner, as has been done with other transportation projects on Nation Territory, the Nation is requesting that NYSTA:

1. Send a copy of your planned repairs, including a detailed timeline, to the Seneca Nation Transportation Department, ATTN: Sharon Ray, Acting Director, for review; and
2. Arrange a meeting with the Seneca Nation Transportation Department, as soon as practicable, to discuss the project details, timeline, coordination, permitting, etc.

The portion of the New York State Thruway located on the Seneca Nation's Cattaraugus Territory plays a critical role for thousands of motorists travelling from across New York and beyond. Additionally, significant commercial traffic crosses that portion of the

Thruway on Seneca territory which is a part of our homeland. Further unnecessary delays, such as those propagated by the State during our recent efforts to complete overdue bridge inspections on Seneca Territory, only serve to exacerbate the worsening condition of the Thruway.

If the Thruway Authority is ready to address the glaring need for repairs in an expedient and cooperative way, as you letter suggests, the Seneca Nation is ready to have that important dialogue.

We await your response and look forward to reviewing and discussing, in detail, your plans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rickey L. Armstrong, Sr., President