**Talking Points on the Need for Transit Investment**

* Ridership on transit systems throughout New York is growing and customers and their communities are demanding more and better service.
* Transit provides connections that drive our economy and community development, connecting people to the things that matter in their lives – work, medical appointments, entertainment, and social events.
* NYPTA members appreciate Governor Hochul’s support for transit in her Executive Budget, but a greater investment in transit is needed,
* We need to build on the Executive Budget and increase operating and capital assistance to transit systems across the state.
* Assistance is needed now so that transit systems can continue their positive momentum, growing ridership, adding workers and making travel easier and convenient throughout our state.
* A 15% increase in state operating assistance will maintain this momentum and deliver the services our customers and communities need and deserve.
* The MTA needs a fully funded $68.5 billion Capital Program.
* A $1 billion, 5-year investment in non-MTA capital projects should also be included in any future funding package for the MTA Capital Plan.
* Dedicated, sustainable revenues are critical to support upstate transit systems and reduce the reliance on the state’s general fund.
* Increased investment in transit supports our economy and is consistent with state goals for climate change, affordable housing, and community revitalization.