

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tri-State Transportation Campaign Statement on \$32 Billion Federal Request from Transit Agencies

On Tuesday, over a dozen public transit agencies requested \$32 billion in funding from Congress to ensure their ability to run service in 2020 and 2021. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:

“The letter to Congress from over a dozen transit agencies, in blue and red states alike, highlights the growing crisis for our cities: For our nation’s cities and economic hubs, transit is existential—our urban centers cannot exist without buses, trains, subways, commuter rail, and other networks that transport millions of people to work and home every single day. As Los Angeles Metro CEO Phillip A. Washington said, ‘As transit goes, so go our cities.’ If public transit falters, residents—many of them essential workers—will have no way to get to jobs, and we will face another wave of unemployment as a result.

“Our current crises, both pandemic and economic, are the result of federal inaction and federal failures. No other country is facing the scale of crisis we have created for ourselves. Congress must step in and fix the mess they’ve helped create. As the Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell is on the hook to ensure the continued existence of our public transit agencies. He, and the Senate, must provide them the \$32 billion in funding they need to run high-quality service during, and after, the COVID pandemic in the HEROES Act and must pass it immediately.”

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Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a 27-year old advocacy organization that fights for an equitable, safe, multi-modal transportation network that provides options and supports the economies of New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. TSTC works to fix our commutes, meet our climate goals, stop traffic deaths, and make transportation fair.