

The New York Public Transit Association

Riders Advocacy Council

February 10, 2 PM



Today's Agenda

I. Welcome & Agenda

Bill Carpenter, NYPTA President

II. Review of Governor Hochul's 2023-24 Budget Proposal for Transit

Bob Reid, Reid, McNally & Savage; Bob Zerrillo, NYPTA Policy Director

III. NYPTA Budget Recommendations

Bob Reid, Reid, McNally & Savage; Bob Zerrillo, NYPTA Policy Director

IV. Transit Awareness Month Activities

Tom Brede, Public Information Officer, RTS

V. Questions & Open Discussion

All Participants



Review of Governor Hochul's 2023-24 Budget Proposal for Tranist



Review of 2023–24 Exec. Budget – Bob Zerrillo and Bob Reid

STOA Increases

- MTA 25%
 - Growth in existing dedicated revenues
 - Raise payroll tax rate to 0.5%
 - Dedicate downstate casino revenues in the future
 - \$300 m. one-time general fund payment for pandemic expenses
- Downstate Non-MTA 8.5%
 - Based on growth in existing taxes dedicated for transit
- Upstate 7.1%
 - Requires state general fund revenues to achieve this increase

Review of 2023–24 Exec. Budget – Bob Zerrillo and Bob Reid

- Proposes \$500 m. increase in NYC contribution to MTA (for paratransit service, student fare discounts, and offsets for payroll tax exemptions)
- \$10 m. 5-year On-Demand Service pilot program for non-MTA
- \$159.5 m. capital funding for non-MTA transit – 2nd year of 5-year program
- Article VII bills
 - Several bills to authorize new dedicated funds for MTA and other provisions to support MTA (e.g. cameras on buses, toll violation enforcement, worker assault prevention)
 - Authorize a cap and invest program
 - Promote transit-oriented development



NYPTA Budget Recommendations



Budget Recommendations – Bob Zerrillo and Bob Reid

- Support Executive Budget STOA increases and new dedicated revenues for the MTA
- Enact dedicated, sustainable revenues for upstate and suburban downstate transit to increase STOA by 20%
- Support Executive Budget On-Demand Pilot Program
- Support Executive Budget capital funding for transit
- Continue STOA hold-harmless for formula systems impacted by pandemic ridership loss
- Continue \$4 m. in state aid from DOH budget to small urban/rural transit systems impacted by the state's Medicaid transportation policy

Emphasis Areas – Bob Zerrillo and Bob Reid

- All transit systems have structural operating deficits that will worsen when federal relief funds expire
- Communities across the state want more transit service and mobility options
- Supporting state goals for climate change, affordable housing and social equity requires more investment in transit service
- Support dedication of new revenues to the MTA
- Take this opportunity to provide dedicated revenues to help all transit systems meet their financial needs
- Addressing dedicated revenues on statewide basis requires only small increase in revenue above the MTA's needs



Transit Awareness Month Activities



Transit Awareness Month Activities – Tom Brede

Transit Awareness Month: February 13 – March 17, 2023

Week 1: Feb. 13-17

- Submit op-ed on need for statewide funding solution for transit

Week 2: Feb 20-24

- Legislature not in session, potential opportunity for in-district outreach/meetings

Week 3: Feb. 27-Mar. 3

- Target week for advocate activities: lawmaker meetings, letters to editor, etc.

Transit Awareness Month Activities – Tom Brede

Week 4: Mar. 6-10

- Continue advocate activities
- Begin advocates social media video campaign
- Transit system/NYPTA member media events

Week 5: Mar. 13-17

- Continue advocates social media video campaign
- Continue transit system/NYPTA member media events

March 20-31

- Final push to April 1 budget deadline

Advocates Social Media Video Campaign – Tom Brede

Video Campaign Overview

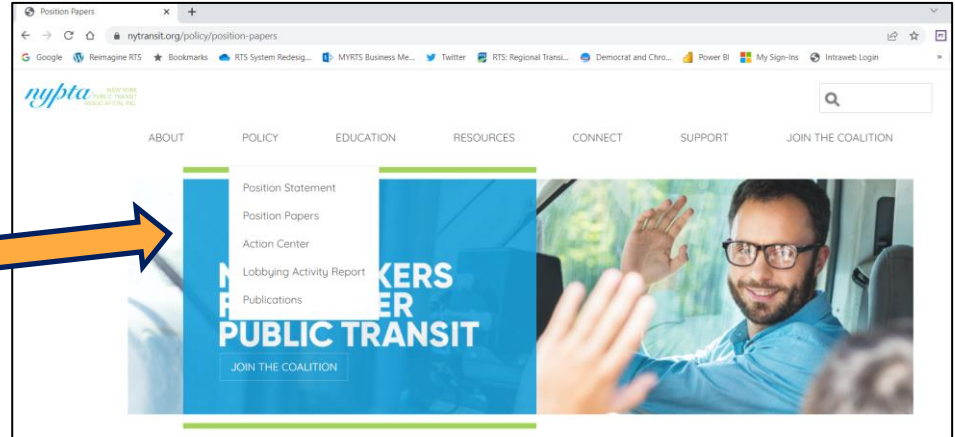
- Who: Transit advocates and riders from across the state
- What: Record and post to social media feeds short videos that talk about how important transit is in their lives and why they support more transit funding to grow our systems
- Posting Tips:
 - Tag your local transit system and NYPTA (@NYPublicTransit), and include the hashtag #TransitMovesTheEconomy



NYPTA Materials – Tom Brede

Documents on the NYPTA Website:

- 2023-24 Budget Recommendations
- 2023-24 Budget Talking Points
- General NY Transit Talking Points
- 2023-24 Budget Hearing Testimony



Link:

- nytransit.org/policy/position-papers



Questions & Open Discussion

Contact: info@nytransit.org



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