



**NYC Council Hearing on FY 2013 Executive Budget  
June 6, 2012  
Testimony of Veronica Vanterpool, Associate Director  
Tri-State Transportation Campaign**

As the New York City (NYC) Council reviews the Fiscal Year 2013 Executive Budget, the Tri-State Transportation Campaign (TSTC) urges the Council to maintain full funding for the capital construction of the marine transfer stations (MTS) to be completed as part of NYC's Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP).

Central to SWMP implementation is the construction of four new marine transfer stations (MTS) to be located at former or existing MTS sites in North Shore, Queens; Southwest, Brooklyn; Hamilton Avenue, Brooklyn; and 91st Street, Manhattan that would handle each borough's solid waste, most of which is now trucked to the Bronx and Brooklyn. **The FY 2013 Executive Budget allocates \$397 million for the capital construction of these facilities. We urge the NYC Council to maintain this funding in its entirety.**

Construction is currently underway for two MTS. The Hamilton Avenue station in Brooklyn and the North Shore facilities in Queens are under construction and will begin operation in 2013. The East 91st Street facility, which is necessary for the handling of Manhattan's solid waste, is expected to open in 2015. The construction of this facility at 91st Street has the strong support of environmental justice organizations such as the Organization of Waterfront Neighborhoods (OWN) and the New York City Environmental Justice Alliance (NYCEJA).

The construction of these facilities is critical to the full implementation of the NYC SWMP. A fully implemented plan would better balance garbage management throughout NYC by requiring each borough to handle its waste at new marine transfer stations where the waste would be barged out, instead of the current overreliance on trucking to move waste out of New York City. The implementation of the SWMP would mitigate truck congestion in already overburdened communities, such as the South Bronx, and Williamsburg, Brooklyn, and alleviate these communities' environmental, health, and safety concerns. Two boroughs, and several communities within them, disproportionately suffer from the pollution, traffic safety, and quality of life issues resulting from the thousands of daily truck trips hauling garbage from the five boroughs.

Tri-State Transportation Campaign supports the construction of all these facilities. TSTC works with community residents and elected officials to mitigate truck traffic throughout NYC's residential communities. As such, we urge the NYC Council to maintain the \$397 million in funding in the FY 2013 Executive Budget for the construction of all the MTSS identified in the Solid Waste Management Plan so that full implementation of the NYC SWMP can be attained. Thank you.