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## **NEW YORK STATE BRIDGE AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES LAUREN MELENDEZ APPOINTED TO SERVE AS DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The New York State Bridge Authority (NYSBA) today announced that Lauren Melendez has been appointed by the NYSBA Board of Commissioners as the Authority's new Deputy Executive Director. Starting July 11, she will serve in the second-highest role at the Hudson Valley-based transportation authority, working under the leadership of Executive Director Dr. Minosca Alcantara.

**NYSBA Board Chair Joan McDonald** said: "The NYSBA Board of Commissioners is pleased to appoint Lauren Melendez as the Bridge Authority's Deputy Executive Director. She has exceptional qualifications that she brings to the table that will benefit the Authority and the travelers that we serve."

**NYSBA Executive Director Dr. Minosca Alcantara** said: "I'm excited to add Ms. Melendez to our great team of employees at NYSBA. She not only has expertise in the field of transportation, but also a knowledge and appreciation for the communities that our bridges connect."

Ms. Melendez has most recently served as Assistant Secretary for Transportation in the Office of Governor Kathy Hochul. Prior to her tenure in the Executive Chamber, Ms. Melendez served as Senior Analyst for Transportation and Infrastructure for the New York State Senate Finance Committee, as well as a Project Assistant for Empire State Future, a project of the Tides Center. She holds a B.A. and Master of Regional Planning from the University at Albany. She is a resident of Greene County.

The New York State Bridge Authority operates the Bear Mountain, Newburgh-Beacon, Mid-Hudson, Kingston-Rhinecliff and Rip Van Winkle Bridges. It also owns and maintains the structure of the Walkway Over the Hudson pedestrian bridge. The Authority is funded principally from bridge tolls and receives no state or federal tax monies for bridge maintenance and operation. Learn more at [www.nysba.ny.gov](http://www.nysba.ny.gov).

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