

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tri-State Transportation Campaign Statement on MTA 'Doomsday' Service Cuts

A <u>new study</u> from Riders Alliance finds that the MTA's 'doomsday' service cuts could result in wait times of 15 minutes for the subway and 30 minutes for buses. The cuts will hit Black commuters and essential workers the hardest. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:

"The alarm bells are ringing; the transit crisis in New York City is getting worse with each day that passes without a new round of federal stimulus dollars. The agency is barrelling toward sweeping service cuts that will dramatically reduce service, having a disproportionately negative impact on Black commuters and essential workers who heavily depend on public transit. As the MTA considers how and where to cut service, they should provide ample opportunity for public input so that cuts can be targeted and affect the least amount of riders.

"Even with targeted cuts, reducing service to this extent will likely make commuting by transit more difficult and less reliable. As a result, those who have the choice to drive will do so instead, setting the MTA on a death spiral of lower ridership, more service cuts, and future fare hikes. More cars on the road will also have damaging consequences; paralyzing traffic congestion, increasing greenhouse gas emissions and toxic pollutants, and more traffic-related deaths. If the federal government does not step up to the plate, New York's recovery from the pandemic will lag significantly behind the rest of the country, prolonging the pain for millions of people. Some of this damage may very well be irreversible. The federal government needs to stop playing petty politics and save the MTA from what is shaping up to be one of the darkest chapters in its history."

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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.