

Roadwork includes 3 LI bridges

BY JANELLE GRIFFITH
janelle.griffith@newsday.com

Work is underway on three Long Island transportation projects totaling \$22.6 million in repairs and technology improvements, the state Department of Transportation announced Monday.

The projects include \$9.5 million in repairs to three bridges in Nassau and Suffolk, \$74 million to replace the bridge deck on North Ocean Avenue in Suffolk, County Route 83 over the Long Island Expressway in Brookhaven and \$5.7 million to install 50 new traffic cameras on state highways in both counties.

The projects are part of Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo's "Drivers First" initiative, which has been designed to minimize motorist inconvenience.

Some of the work, such as bridge repairs, involve routine maintenance and is being done throughout the state, Transportation Department spokesman Stephen Canzoneri said.

Updates to the bridges — on State Route 107 over Sea Cliff Avenue in Glen Cove, State Route 110 over State Route 109 in Babylon and Northern State Parkway over Round Swamp Road in Huntington — will include concrete and steel repairs, joint removal or replacement and new pavement. Work that will most affect travel lanes will be scheduled during off-peak day and night hours. The work is expected to be completed in summer 2019.

The heavily trafficked North Avenue bridge has been expanded twice in 20 years to accommodate the more than 43,000 vehicles daily, Canzoneri said.

"We've planned the construction at different stages to make sure that at least 5 of the 7 lanes will remain open at all times," he said.

The cameras are part of an expansion of the free travel information service, 511NY, which provides real-time updates. It will relay more information to commuters on variable message signs throughout the area and on 511NY.org.

NY SCHOOLS TOP U.S. IN SPENDING PER STUDENT

And 80 percent of LI districts lead in costs statewide

BY ELLEN YAN
ellen.yan@newsday.com

New York's public schools spent more per student than any other state in fiscal year 2016, but 80 percent of Long Island's districts topped even that, the U.S. Census Bureau said on Monday.

The K-12 average in New York was \$22,366, a 5.5 percent increase from 2015 — the fifth largest percentage increase among the states, according to the Annual Survey of School System Finances. The national average was \$11,762, a 3.2 percent increase, the census said.

While it was no surprise that New York retained its usual top spot, the beefier numbers across the nation stem from the

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biggest boost in revenues since 2007, officials said.

In 2016, education revenue from federal grants, child nutrition programs, local government and all other sources amounted to \$670.9 billion, up 4.6 percent from the prior year, census officials said.

Long Island consistently surpasses the state average in spending per pupil — 100 out of 124 districts did so in the 2016-17 school year, according to the data.

Fire Island, with only 38 students, topped the local chart at \$116,974 per, but that was a 9.5 percent drop from \$129,306 the year before, when it had

36 pupils, the report said.

Franklin Square, which had 2,014 students in fiscal year 2016, was the lowest at \$16,973, a 2.7 percent increase from \$16,532 the previous year, when it had 2,047 enrolled, the report said.

The superintendents for the Fire Island and Franklin Square districts could not be immediately reached on Monday night.

Superintendents have cited the higher cost of living here and the push for quality education, one of the main factors in where parents choose to live. But critics have said the tax burden is too great, and more dollars do not equate to a better education.

Roughly half the per-pupil spending in the Island's districts was instructional dollars, according to the Census Bureau. For example, tiny Fire Island's instructional spending per student was \$43,605, while Franklin Square allocated \$16,973 per.

Newsday staffer wins sports photo honor



Houston Astros' Jose Altuve celebrates as he slides home in this award-winning photo by Newsday staffer Thomas A. Ferrara.

Newsday photographer Thomas A. Ferrara won first place in the "Sports Photo" category at the 2018 Deadline Club Awards on Monday night in Manhattan.

Ferrara took home the top prize at the ceremony and dinner, held at the Harvard Club of New York City in Midtown.

The winning photo, "Altuve the MVP," shows a triumphant Houston Astros second baseman Jose Altuve sliding into home for the winning run against the Yankees in the 2017 playoffs.

Other photos nominated in the category were entries by the New York Post and ESPN the Magazine. Ferrara won first place for the same photo in the National Headliner Awards, which were announced in April.

Other Newsday staff members nominated for Deadline Club Awards were copy editor Nirmal Mitra in the "Headline Writing" category, reporter Matt Clark for the "Daniel Pearl Prize for Investigative Reporting," and the newspaper's staff for "Digital Innovation." — NEWSDAY STAFF

Newsday

Long Island Office
235 Pinelawn Rd., Melville, NY
11747-4250

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CORRECTIONS

Former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page has not been indicted. A story Monday misstated Page's status in special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation of President Donald Trump's presidential campaign.

The Yankees were not the first team to 30 wins this season. They have the best record in baseball, but the Red Sox reached 30 wins first. A headline Monday was incorrect.

THIS DATE IN HISTORY

1868 Members of the Reno gang made off with \$96,000 in loot in a train robbery near Marshfield, Indiana.

1939 The foreign ministers of Germany and Italy, Joachim von Ribbentrop and Galeazzo Ciano, signed a pact calling for military alliance.

1960 A magnitude 9.5 earthquake, the strongest ever measured, struck southern Chile, claiming 1,655 lives.

1972 President Richard Nixon, in the Soviet Union, signed with Kremlin leaders the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty.

1992 After nearly 30 years, Johnny Carson hosted NBC's "Tonight Show" for the final time. (Jay Leno took over three days later).

1998 Voters in Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland approved a Northern Ireland peace accord.

2017 A suicide bomber's improvised explosive device killed 22 people at the end of an Ariana Grande concert in Manchester, England.