

Transportation

Commuting in Westchester County

Westchester County's location and extensive transportation network offer residents and workers various options for transportation throughout the county and region.

Westchester County residents have the highest rate of public transportation usage for commutation to work among all suburban counties in the New York metropolitan area, with over 20 percent of resident workers using railroad, subway or bus to travel to work. Metro-North Railroad riders are a large portion of the public transportation users, with over 55,000 Westchester County residents (over 64 percent of those using public transportation) reporting travel via railroad as their primary mode of commutation to work.

The proportion of commuters in Westchester County using a private automobile was over 71 percent in 2000, but that number is estimated to have decreased to less than 69 percent by 2007, and the number of commuters who drove to work alone is estimated to have decreased by almost 8,000. Meanwhile, the number of Westchester County residents who walk to work was over 17,000 in 2000 and is estimated to have increased to over 23,000 in 2007, comprising over 5.2 percent of the county's commuting population.

Public Transit Use for Commutation to Work, 2000 New York Metropolitan Area Counties

County	Percent of workers using public transit
New York County, NY	59.6%
Kings County, NY	57.4
Bronx County, NY	53.7
Queens County, NY	47.4
Hudson County, NJ	33.6
Richmond County, NY	28.4
Westchester County, NY	20.4
Essex County, NJ	18.6
Nassau County, NY	15.7
Bergen County, NJ	11.0
Union County, NJ	10.6
Rockland County, NY	8.2
Passaic County, NJ	8.1
Putnam County, NY	7.2
Suffolk County, NY	6.8
Orange County, NY	4.7
Dutchess County, NY	4.2

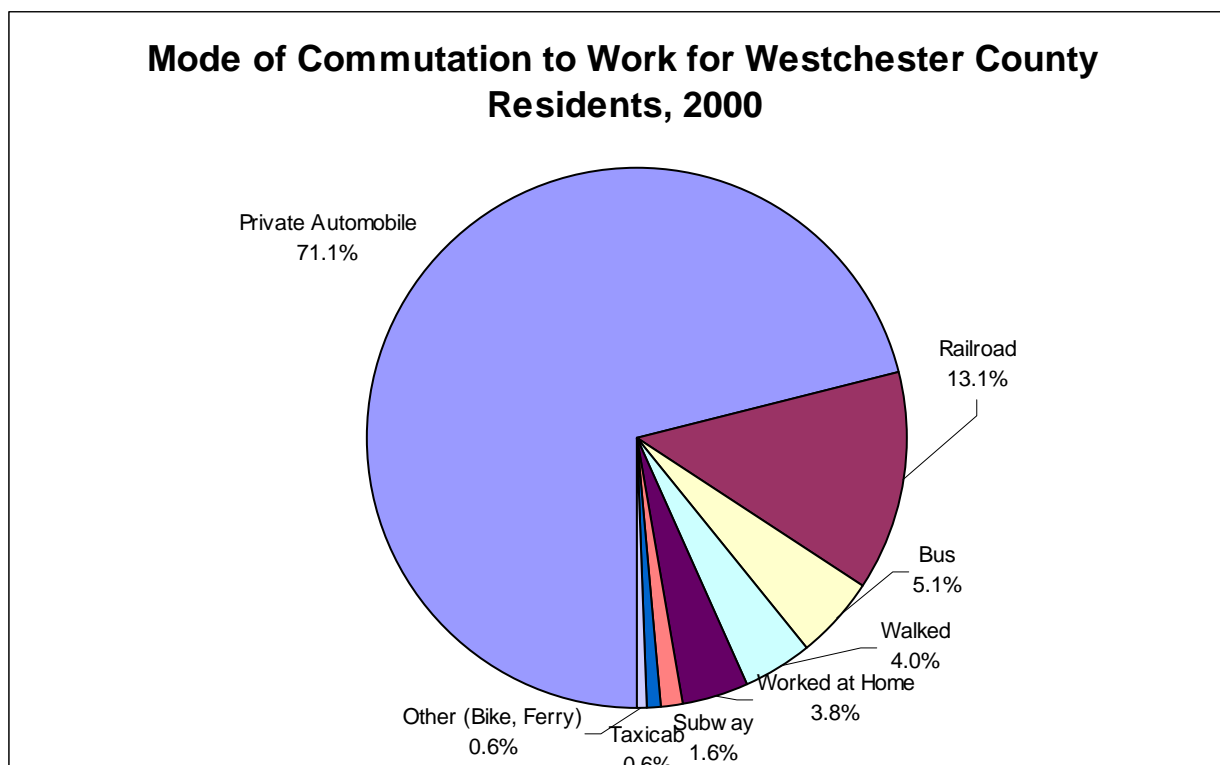
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.

Note: Transit use equals the percent of total resident workers over age 16 using public transportation to travel to work.

Mode of Commutation to Work, 2000 Westchester County, NY

		Number	Percent
Workers 16 years and over: Total		425,052	100.0%
Means of transportation to work	Car; truck; or van	302,126	71.1
	Drove alone	261,742	61.6
	Carpooled	40,384	9.5
	Public transportation	86,735	20.4
	Bus or trolley bus	21,481	5.1
	Streetcar or trolley car	225	0.1
	Subway or elevated	6,650	1.6
	Railroad	55,587	13.1
	Ferryboat	31	0.0
	Taxicab	2,761	0.6
	Motorcycle	158	0.0
	Bicycle	472	0.1
	Walked	17,180	4.0
	Other means	2,076	0.5
	Workers 16 years and over: Worked at home		16,305

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.



Transportation System

Westchester’s location in the New York metropolitan region is one of its most important assets. The county is easily accessible to and from New York City as well as Connecticut, New Jersey, the Lower Hudson Valley and points north such as Albany. The county’s well-developed transportation system includes an extensive road network, access to national and commuter rail, countywide bus service, an airport serving destinations nationwide, regional ferry service and a pedestrian and bicycle network.

Amtrak Boardings and Alightings, FY 2003-2008 Westchester County, NY Stations

	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008	Change (FY 2003- FY 2008)
Croton-Harmon	41,859	39,160	35,920	38,419	39,018	39,893	-4.9%
New Rochelle	64,032	67,772	70,316	75,439	79,100	87,463	26.8%
Yonkers	15,001	15,828	15,944	16,442	17,096	18,720	19.9%

Source: National Railroad Passenger Corp. (Amtrak), State Fact Sheets. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.

Roads

Westchester County has more than 3,200 miles of public roadways. County-maintained roads total 154 miles and New York State roads make up approximately 760 miles of the County road network, with the balance being locally-maintained. These roads provide easy access to neighboring counties, New York City and the entire region.

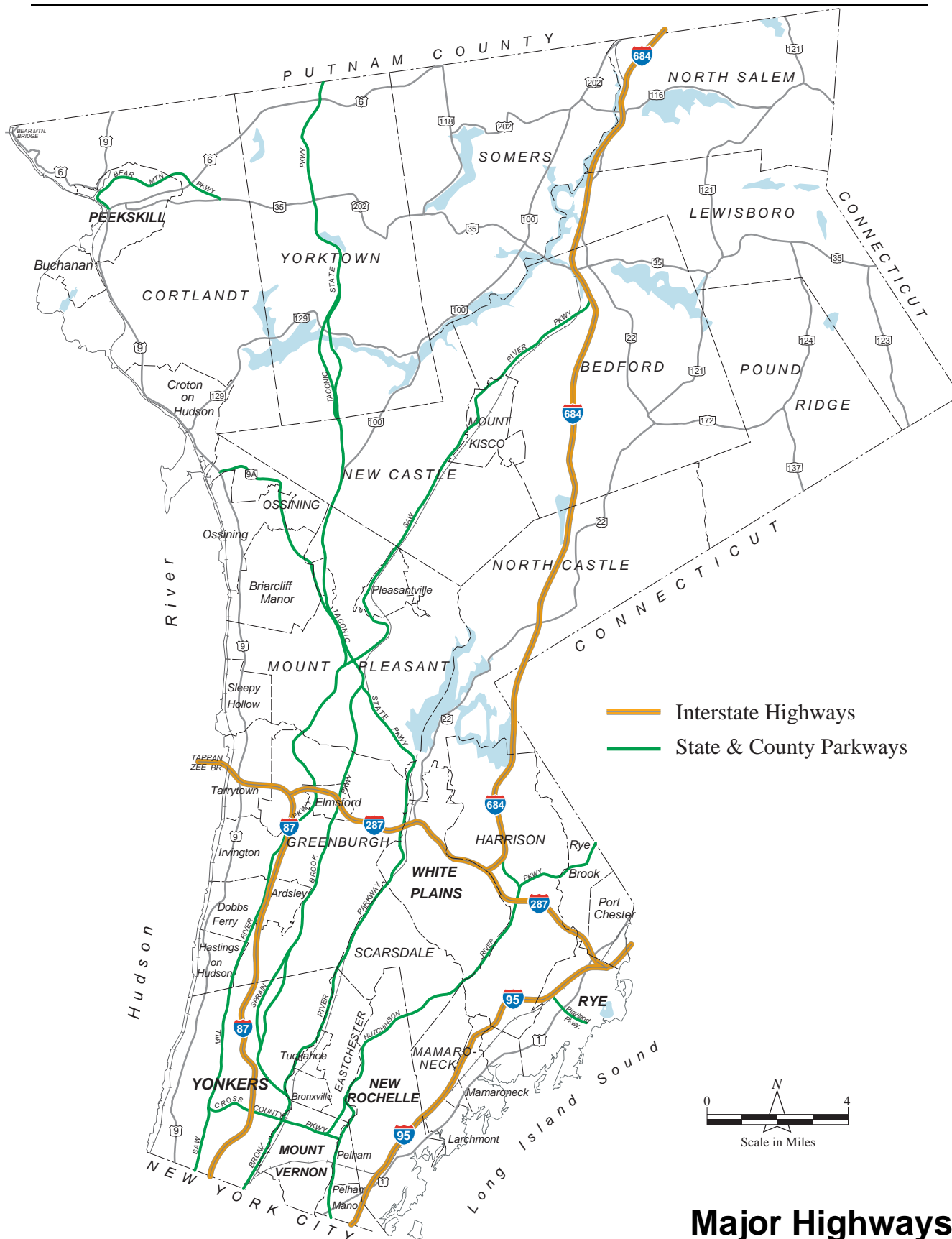
The east coast’s major Interstate highway, I-95 (known as the New England Thruway in New York State), runs through southern Westchester parallel to the Long Island Sound and gives residents and commuters access to New York City and New England. Interstate 87, the New York State Thruway, runs north-south on the west side of the county and links Westchester with New York City and upstate New York and Canada. The Cross Westchester Expressway, I-287, runs east-west across the center of the county, connecting I-87, the Tappan Zee Bridge and the New England Thruway. Many corporate headquarters and office parks have developed along the I-287 corridor, thus earning it the nickname of Westchester’s “Platinum Mile.” I-287 also passes through the City of White Plains, the county seat. I-684 runs north from White Plains into Putnam County through the central and northern suburbs and provides a connection to I-84. A network of six scenic parkways facilitates travel within Westchester County as well as beyond. These roads are the Bronx River Parkway, the Hutchinson River Parkway, the Cross County Parkway, the Saw Mill River Parkway, the Taconic State Parkway and the Sprain Brook Parkway.

Rail

Interstate Rail

Amtrak, the National Railroad Passenger Corporation, connects three stations in Westchester County with points throughout the national rail system. The New Rochelle station is located

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Major Highways

along Amtrak's Northeast Corridor, with regional train service to Boston, Springfield, New York and Washington. The Croton-Harmon and Yonkers stations are served daily by five Amtrak lines: the Lakeshore Limited (New York to Chicago), the Adirondack (New York to Montreal), the Ethan Allen Express (Washington to Rutland, Vermont), the Maple Leaf (New York to Toronto) and Empire Service, which provides regional train service between New York and Buffalo. Connecting rail service is available to many other points throughout the U.S. and Canada.

Boarding and alighting data from Amtrak shows increasing use of Westchester County Amtrak stations between 2003 and 2007, with an overall increase of 11.8 percent in boardings and alightings in the county. The largest increase took place at New Rochelle, which experienced a 23.5 percent increase in passenger traffic between 2003 and 2007.

Commuter Rail

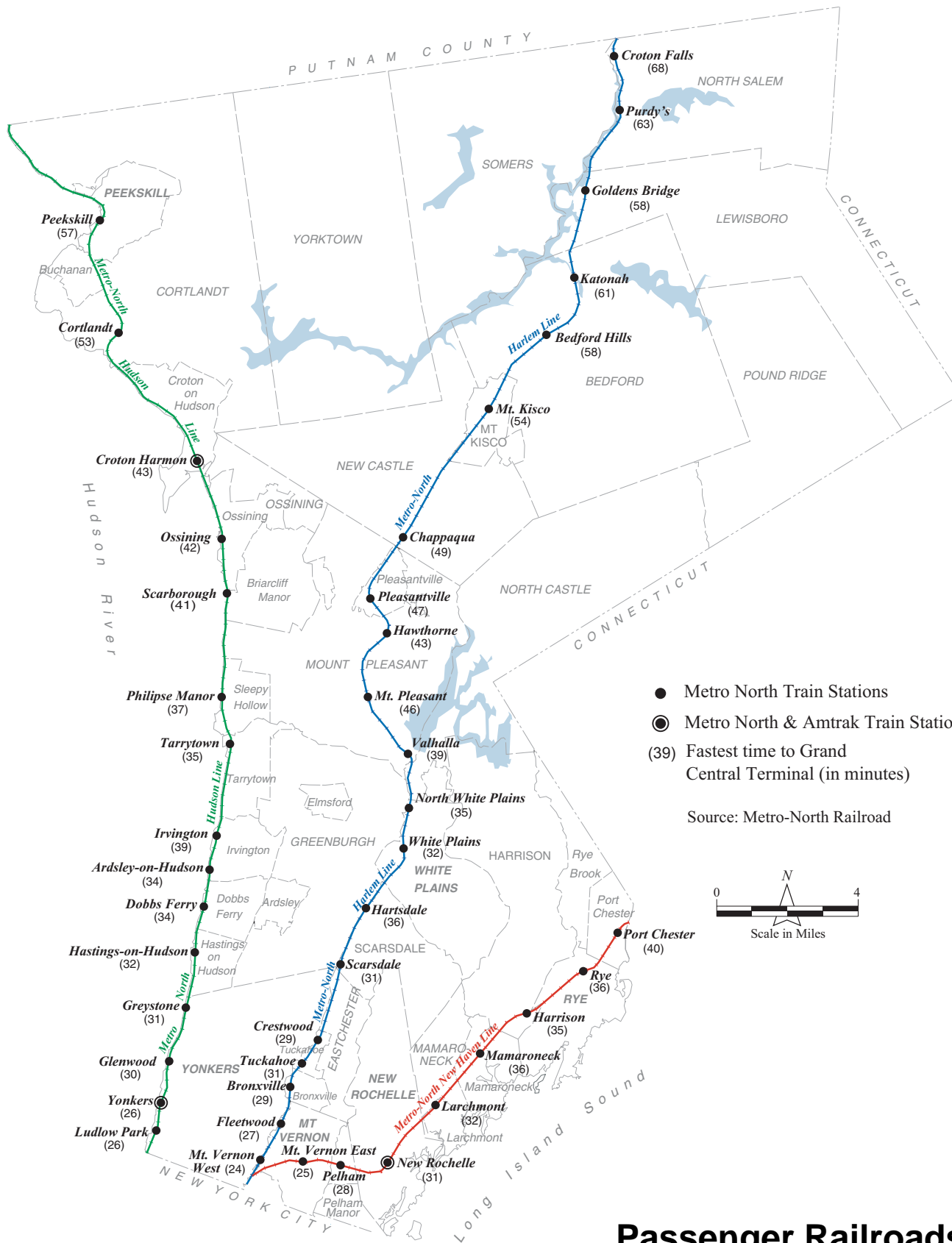
The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Metro-North Railroad ("Metro-North") provides commuter rail service to 44 stations and three-quarters of all communities in Westchester County. Three branches, the Hudson, Harlem and New Haven Lines, connect Westchester communities to New York City's Grand Central Terminal. The Hudson Line serves the portion of Westchester County along the Hudson River, the Harlem Line serves the central part of the county and the New Haven Line serves the areas along Long Island Sound.

Between 2003 and 2007, ridership on the entire Metro-North system grew almost 10 percent, to 80.2 million riders per year. On average in 2007, 77,840 passengers per weekday and 50,850 passengers per weekend rode Metro-North trains from Westchester stations to New York City. Westchester County has the highest inbound ridership figures among all counties served by the Metro-North system.

Westchester County's busiest stations are generally located in places of concentrated housing and employment. White Plains is the county's busiest station, with almost 19,000 recorded daily boardings and alightings in 2005. The county's other busy stations with the greatest number of weekday passengers are Croton-Harmon, New Rochelle and Larchmont.

For information, maps, schedules and fares, visit the Metro-North Railroad's website at <http://www.mta.info/mnr/index.html>.

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Passenger Railroads

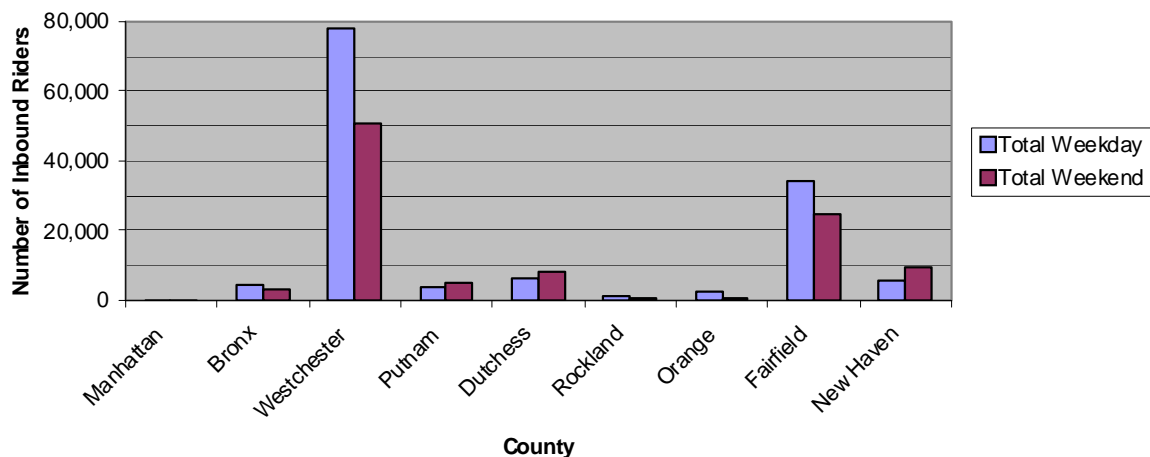
Metro North Ridership by County, 2007

County	Total Weekday	Total Weekend
Manhattan	124	98
Bronx	4,604	2,810
Westchester	77,840	50,850
Putnam	3,867	4,705
Dutchess	6,129	7,917
Rockland	889	263
Orange	2,485	872
Total New York State	95,938	67,515
Fairfield	34,294	24,842
New Haven	5,798	9,574
Total Connecticut	40,092	34,416
Metro North Total	136,030	101,931

Source: Metro North Railroad. Prepared by the Westchester County Department of Planning.

Note: Daily ridership for inbound trains toward New York Grand Central Terminal, calculated by factoring on/off counts to reflect 2007 ridership based on ticket sales data. Totals include transfers.

Metro North Ridership by County, 2007



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**Metro North Railroad Ridership by Station
Westchester County, NY**

	Station	Weekday Inbound		Weekday Outbound		Total Boardings/ Alightings
		On	Off	On	Off	
Hudson Line (Last Count Spring 2007)	Ludlow	256	46	51	247	600
	Yonkers	1151	486	503	1232	3,372
	Glenwood	338	35	28	269	670
	Greystone	479	21	28	421	949
	Hastings	1094	61	54	1105	2,314
	Dobbs Ferry	1058	44	47	1088	2,237
	Ardsley	301	23	19	315	658
	Irvington	986	25	34	826	1,871
	Tarrytown	2709	200	192	2864	5,965
	Philipse Manor	342	7	6	299	654
	Scarborough	839	6	14	839	1,698
	Ossining	1521	49	59	1429	3,058
	Croton-Harmon	3606	477	471	3576	8,130
	Cortlandt	883	24	59	895	1,861
Peekskill	1417	89	92	1337	2,935	
Harlem Line (Last Count Spring 2007)	Mount Vernon West	1111	557	701	1198	3,567
	Fleetwood	2196	287	307	2119	4,909
	Bronxville	2931	155	190	3076	6,352
	Tuckahoe	1358	91	135	1343	2,927
	Crestwood	1778	135	96	1680	3,689
	Scarsdale	4077	94	119	4067	8,357
	Hartsdale	2804	60	45	2599	5,508
	White Plains	9233	1097	1263	9903	21,496
	North White Plains	2353	207	119	2058	4,737
	Valhalla	394	23	24	344	785
	Mount Pleasant	1	0	0	2	3
	Hawthorne	750	41	58	884	1,733
	Pleasantville	1091	84	107	1054	2,336
	Chappaqua	1966	69	53	1719	3,807
	Mount Kisco	1335	197	199	1361	3,092
	Bedford Hills	764	51	53	667	1,535
	Katonah	1204	32	41	1094	2,371
	Golden's Bridge	1200	24	50	1170	2,444
	Purdy's	526	11	13	497	1,047
	Croton Falls	639	30	19	557	1,245
New Haven Line (Last Count Spring 2007)	Mount Vernon East	1784	931	1001	1603	5,319
	Pelham	2445	170	184	2237	5,036
	New Rochelle	4040	722	814	4094	9,670
	Larchmont	3488	117	173	3415	7,193
	Mamaroneck	2152	191	209	2285	4,837
	Harrison	2388	236	311	2313	5,248
	Rye	2230	146	220	2301	4,897
	Port Chester	2439	389	402	2398	5,628

Source: Metro North Railroad.

Note: Data are for most recent counts on each line. Counts represent single-day ridership. "Inbound" trains have a final destination of New York Grand Central Terminal, "outbound" trains have an origin of New York Grand Central Terminal.

Metro North Railroad Peak AM Commute Times to New York Grand Central Station from Westchester County Stations

Station	Line	Shortest Time to GCT (min.)
Ludlow	Hudson	27
Yonkers	Hudson	25
Glenwood	Hudson	31
Greystone	Hudson	32
Hastings-on-Hudson	Hudson	30
Dobbs Ferry	Hudson	33
Ardsley-on-Hudson	Hudson	35
Irvington	Hudson	37
Tarrytown	Hudson	37
Phillipse Manor	Hudson	38
Scarborough	Hudson	42
Ossining	Hudson	43
Croton-Harmon	Hudson	42
Cortlandt	Hudson	51
Peekskill	Hudson	56
Mt. Vernon West	Harlem	25
Fleetwood	Harlem	28
Bronxville	Harlem	31
Tuckahoe	Harlem	33
Crestwood	Harlem	29
Scarsdale	Harlem	29
Hartsdale	Harlem	36
White Plains	Harlem	31
N. White Plains	Harlem	34
Valhalla	Harlem	38
Mt. Pleasant	Harlem	N/A
Hawthorne	Harlem	42
Pleasantville	Harlem	46
Chappaqua	Harlem	46
Mt. Kisco	Harlem	52
Bedford Hills	Harlem	56
Katonah	Harlem	60
Goldens Bridge	Harlem	60
Purdy's	Harlem	65
Croton Falls	Harlem	69
Mt. Vernon East	New Haven	25
Pelham	New Haven	29
New Rochelle	New Haven	32
Larchmont	New Haven	31
Mamaroneck	New Haven	34
Harrison	New Haven	36
Rye	New Haven	37
Port Chester	New Haven	41

Source: Metro North Railroad

*Transportation***Bus****Bee-Line Bus System**

The Westchester County Department of Transportation's Bee-Line Bus System provides an extensive network of local, express and railroad feeder bus services to customers throughout Westchester County. It is one of the 40 largest bus systems in North America.

Bee-Line system-wide ridership reached a new record of over 30.8 million in 2007, a 6.8 percent increase from 2006. Passengers on the Bee-Line's Paratransit, a shared-ride curb-to-curb transportation service for qualified applicants, nearly doubled from 1990 to 2006, when over 196,000 passengers were recorded on the system. Annual passenger-miles for the Bee-Line bus system totaled over 144.5 million in 2006.

The Bee-Line operates between Westchester County and Manhattan, the Bronx and Putnam County with 89 routes in the system. In addition to providing local service throughout the county, the Bee-Line has express routes for commuters to White Plains, an express service to Manhattan and an Airlink service between White Plains and the Westchester County Airport. Additionally, many of Bee-Line's routes are designed to provide connecting service to Metro-North trains, NYC Transit bus and subway lines and other transit. For corporate employees, the Bee-Line system provides door-to-door shuttle service in cooperation with corporate sites, with ridership approaching 365,000 per year on the shuttles. The system utilizes MetroCard for fare payment, integrating seamlessly with NYC Transit services..

Bee-Line utilizes a variety of vehicles to provide service, including 30 and 40 ft. transit buses, commuter coaches, shuttle vans and 60 ft. articulated buses. In 2008, the Bee-Line system had a total of 360 buses and 60 vans in service.

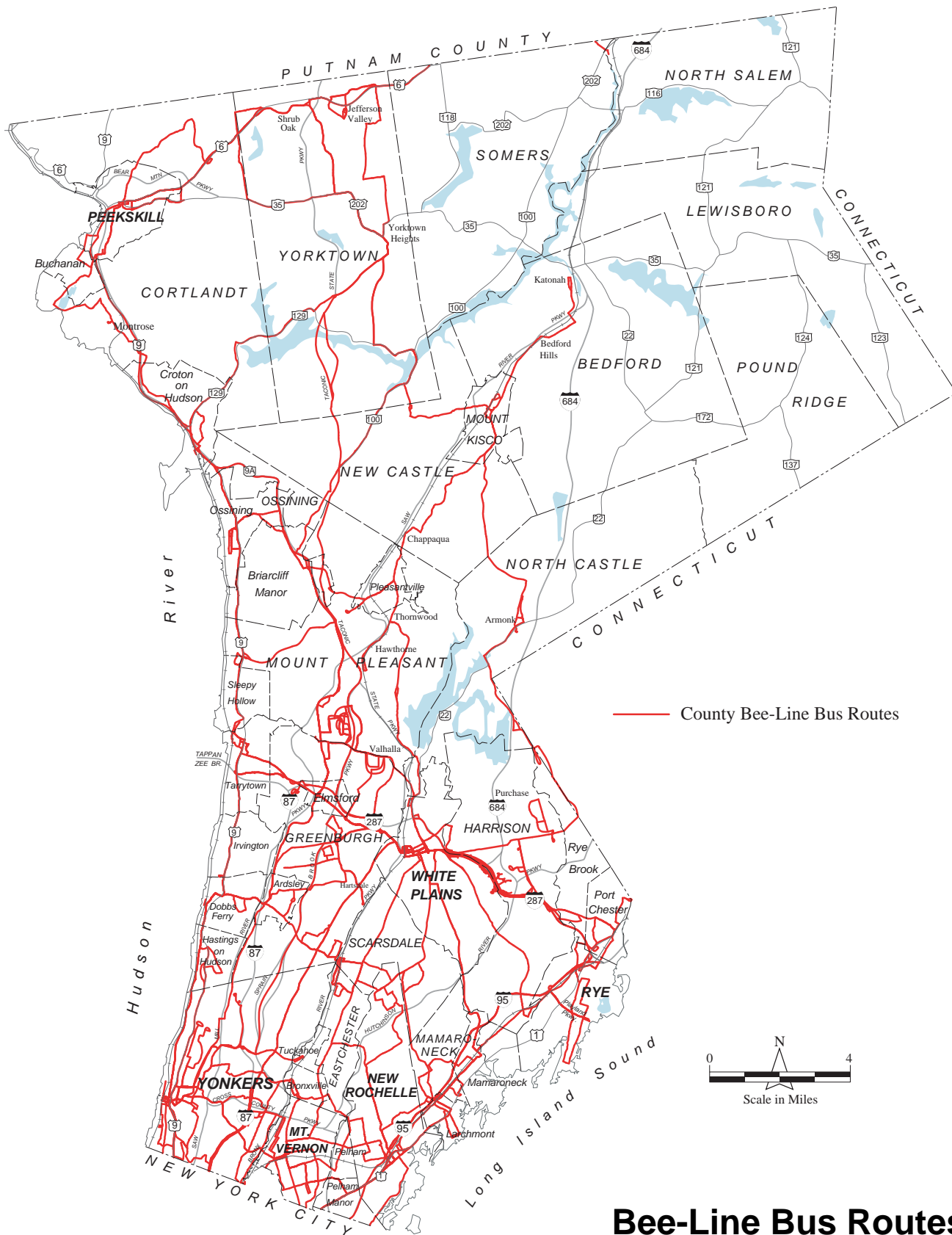
Most Westchester Bee-Line buses are wheelchair lift-equipped with the exception of routes 10 Commuter, 11 Express, 17 Express and BxM4C Express.

For more information, including bus routes and fares, call Bee-Line Bus at (914) 813-7777 or visit the Bee-Line Bus website at <http://beelinebus.westchestergov.com>.

Other Bus Services

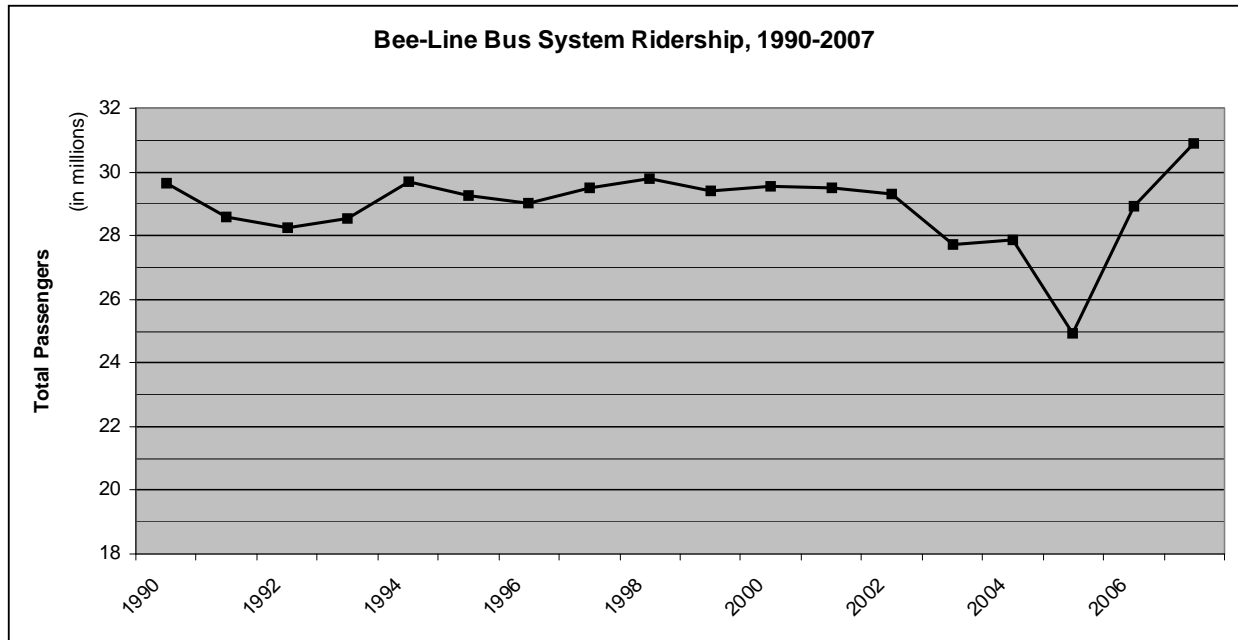
In addition to the Bee-Line system, other bus services are available between Westchester County and surrounding areas:

- Transportation of Rockland (Tappan Zee Express from Suffern to White Plains): <http://www.co.rockland.ny.us/PublicTrans/index.htm>.
- I-Bus Transit (Stamford, Connecticut to White Plains and Port Chester): <http://ibusexpress.com/>.
- The Leprechaun Connection (TLC) (Poughkeepsie to White Plains): http://www.leprechaunlines.com/commuter_white_plains.asp.
- Orange-Westchester Line (OWL) (Orange County to White Plains): <http://www.coachusa.com/shortline/ss.commuter.asp>.
- Putnam Area Rapid Transit (PART) (Putnam County destinations to northern Westchester County): <http://www.putnamcountyny.com/PART/general.htm>.
- Greyhound and Trailways provide intercity bus service from numerous destinations in Westchester County: <http://www.greyhound.com/home/> and <http://www.trailwaysny.com/>.



Bee-Line Bus Routes

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Source: Westchester County Department of Transportation.

Air Travel

The Westchester County Airport is located five miles northeast of downtown White Plains. This central location serves as the gateway to Westchester and puts it in close proximity to one of the largest concentrations of company headquarters in the U.S. Many of the county’s corporate executives cite the airport’s accessibility and its ability to accommodate both corporate and commercial aircraft as prime benefits to their business. Additionally, New York-Kennedy, New York-LaGuardia, Newark-Liberty, Hartford-Bradley and Newburgh-Stewart Airports are within 100 miles of most points in Westchester County and readily accessible by private automobile or public transit.

The airport handles all types of aircraft ranging from single engine aircraft to large corporate jets and commercial airliners. The Westchester County Airport serves more corporate fleets than any airport in the world with 550 corporate flights each day. Commercial airlines provide 85 to 90 flights per day with direct service to major cities including Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Pittsburgh and Washington. The Westchester County Airport handled over 176,500 flight operations in 2007, of which 49 percent were corporate, 24 percent were commercial and 27 percent were general aviation. Over 1,650,000 persons passed through the terminal in 2007, an increase of over 500,000 from 2006. The Westchester County Airport is an important economic asset to the county and region.

For more information on the Westchester County Airport and up-to-date flight information, including a list airlines operating from the Airport and their destinations, visit the airport’s website at <http://www.westchestergov.com/airport/>.

Total Passenger Enplanements, 2000-2007

Westchester County Airport

Passenger

Year	Enplanements	Change (%)
2007	822,750	60.8%
2006	511,559	10.7%
2005	462,256	-0.2%
2004	462,981	8.5%
2003	426,864	-7.5%
2002	461,448	1.1%
2001	456,296	-10.0%
2000	507,145	

Source: Federal Aviation Administration.

Ferry Service

Passenger ferries connecting Westchester County locations with Rockland County and New York City are available for commuters, residents and visitors. For more information on ferry services, see ferry operators’ websites listed below:

- NY Waterway (Haverstraw to Ossining Metro-North train station): <http://www.nywaterway.com/>.
- New York Water Taxi (Haverstraw and Manhattan to Yonkers): <http://www.nywatertaxi.com/commuters/hudsonriver/>.

Nonmotorized Transportation Network

While Westchester County has access to numerous modes of motorized transportation, the county’s bicycle and pedestrian transportation network—for both everyday mobility and recreation—is very extensive. In 2006, it was estimated that almost 24,000 Westchester County residents walked as their primary mode of commutation to work and nearly 500 residents used bicycles to commute to work. Many Westchester County communities have extensive sidewalk networks and the County has actively constructed a countywide network of bicycle trails. In addition, some municipalities have established designated bicycle routes to provide cyclists safe access to services and employment centers.

More information on bicycle routes in Westchester County can be obtained from the following sources:

- Westchester County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation: <http://www.westchestergov.com/Parks/Trailways.htm>.
- Westchester County Department of Planning: <http://www.westchestergov.com/planning/maps&lists/trailmap.htm>.

Please see the Recreation chapter for more information on recreational hiking and bicycling opportunities in Westchester County.

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Transportation System Management

Transportation System Management (TSM) coordinates individual elements of the transportation network through operating, regulatory and service policies for the purpose of achieving maximum efficiency and productivity of the transportation system as a whole. TSM actions ensure the efficient use of existing road space, reduce vehicle use in congested areas, improve transit service and increase internal transit management efficiency.

The Transportation Management Organization is a public-private partnership of the Westchester County Department of Transportation and the Westchester County Association devoted to maximizing high occupancy vehicle (HOV) usage (buses, trains, carpools, vanpools) to minimize traffic congestion on the Cross Westchester Expressway (I-287) and other major arteries. In addition to promoting ridesharing activities and public transit, the TMO coordinates overall transportation management activities. The Tappan Zee Bridge, which connects Westchester and Rockland Counties, currently has two HOV toll both lanes which have been designated by the New York State Thruway Authority.

Westchester County's Smart Commute Program was introduced in 1996 to address traffic congestion. The Westchester County Office for Economic Development works directly with businesses to address transportation concerns. Staff members assess each firm's commuting patterns, educate employees on transit options and help create custom-tailored commuting plans. Westchester's efforts to promote the use of alternatives to drive alone commuting won a 1997 National Association of Counties Achievement Award for innovations in government programs. <http://www.westchestergov.com/smartcommute/>

Transportation System Management efforts in effect in Westchester County include:

- **MetroPool:** Coordinated ridesharing activities of MetroPool, a non-profit commuter transportation management company, have increased considerably in Westchester. Its emphasis on maximizing people movement rather than vehicles makes it an important element of the transportation management program. MetroPool offers over-the-phone, computer-based ride matching for carpools and vanpools, and personalized commuter consultations. Information and ridematching are also available at MetroPool web site www.metropool.com.
- **TransitChek:** TransitChek is a valuable tool in the campaign of reducing dependence on the single-occupancy vehicle. Its coordinated program of tax benefits to employers who purchase TransitChek as transit subsidies for their employees constitutes a tangible and attractive means to this end. Currently, an employer can provide \$1380, tax free, per month to employees to use for transit; employees are given vouchers to exchange for tickets, passes or tokens. TransitChek vouchers represent a tax-deductible program for employers and a tax-free commuting incentive for employees. <http://www.transitcenter.com>
- **Traffic Information Services:** Westchester Commuter Central is a public/private partnership between the County of Westchester and Metro Traffic Control, Inc., which has been established to disseminate real time traffic information to the general public. In addition, the New York State Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the New York State Thruway Authority and the New York State Police, have estab-

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lished a 24-hour Transportation Management Center (TMC) for the Lower Hudson Valley. The TMC gathers highway/transit information through the use of closed circuit television cameras, roadway speed sensors (TRANSMIT Project), global positioning system transit vehicle tracking as well as other advanced technologies. The TMC is located in Hawthorne. In addition, the regional transportation agencies such as TRANSCOM are participating in a variety of projects to electronically link information from various TMCs while providing customized travel information services free and on a subscription basis. Radio Stations in the County frequently broadcast information concerning road conditions, mass transit, congestion, hazardous areas, alternate routes, length of expected delays, accidents and construction activities within the New York metropolitan area. The County assists in these efforts through a grant from the New York State Department of Transportation for Transportation Systems Management activities.

- **HELP Program:** To assist stranded motorists, the NYSDOT “HELP” program provides emergency road service to vehicles and patrols the following roadways:
 - I-684 between I-287 and I-84
 - I-287 between Route 9 and I-95
 - Sprain Brook Parkway (entire length)
 - Bronx River Parkway from Sprain Brook Parkway to New York City line
 - Cross County Parkway (entire length)
 - Saw Mill River Parkway (entire length)
 - Hutchinson River Parkway (entire length)
 - Taconic State Parkway - Westchester portion

<http://www.dot.state.ny.us/traffic/its/movhelp.html>