



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

Nick Sifuentes, Executive Director

nsifuentes@tstc.org

Liam Blank, Policy & Communications Manager

liam@tstc.org

Tri-State Transportation Campaign Statement on MTA Fiscal Emergency

Today, at an August board meeting, the MTA warned of doomsday service cuts to New York City's subway and bus network without \$12 billion in federal aid. Loss of revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic has put the agency on the verge of collapse. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:

"If the federal government does not provide emergency funding immediately, public transit in New York City will not survive. Without the MTA, there will be no clear path to a recovery for our nation's economy--plain and simple. The Senate must act now to preserve the MTA. If they don't, the agency will go into a death spiral of service cuts and fare hikes. The financial and economic ramifications for our nation will be nothing less than catastrophic.

"The immediate negative impacts to the region's business recovery, fully 10% of the nation's GDP, are obvious. Millions of workers will be unable to reach their offices when the epidemic ends. Riders will face unimaginable delays in service. All capital projects, including long overdue system expansion to transit deserts and desperately needed signal modernization, will be suspended indefinitely. In short, the 'summer of hell' will look like a walk in the park, our transit system is at risk of falling into a dark age, bringing our city, region, and nation with it.

"Additionally, the long-term ramifications cannot be ignored. This massive budget shortfall will be the end of the bus electrification program, which is a critical resiliency component in our fight against climate change. The agency's efforts to make stations and transit accessible will come to a screeching halt. On our current track, we are looking at long term fundamental damage to the New York landscape. This is not a can that the federal government can kick down the road. We need action and funding immediately."

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TRI-STATE TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGN



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.