March 17, 2014

Senator Joseph Robach
Room 803 LOB
Albany, New York 12247

Dear Senator Robach:

We are writing in support of a request from Suffolk County for a $10 million increase in State Transit Operating Assistance (STOA) directed to Suffolk County Transit in the 2014-15 State Budget.

Suffolk County currently supports more than half the operating costs for its transit system, a local share that is significantly higher than any other downstate county. In the past decade Suffolk Transit has increased ridership by almost 40% and expanded service, including recently inaugurating bus service on Sundays.

Suffolk Transit deserves to be supported as equitably as the other bus systems in the metropolitan area. Therefore, we are strongly supporting an increase of $10 million in State Transit Operating Assistance for Suffolk County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Phil Boyle
Member of the Senate

Kenneth LaValle
Member of the Senate

cc: Robert Mujica
    Allison Bates