Pattern joins Cuomo to applaud step toward new Tappan Zee Bridge

PIERMONT — Hudson Valley Pattern for Progress joined Gov. Andrew Cuomo, transportation advocates and other leaders from the region Aug. 20 to celebrate two key steps toward building a new Tappan Zee Bridge.

The reception in Piermont followed a unanimous vote by the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council to support Cuomo’s plan to build a new Tappan Zee Bridge. That vote allowed Cuomo and other leaders to sign a letter asking the U.S. Department of Transportation for federal funding to build the new bridge, which is expected to cost more than $5 billion and create some 45,000 new jobs in the Hudson Valley.

Earlier this year, Pattern for Progress joined a coalition of transportation advocates known as “Build the Bridge Now” to advocate for a new Tappan Zee Bridge that would serve as a vital artery between the Hudson Valley and New York City for the next 100 years.

During a March press conference in Tarrytown, Pattern CEO Jonathan Drapkin noted that state lawmakers had talked about building a new bridge for at least 14 years, and that current lawmakers had to seize on the momentum to get the project done now. Pattern also advocated for the bridge to be “shovel-ready” for mass transit. (Officials have said it will have a dedicated bus lane once it is built.)

At the August reception, Drapkin personally thanked Cuomo for his leadership on the Tappan Zee Bridge and other issues important to the region.

Welcome to new Pattern members

Pattern for Progress is welcoming two new members. For more than 30 years, DRA Imaging has been one of the largest providers of diagnostic imaging in the Hudson Valley. The New York State Association of Counties is a nonprofit group that educates and advocates on behalf of county governments in New York.

Still time left to join Pattern Fellows Program

Pattern for Progress continues to recruit leaders for its Pattern Fellows Program—but time and space are running out. The innovative leadership program, now in its sixth year, challenges leaders from across the Hudson Valley to think about regional solutions to their work. Participants are also asked to complete a research project during their time in the Fellows Program. For more information or to apply for the program click here or call VP of Development Sylvia Murphy at (845) 565-4900.

Notes on Progress

- Pattern board member James Smith was recently featured in a Times Herald-Record story for his company’s work with students from Newburgh Free Academy. Advance Testing created a mentorship program for students who were selected by their teachers. Along with science and engineering experience, each student received a $500 scholarship.
- Pattern staff continues its work on a food system study in conjunction with The New World Foundation. Recently, Pattern staff finished more than 100 interviews with stakeholders across the region.