

Hochul announces start of \$54.4M steel repair & seismic retrofit project on south Grand Island bridges

Project includes seismic retrofits and structural steel repairs to protect against seismic events

✓ *Thruway Authority received \$39 million federal grant to support project scheduled to be completed in late 2028*

Submitted by the Office of Gov. Kathy Hochul

Gov. Kathy Hochul announced the start of a \$54.4 million structural steel repair and seismic retrofit project on the south Grand Island bridges. More than 70% of the funding for the infrastructure project comes from a federal grant awarded to the Thruway Authority.

“Keeping New Yorkers safe means making smart investments in the infrastructure that

connects our communities and drives our economy,” Hochul said. “The south Grand Island bridges are critical for residents, commuters and commercial traffic across Western New York, and these steel repairs and seismic improvements will help ensure they remain safe and dependable for years to come.”

New York State Thruway Authority Executive Director Frank G. Hoare said, “The south Grand Island bridges are a vital transportation link for Western New York, carrying thousands of motorists and commercial vehicles every

day. This project reflects another important investment in preserving the safety, reliability and long-term resilience of these iconic bridges.”

The project includes seismic retrofits and steel repairs to both bridges to strengthen key structural elements and improve their ability to withstand seismic events. Additionally, the deck surfaces of the bridges will be treated to improve roadway surface friction for enhanced vehicular safety, particularly in wet conditions. The sidewalk on the southbound bridge will be replaced and reopened. Crews will also make repairs for catwalk access and fall protection improvements for maintenance personnel.

Traffic impacts throughout the duration of this project are expected to be minimal.

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer said,

“The south Grand Island bridges are lifelines for Niagara Falls and the Tonawandas, connecting communities to the mainland and carrying thousands of cars every day. I was proud to deliver \$39 million in federal funding from my Bipartisan Infrastructure & Jobs Law to strengthen these vital structures to withstand any seismic event. Age and deterioration have taken a toll on many sections of the bridge, and this federal funding will bolster infrastructure resilience while creating good-paying construction jobs. I’m grateful that Gov. Hochul is putting these federal dollars to good use and will always fight to pave the way for a safer future for Western New York.”

The project is scheduled to be completed in late 2028.

In 2024, the Thruway Authority received a \$39 million federal grant to help fund these infrastructure

investments. The funding is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation’s promoting resilient operations for transformative, efficient and cost-saving transportation (PROTECT) program, which is funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Law.

The south Grand Island bridges are located between Grand Island and the Town of Tonawanda and are twin-truss arch-bridge spans, each carrying one direction of I-190 over the Niagara River. Construction on the southbound bridge was completed in 1935 and the northbound bridge in 1963. More than 68,000 vehicles cross the bridges daily.

The Thruway Authority’s approved 2026 budget invests a total of more than \$600 million in capital contracts scheduled to be awarded in 2026, an increase of more than \$133.5 million from the 2025 budget projected totals, and one of the largest single-year investments in thruway history. The 2026 budget includes a historic \$2.8 billion capital plan for 2026-30. The five-year plan will fund the replacement or preservation of 150 of the thruway’s 819 bridges – about 18% – and the resurfacing of more than 1,500 of its 2,800 lane miles of highway, or roughly 60%.

Built in the early 1950s, the Governor Thomas E. Dewey Thruway is one of the oldest components of the National Interstate Highway System and one of the longest toll roads in the nation. It sets the standard for modern highway geometric design with safe roadway characteristics including smooth curves, wide medians and unobstructed driver sight distance.

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Grand Island CHURCH DIRECTORY

ST. TIMOTHY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Evangelical Lutheran Church In America
1453 Staley Road, Grand Island
Church Office 716-773-4400
Pastor Adam Arends
Child Care Center 716-773-9249
www.StTimothygrandisland.com

Vacation Bible School, July 20-24, 6-7:30 PM.
For more information, visit our website.

All are welcome to join us for our Services:
Outdoor Worship 8 AM, June 28-September 6.
9:30 AM indoor every Sunday

CROSSRIVER TABERNACLE

2920 Grand Island Blvd.
Pastor: Michael Chorey
CrossRiverMinistries.org • 716-229-8000
Facebook Services: [CrossRiverTabernacle](https://www.facebook.com/CrossRiverTabernacle)

Sunday Morning Worship Service..... 10:00am
(Nursery and Children's Church Provided)

Sunday Evening Service 6:30pm

Saturday "The Last Trump" WDCX 99.5.... 8:30-9:30pm

Saturday "Cross Eyed Radio" WDCX 99.5.... 9:30-10:30pm

Sunday Evening Service at the
Grand Island Town Hall Gazebo
August 2 and September 6
6:30-7:30pm - All are Welcome
Bring a lawn chair

BIBLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1650 Love Road, Grand Island
(Just off Beaver Island Pkwy.)
716-773-7303
Pastor: Rev. Kevin M. Backus, Ph. D.
Assistant Pastor:
Rev. David Joonkyung Chi, M.Div.
www.biblepres.org

Sunday School-Classes for all ages 9:30am

Worship Service 10:45am
(Nursery, Children's Church)

Evening Worship Service..... 6:00pm

Wednesday
AWANA - 3 yrs old thru Gr 8 during school year.....
..... 6:30pm-8:15pm

24/7 program for Sr. High youth.... 6:30pm-8:15pm

Bible Study & Prayer Meeting 7:00pm

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road, Grand Island
716-773-3748
Rev. Calvin VanderMey
www.bfcgi.org

Regular Service at Bible Fellowship..... 8:30 & 10:15am

Men's Bible Study - Wednesdays..... 10:00am

Prayer and Bible Study - Wednesdays 6:30pm

Precept Bible Study - Thursdays..... 8:15am

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Pastor: Kevin Slough

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