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May 1, 2015

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I am writing to urge a resolution to the MTA capital funding emergency.

With only a few weeks left in the State's legislative session, the MTA is at least \$14 billion short of the \$32 billion needed to fund its 2015-2019 capital program. However, little has been said publicly about how this gap can or will be filled.

The MTA must meet its capital obligations. Vital projects to improve the #7 line, the Queens Boulevard corridor, add new Metro North stations in the Bronx, and replace line equipment, buses, subway and commuter rail cars throughout the system, are among the plan's many essential investments that more than 8.6 million New Yorkers rely on every single day.

Some proposals have been offered to address the funding shortfall. One notable proposal is the MoveNY plan, in which all drivers commuting to New York City's central business district would be required to pay a reasonable toll that would be used to support mass transit, as well as road and bridge infrastructure.

Assembly Member James Brennan has also offered legislation, A.7103, which is estimated to produce sufficient revenues to fund both the MTA and the NYS DOT capital programs, and create a new authority that would protect these revenues from diversion.

There has also been discussion about deferring the decision on funding the full five-year plan to a later date. Such a decision would leave the MTA with deep uncertainty for individual projects, driving up costs and delaying implementation; and raises the very real specter that the program simply won't have enough money to accomplish all that it needs to, an unacceptable outcome.

Today, the MTA is carrying record numbers of passengers, all while trying to maintain a century old system, expand for the first time in decades, and adapt to new demands driven by climate change. Funding this program should be among the State's topmost priorities.

We urge you and your colleagues in the Legislature to seriously consider the funding options mentioned here as the legislative session quickly draws to a close and fully fund the MTA's 2015-2019 capital program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard T. Anderson', written over a horizontal line.

Richard T. Anderson
President

Best wishes.
