

Report: Poor road conditions in Westchester costing drivers big bucks



YONKERS - A study released by the national transportation group TRIP found drivers in Westchester and across the New York metropolitan area are spending big bucks to fix their cars.

"We found because the roads are deteriorated and congested, and not as safe as they could be, the average driver loses \$2,800 each year," says Carolyn Kelly of TRIP. "That comes in the form of lost time, wasted fuel and the financial cost of traffic crashes and congestion."

Longtime Yonkers resident Grace Prince has had it with rough roads.

"The roads on North Broadway and Yonkers Avenue really need to be fixed," says Prince. "They are in very poor condition."

Officials at the Business Council of Westchester are looking to use the TRIP report to lobby lawmakers in Albany and Washington for more infrastructure funding for the county.

"We're going to continue to recruit businesses to come to Westchester County and the region, and we need to be able to show employers that our bridges, our roads, our overpasses and our tunnels are safe," says John Ravitz, of the Business Council of Westchester.

According to the TRIP report, more than two-thirds of major local and state-maintained roads are in poor or mediocre condition.

Prince says she hopes lawmakers see the report and start to give money to towns and cities to make infrastructure repairs.