

CYCLING

Another way to cross Hudson coming soon

**Ethan Brook, Barbara Augenblick,
Karen Rose and Cyndi Steiner**

Special to North Jersey Record
USA TODAY NETWORK - NEW JERSEY

Great news!

Pretty soon the George Washington Bridge will not be the only way to cross the Hudson River by bicycle. In less than a year, you will be able to cycle or walk across the Hudson River on the new Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge.

At the next monthly meeting, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 14th at the Ridgewood Public Library, the Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey (BTCNJ) will host a presentation given by George Paschalis, Deputy Project Director, Outreach, New York State Thruway Authority, about the new bridge and shared-use path. Mr. Paschalis's presentation will be on the development of this transformational new facility, including videos and renderings of what is coming, and he will answer your questions. As is always the case, this meeting is open to the public.

Great care has been taken in designing the shared pedestrian/bicycle path to make it safe and attractive. Shared use paths (shared between pedestrians and bicyclists) encourage more people to walk and bike. These paths provide safe, off-road connections that can be used for recreation and commuting.

While most seasoned cyclists do ride on the on the road with automobile traffic, most of the public will not ride with traffic due to safety concerns. A shared-use path, such as the new one on the Governor Mario M. Cuomo Bridge opens up bike riding to a whole contingent of people who would otherwise be afraid



A look at the Mario M. Cuomo Bridge. PHOTO COURTESY OF ETHAN BROOK

to ride.

The 3.1-mile crossing on the shared-use path opens up entirely new and beautiful routes, parks and neighborhoods on both sides of the Hudson to cyclists in the metropolitan area. It will bring new and seasoned bicycle riders and pedestrians from Nyack across the bridge to Tarrytown and from Tarrytown across to Nyack.

Riders and pedestrians will discover new eateries and shops on both sides. It

will also enable cyclists to commute from Rockland to Westchester County, as well as from Westchester County to Rockland.

Hear directly from George Paschalis how the path came to be, what it will look like, when it will open, how you can access it, and the many places on the east side of the Hudson you will now be able to reach by bicycle.

Come to the BTCNJ monthly meeting, Thursday, March 14th at 7:00 p.m.

at the Ridgewood Public Library at 125 North Maple Avenue, Ridgewood, NJ. Light refreshments will be served.

Cycling is provided by Ethan Brook, Barbara Augenblick, Karen Rose and Cyndi Steiner, members of The Bicycle Touring Club of North Jersey. BTCNJ meets at the Ridgewood Library on the 2nd Thursday of the month. For more information on group riding, touring, membership and other upcoming club events, visit btcnj.com.