

**NEW  
YORKERS  
FOR BETTER  
PUBLIC  
TRANSIT**

# NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT

## → WHO WE ARE

- New Yorkers for Better Public Transit is a coalition of people from all corners of the state, representing a variety of interests, who want to see greater investment in New York's public transit systems.

## → WHAT WE ARE TRYING TO DO

- Our goal is to work together, and with our elected leaders in Albany, to secure a 50 percent increase in public transit funding over the next five years.
- When tied to inflation, funding for New York's public transit systems has been held flat for years.
- This has made it increasingly difficult for transit systems to adapt to changing lifestyles, new technologies and new mobility options.
- It has also made it difficult to meet the growing needs of customers who continue to want more than public transit can currently provide.
- There has been much publicity regarding funding of the MTA system in New York City, but my transit system deserves increased funding too.

## → WHY IT MATTERS

- Public transit is a critical component of my community's infrastructure, is essential for mobility, and a driver of growth in our local economy.
- Transit is how people connect to jobs, health care, shopping, education, job training and recreational activities.
- Without increased funding, our state's transit services will shrink, ridership will decline, and thousands of New Yorkers will be left at the curb.

## → MORE FUNDING = BETTER TRANSIT = STRONGER COMMUNITIES & ECONOMIES

- We need to transform our transit services to provide greater access and allow our community to be successful.
- Transit service needs to be more frequent and reach more destinations where people need to travel.
- 21st Century transit service needs to provide modern features like real-time schedule information, smart card fare payment, mobile ticketing, and WiFi.
- Transit service needs to be integrated with other travel options like bike-sharing, van pooling, on-demand services and Transportation Network Companies such as Uber and Lyft.
- Transit funding is needed statewide so that no area, including my community, is left behind and that all communities can continue to grow and prosper.



[Join the Coalition](#)

[Sign the Petition](#)

[Take Action](#)

[Media](#)



# NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT

New Yorkers for Better Public Transit is a coalition of people from all corners of the state, representing a variety of interests, who want to see greater investment in New York's public transit systems. For many years, investment in other areas has outpaced New York's investment in transit, making it increasingly difficult to meet growing demands from employers, workers, students, teachers, millennials, senior citizens, and those seeking pathways to prosperity. Our goal is to educate lawmakers in Albany on the enormous benefits of public transit and that a significant, long-term commitment to increased transit funding can lead to sustainable success in our economy, classrooms, medical centers, places of business, and homes. Join the coalition, sign our petition, and be a part of the movement that will strengthen New York's communities for years to come.

[JOIN THE COALITION](#)

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)



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# ➔ SIGN THE PETITION

## Invest in Transit for a Stronger New York.

Greater investment in public transit is a smart and easy way to grow jobs, strengthen the economy, protect the environment, and accelerate success in New York's classrooms and healthcare facilities. For many in our state, public transit equals independence and quality of life. For every \$1 invested in public transit, \$4 is generated in economic returns.

Public transit is transforming. People across the state want more from public transit systems than they can provide. Lawmakers face a critical choice – keep funding the same and leave customers waiting at the curb OR embrace change and be a champion for better mobility and access for the entire state.

By signing the petition, New Yorkers call upon Governor Andrew Cuomo and members of the New York State Legislature to increase public transit funding across New York State.



🚩 State Campaigns   📁 Petitions

**NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT**

### Write Your Legislators: Increase Funding for New York's Public Transit Systems

Our transit service provides access to jobs, healthcare, shopping, education and recreation. It is essential to providing the connections people need everyday. If our state government continues funding transit the same as it always has, transit service will...

**NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT**

### Sign the Petition: Invest in Transit for a Stronger New York!

Greater investment in public transit is a smart and easy way to grow jobs, strengthen the economy, and accelerate success in New York's classrooms and healthcare facilities. For every \$1 invested in public transit, \$4 is generated in economic returns. Public transit...

#### Quick Sign Up

Use the form below to sign up for alerts.

  
 ➔

#### Find Officials

Look up and contact your officials.

 ➔

## ➔ COALITION TOOLKIT

The following toolkit has been developed for **transit agencies, interest groups, businesses, and other pro-transit organizations** to support local advocacy efforts.

### ➔ The toolkit includes:

#### How to Help

➔ [Download Sheet](#)

#### Statewide Transit Action Plan

➔ [Download Sheet](#)

#### Position Paper

➔ [Download Sheet](#)

#### Sample Letter to Lawmakers

➔ [View Sample Letter](#)

#### Talking Points

➔ [Download Sheet](#)

#### Transit Facts

➔ [Download Sheet](#)

#### Sign the Petition Flier

➔ [Download Flier](#)

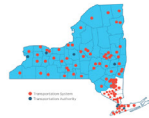
#### Recent NYS Transit Commentary

➔ [Download PDF](#)

#### Local Media

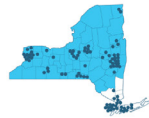
➔ Contact us at [info@ny4bettertransit.com](mailto:info@ny4bettertransit.com)

### ➔ Map of Transit Agencies



More than 60 Upstate Transit Systems serve our communities and play a significant role in upstate economic development. Whether it's more jobs, a cleaner environment, energy independence or a better quality of life, public transportation takes us there!

### ➔ Map of Businesses in NYS



Businesses all over New York State contribute to the public transit industry and provide thousands of jobs. Businesses all over New York State contribute to the public transit industry and provide thousands of jobs.

New York State Businesses play a crucial role in providing innovative products and services to public transportation and are key contributors to the State's financial health.

### ➔ Helpful Links

[NYS Senate](#)  
[NYS Assembly](#)  
[Governor's Office](#)

## ➔ IN THE NEWS



2018-11-01: **Invest in New York's future: Invest in public transit**

Even casual followers of state politics this election season know that the New York City subway is in crisis, and every candidate has an idea about how to fix it.

This makes both political and logical sense: Public transit is the lifeblood of the nation's and state's largest city and our economic center.

[READ MORE](#)



2018-03-12: **Buffalo News**

Decades of wear and tear to Metro Rail prompt push for new state funds:

[READ MORE](#)



2018-02-22: **WCNY**

Bill Carpenter on The Capitol Pressroom:

[READ MORE](#)

# AP

2018-01-28: **Associated Press**

NYC's issues overshadow upstate NY transit needs, funding:

[READ MORE](#)



2018-01-26: **Buffalo News**

FTA, other upstate transit agencies face state budget cuts:

[READ MORE](#)



2018-01-25: **WTEN**

(also airing on WFFF, WUTR, WIVB) — Hearing held on NY transportation budget:

[READ MORE](#)



**OVER 130**  
TRANSIT SYSTEMS  
THROUGHOUT NY STATE



NEW YORKERS SERVED  
BY PUBLIC TRANSIT SAVE  
**260M HOURS**  
IN TRAVEL TIME



PUBLIC TRANSIT LESSENS  
OUR DEPENDENCE ON  
FOREIGN OIL AND SAVES  
**1.3B GALLONS**  
OF GASOLINE IN NEW YORK  
STATE ANNUALLY



**OVER 9 MILLION**  
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SUSTAINED INVESTMENT  
IN TRANSIT CAN CREATE  
**51K JOBS PER  
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NY'S USE OF PUBLIC  
TRANSIT REDUCES THE  
CARBON EMISSIONS BY  
**17M TONS**



PUBLIC TRANSIT IS A  
VITAL LINK FOR OVER  
**3 MILLION**  
NEW YORKERS  
WITH DISABILITIES



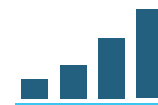
PUBLIC TRANSIT USERS  
CAN SAVE NEARLY  
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VERSUS DRIVING



NEW YORKER'S RIDE  
PUBLIC TRANSIT MORE THAN  
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**87%** OF PUBLIC  
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INVOLVE DIRECT  
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**EVERY \$1**  
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PUBLIC TRANSIT HELPS  
**BUSINESS  
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# NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT

*nypta* NEW YORK  
PUBLIC TRANSIT  
ASSOCIATION, INC.

*nypta* NEW YORK  
PUBLIC TRANSIT  
ASSOCIATION, INC.





# STATEWIDE TRANSIT ACTION PLAN



There is a transformation taking place in the world of transportation. New mobility options including car-sharing, bike-sharing, on-demand services, and transportation network companies like Uber and Lyft are increasing in availability and use. Technology is changing the way we travel, allowing us to request, track and pay for trips with a mobile device. Autonomous vehicles may be more prevalent in the future.

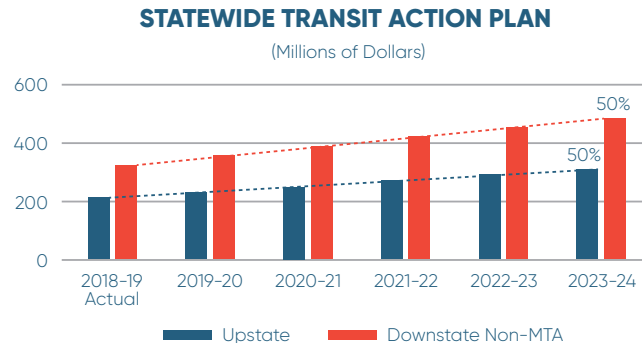
At the same time, businesses and the public are demanding more from public transit. They want new transit service, more frequency, more access to more destinations, and access to technology. Our communities want an array of travel options to improve livability and attract high-tech business and smart development. Revitalizing our urban downtowns is a statewide priority. Strong public transit is the backbone for success.

New York State should implement a **Statewide Transit Action Plan** to transform public transit by reimagining transit systems and how they are funded, to ensure a brighter future for all of New York's communities.

We are one state. All communities deserve adequate investment that provides sustainable transit service. A funding plan that invests in the MTA, suburban and upstate transit systems will drive increased mobility and growth in communities across the state, and not leave any area behind.

## → STATEWIDE TRANSIT ACTION PLAN PROPOSAL

- 1 Provide adequate, recurring funding for the MTA through Congestion Pricing and other dedicated funding sources to address long-term capital and operating needs.
- 2 Increase transit operating aid for non-MTA transit systems by 50% over the next 5 years, starting with a 10% increase in the 2019-20 state budget. The plan would add \$20.6 M. for upstate transit and \$32.4 M. for downstate non-MTA transit in 2019-20.





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ny/bta

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# 2019-20 STATE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION



## STATEWIDE TRANSIT ACTION PLAN

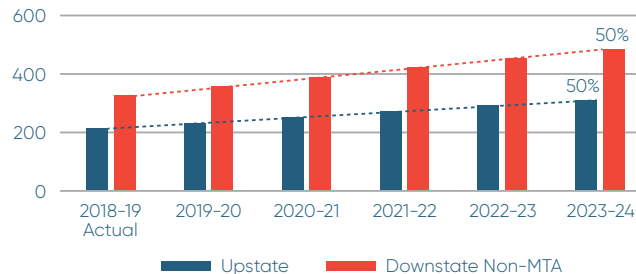
### → IMPLEMENT A STATEWIDE TRANSIT ACTION PLAN THAT SUPPORTS ALL TRANSIT SYSTEMS AND COMMUNITIES THROUGHOUT NEW YORK STATE

- Increase funding for the MTA.** Provide long-term, recurring funding for the MTA through a Congestion Pricing program and other dedicated funding sources to address long-term capital and operating needs.
- Implement a statewide plan.** Provide a multiyear investment plan that increases state operating assistance for upstate and downstate transit systems by 50% over the next five years, starting with a 10% increase in 2019-20.

  - A multiyear plan will reimagine and transform transit service across the state.
  - In 2019-20, will increase funding for upstate systems by \$20.6 million and downstate non-MTA systems by \$32.4 million.
- Continue to revitalize transit infrastructure.** Provide \$104.5 million in non-MTA transit capital aid as provided in the past two years; increase flexibility of funding.
- Replace lost revenue to rural transit systems to continue essential services.** Provide \$5 million in permanent state funding to small urban and rural transit systems impacted by DOH Medicaid transportation changes.

### STATEWIDE TRANSIT ACTION PLAN

(Millions of Dollars)



# NEW YORKERS FOR BETTER PUBLIC TRANSIT



**SIGN THE PETITION FOR BETTER TRANSIT IN NYS**

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# NEW YORK TRANSIT FACTS



There are **OVER 100 TRANSIT SYSTEMS** in New York State, providing service in nearly every county.

Source: NYSDOT, NYPTA



Metro areas that increase transit ridership can reduce traffic fatality rates by **UP TO 40%**.

Source: The Hidden Traffic Safety Solution: Public Transportation, APTA 2016



Public transit is a vital link for over **3 MILLION** New Yorkers with disabilities.

Source: NYPTA



**87%** of public transportation trips have a direct economic impact on the local economy.

Source: Who Rides Public Transportation, APTA January 2017



New Yorkers ride public transit more than **3.6 BILLION** times annually.

Source: National Transit Database



**EVERY \$1** invested in public transit **GENERATES \$4** in economic return.

Source: Economic Impact of Public



**OVER 9 MILLION** people in New York board public transit each weekday.

Source: National Transit Database



Sustained investment in transit can create **51,000 JOBS** per \$1 billion in investment.

Source: Economic Impact of Public Transportation Investment for APTA by Economic Development Research Group, May 2014



New York's use of public transit reduces the state's carbon emissions by **17 MILLION TONS**.

Source: MTA



Public transit employs more than **75,000** people in NYS.

Source: National Transit Database



Public transit saves **1.3 BILLION GALLONS** of gasoline in NYS annually.

Source: NYPTA estimate for NYS based on APTA national data



Public transportation is important to communities because it provides people with **VITAL CONNECTIONS** to important resources like jobs, schools, and medical facilities.

Source: 2018 Mineta Transportation Institute Survey for APTA



New Yorkers using public transit **SAVE 260 MILLION HOURS** of travel time annually.

Source: NYPTA estimate for NYS based on APTA national data



Public transportation is important to communities because it **HELPS BUSINESSES FLOURISH**, by bringing both workers and customers to businesses.

Source: 2018 Mineta Transportation Institute Survey for APTA



Public transit users can save nearly **\$10,000 A YEAR** versus driving.

Source: Transit Savings Report, APTA June 2018



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## COMMENTARY

# Invest in New York's future: Invest in public transit

By Bill Carpenter

Even casual followers of state politics this election season know that the New York City subway is in crisis, and every candidate has an idea about how to fix it.

This makes both political and logical sense: Public transit is the lifeblood of the nation's and

state's largest city and our economic center. When the trains don't run on time, New York City doesn't run on time.

The same is true upstate. When the buses don't run on time, neither do Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, Albany and cities that are served by transit operators of all sizes.

This isn't an upstate vs. down-

state narrative. Rather, as an election season full of political rhetoric nears its end, candidates for state office — and those who will send them to Albany — must seriously consider what the plan for action on all transit needs will be, not just those in one region or another.

This should not be a difficult exercise. Transit operators statewide have reimagined themselves to take on a larger role in tackling the kitchen-table issues at the center of

political campaigns (jobs and the economy). Leveraging that work is an easy win.

Eighty-seven percent of transit trips involve a direct economic impact on the local economy. Transit connects people to jobs, health care, shopping, education, recreation — activities that involve either making money or spending money. That's why growing high-tech, manufacturing, distribution and biotechnology companies all want to be located alongside

good transit infrastructure and innovative service.

A recent national survey by the Mineta Transportation Institute found 80 percent of respondents agree that public transit is important to communities because of the connections it provides to jobs, schools and medical facilities, and because of its potential to drive the economy.

The numbers tell the story of that potential: For every \$1

Please see **CARPENTER A9** ►

► *Bill Carpenter is the chief executive officer of the Rochester-Genesee Regional Transportation Authority and president of the New York Public Transit Association.*

## CARPENTER

▼ CONTINUED FROM A8

invested in transit, \$4 is generated in economic returns.

What's more, transit supports our most important government investments. Transit provides those who rely on affordable and supportive housing with options for reaching work and transitioning from poverty to prosperity. Transit provides students with safe, reliable transportation to and from primary and secondary schools and college campuses. Transit provides those who need affordable access to health care with options for visiting a doctor, picking up a prescription and, ultimately, living healthier lives.

Investments in transit mean the buses run on time, ensuring these options for mobility are available on a consistent schedule. Investments in transit mean our systems can purchase more fuel-efficient and environmentally friendly vehicles, ensuring these options for mobility fall in line with commitments to reduce emissions. And investments in transit mean that operators can increase their

fleets to meet rising demand, ensuring that more options for mobility are available to all New Yorkers.

But public transit is going through a transformation and is more than just riding the bus.

New technologies and mobility options have created a new reality for public transit systems. We are embracing the role of mobility manager and are concerned with a rider's total trip. That means providing new options for getting around within a community and on paths off of the bus route, from ride-hailing to bike-sharing to micro-transit.

Transit systems are ready to make investments in their communities to further expand their offerings, better serve existing customers and complement programs that serve millions of New Yorkers. But we need serious investments of both time and capital from Albany. Another year of funding that does not keep up with operating cost increases will have ripple effects far beyond the bus stop.

We most certainly should rebuild the subways. But reimagining how to build better transit across New York is a true investment in our future.

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