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Governor Hochul Announces “Interborough Express,” New Rapid Transit Service for Brooklyn and Queens

On Wednesday, in her first State of the State address, Governor Hochul announced several important infrastructure projects and large-scale climate initiatives, including support for the Port Authority’s Cross Harbor Freight Project; an environmental review conducted by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) for the “Interborough Express,” a new rapid transit line that will operate along 14 miles of existing freight tracks between Bay Ridge, Brooklyn and Jackson Heights, Queens; the expansion of the Environmental Bond Act to \$4 billion dollars on the Fall Ballot; a renewed push for transit-oriented development across the state; and re-purposing of highways in communities that have been devastated by highways built through the middle of neighborhoods.

*The Interborough Express will connect to 17 subway lines and the Long Island Rail Road, serving approximately 1 million daily riders. **Renae Reynolds, Executive Director of Tri-State Transportation Campaign**, released the following statement:*

“We applaud Governor Hochul’s announcement to bring new transit options to Brooklyn and Queens, particularly as the city is experiencing worsening traffic congestion and the effects of climate change. This project will bring high-quality transit to more neighborhoods—including some that are currently transit deserts—and better connect almost a million residents in Brooklyn and Queens with new jobs and opportunities throughout the city.

“The city and state are both working hard to expand access in transit deserts, which is mission critical for ensuring a more equitable transportation network. We look forward to seeing how the Interborough Express will integrate with the commuter rail and freight network, especially with the MTA’s Penn Station Access project and Port Authority’s Cross Harbor Freight Project. Together, these projects could be a game-changer for regional accessibility, curbing emissions from cars and trucks, and reducing congestion on our crowded streets.”

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Tri-State is a 501(c)(3) non-profit policy and advocacy organization fighting for sustainable mobility in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut. [Learn more.](#)