



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, September 2, 2021

### CONTACT

Liam Blank, Policy & Communications Manager

[liam@tstc.org](mailto:liam@tstc.org)

Felicia Park-Rogers, Director of Regional Infrastructure Projects

[felicia@tstc.org](mailto:felicia@tstc.org)

## Transportation in Tri-State Region Crippled by Remnants of Hurricane Ida

*On Thursday, transportation in and around New York City and New Jersey remained paralyzed after record-breaking rainfall, with limited subway and commuter rail service, and Amtrak suspending all morning service between Philadelphia and Boston. In response, **Felicia Park-Rogers, Director of Regional Infrastructure Projects for Tri-State Transportation Campaign**, released the following statement:*

“The events of last night make one thing clear: climate change is already upon us. Severe storms and significant flooding are now the new normal, and our government has fallen well behind in preparing us for these now regular disasters.

“Our public transportation network suffers from chronic disinvestment in capital improvements, maintenance, and operations. We cannot adequately address the scale of the climate crisis without heavily investing in the solutions required to mitigate the worst effects of these storms. Our region needs money for maintenance and operations so that in times of crisis we have trained personnel and a well-maintained transit system to handle flooding, power outages, and evacuations.

“We call on our New York and New Jersey delegations in the House of Representatives to reinstate \$10 billion for transit operations funding in the budget reconciliation bill. Those funds were cut out of the federal infrastructure bill. The flooding of subways, rail lines, and bus depots will continue to only worsen in severity. Our government must act now to fund our transit systems to be able to not only respond to a crisis, but to also prepare for it. This disaster also underscores the need for NYC to implement congestion pricing quickly because we desperately need to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and overreliance on cars.”

###

*Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a 28-year-old advocacy and policy organization that fights for an equitable, safe, multi-modal transportation network that provides options and supports the*

TRI-STATE TRANSPORTATION CAMPAIGN



*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.*