January 4, 2018

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor, State of New York
State Capitol, Executive Chamber
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

The New York Public Transit Association, which represents over 100 transit systems across the state, dozens of private sector manufacturers and suppliers, and millions of daily transit riders, urges you to include a long-term funding solution for all the state’s transit systems as you develop a funding solution for the MTA.

As you well know, New York’s transit services are vital to sustain and grow jobs and the economy, not only in NYC, but also in the downstate suburbs and in upstate New York. Our urban and rural transit systems provide the access and connections that make New York move and economy flourish.

Throughout the state, businesses and citizens are demanding more mobility and travel options to work, shopping, healthcare, education and recreation. Public transportation is important to the success of your initiatives to expand economic opportunities, move people from poverty to prosperity, reduce energy use and improve the environment.

The urgent need to increase funding for the MTA to improve service is well documented, and we support your call for action in 2018 to address this problem. Transit riders in upstate New York, and in the downstate suburbs, deserve the same attention to improve their transit services as MTA riders. Unfortunately, the last major action on MTA funding in 2009 left these riders behind.

We urge you to include a statewide funding solution for all transit systems in any future plan for the MTA.

Thank you for your support of public transportation. Our members stand ready to work with you and the state legislature to develop a funding plan that meets the transportation needs of communities throughout New York State.

Sincerely,

Bill Carpenter
NYPTA President