



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Statement on Rise in Hate Crimes on Transit and in Public Spaces**

*Since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, cities across the U.S. are experiencing a sharp rise in targeted attacks on Asian Americans, particularly on public transit and in public spaces. In response, Tri-State Transportation Campaign released the following statement:*

“March 18th’s senseless murder of eight people, six of whom were Asian-American women, near Atlanta, Georgia, punctuated a year-long rise in a string of anti-Asian assaults from San Francisco to New York City. This trend is yet another painful reminder that public spaces should be safe for all, yet all are not safe. We mourn the lives lost in this horrific mass shooting and we stand in solidarity with the Asian-American community in their work to make public spaces safe for everyone.

“Over the past year, [nearly 3,800 reported hate incidents](#) have terrorized the Asian and Pacific Islander community and we know that far more go unreported. In New York City, data shows a greater number of transportation-related incidents compared to the rest of the county. For example, [a study by the Asian American Bar Association of New York](#) found that, since the onset of the pandemic, Asian Americans have been routinely denied service by rideshare and taxi drivers, a violation of civil rights that could have long-term implications on travel behavior.

“At Tri-State Transportation Campaign, we believe that freedom of movement is a fundamental right and it is our mission to make transportation fair. We recognize that a good transit system and safe public spaces can empower individuals and unify communities. Therefore, we must move forward with a real and practical plan to make public spaces welcoming, safe, and equitable. While the problem and its solutions go way beyond transportation and urban design, in our role as advocates, we will continue to lift the voices of the vulnerable and to call out the environmental and social inequities we see in our streets.”

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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.