



## 2011 Candidate Questionnaire: Transportation and Land Use Policy

### Organizational Overview:

The Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a non-profit organization working toward a more efficient, transit-friendly and equitable transportation system in New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Since the mid-nineties, the Campaign has played a critical watchdog role in the field of transportation policy, helping state transportation agencies reform their approach to solving transportation problems. Our work has increased funding for infrastructure maintenance and repair, created more effective road projects and led to millions of dollars in new funding for walking, cycling and mass transit projects.

### Purpose and Process:

Transportation policies directly impact Long Island's residents in a variety of ways. Elected officials influence the development of these policies and how certain transportation systems are funded and built, thereby impacting constituents' daily lives. This short questionnaire will be used to inform the public on the incumbents' or candidates' positions in key areas of transportation policy. The questionnaire will provide you with an opportunity to present your views and vision on how to address the transportation issues facing Long Islanders at the state and local levels. Please be as detailed as possible when describing your positions. **The Tri-State Transportation Campaign is a non-partisan organization that neither supports nor opposes any political party or candidate for office.** Questionnaire responses, however, will be posted on our blog at [blog.tstc.org](http://blog.tstc.org) and in our newsletter, *Mobilizing the Region*.

In order for ample time to distribute the results of the questionnaire to the voting public, please return the completed questionnaire to Ryan Lynch, [rlynch@tstc.org](mailto:rlynch@tstc.org), or 350 West 31<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 802, NY, NY 10001, no later than October 7, 2011.

Candidate/Elected Official's Name: Angie M. Carpenter

District Represented: Suffach County Treasurer

Contact Information: 83 E. main st. Bay Shore

Primary Contact and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Please provide a brief overview of transportation initiatives you will undertake as a Suffolk County Executive. If applicable, please list specific legislation, policies, or programs:

*I have a record of supporting public transportation*

2. Public transportation service is an integral component of Suffolk County's economic strength and environmental well being. According to *Newsday* reports and the MTA<sup>ii</sup>, ridership on the Long Island Rail Road has increased by .02 % from 2005 to 2010, although ridership over 2009 is down as a result of the weak economy. According to the 2011 Long Island Index<sup>iii</sup>, ridership in 2009 on Suffolk County Transit was up 40% since 2000, the highest growth in transit ridership in the region. **Given these trends, how would you address increased ridership on public transportation across Long Island?**

*As in the past (during my tenure as a legislator) I will continue to push for the maximization of our transit system. I instituted student fares, publishing county's transit phone # on all buses and shelters, publishing schedules on the web, etc. Bike racks on buses was also my initiative.*

3. The economic costs of traffic congestion in the New York metropolitan region was nearly \$11 million in 2009, and the cost to motorists was almost a \$1,000 per person during the same time period<sup>iv</sup>. **What measures and/or projects would you promote to reduce congestion on Suffolk County's roadways?**

*Make the HOV lane seamlessly accessible, so that you can go in and out at any time. In the mid 90's, sponsored task force to study our system.*

4. Suffolk County is home to some of the most dangerous roads for pedestrians and cyclists in the region. According to the Fatality Analysis Reporting System<sup>v</sup>, which is maintained by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 93 pedestrians were killed in Suffolk County from 2007-2009. A Tri-State analysis, using the same database, found that the 21 cyclists killed in Suffolk County over the same time period was the highest fatality rate in the entire downstate region. **In light of these statistics, what measures would you propose to reduce these preventable fatalities on Suffolk County roads?**

*Signage on our roadways is abysmal and needs to be improved. We also need to increase bike lanes.*

5. Do you support development near transit stations or in the downtown area of your town or village?  
Why or why not?

*Absolutely. Bay Shore is a perfect example of downtown development in motion. Complex across from RR and new Portland Square (still under construction) bring residents in close proximity to public transit. In Bay Shore it's, bus, rail and ferries.*

6. Finally, please tell us whether you support or oppose the following transportation projects or policies:

*Expansion of all Suffolk County Bus to seven day service*

**Support**

**Oppose**

**Don't Know**

Additional comments:

*LIRR East Side Access connection to Grand Central Terminal*

**Support**

**Oppose**

**Don't Know**

Additional comments:

*Double Tracking of Ronkonkoma Line*

**Support**

**Oppose**

**Don't Know**

Additional comments:

*Intermodal Truck to Rail center at Pilgrim State Hospital site*

**Support**

**Oppose**

**Don't Know**

Additional comments:

*Heartland Mixed Use Development Project*

**Support**

**Oppose**

**Don't Know**

Additional comments:

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<sup>i</sup> "Ridership Drops in Weak Economy," *Newsday*, 1/27/2010, Alfonso Castillo.

<sup>ii</sup> "Metropolitan Transportation Authority Annual Report Narrative 2010," page 5, Operations Section, MTA.

<sup>iii</sup> Long Island Index, Transportation Indicators, <http://www.longislandindex.org/Transit-Ridership.693.0.html>

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<sup>iv</sup> 2010 Urban Mobility Report, Texas Transportation Institute,  
[http://mobility.tamu.edu/ums/congestion\\_data/tables/newyo.pdf](http://mobility.tamu.edu/ums/congestion_data/tables/newyo.pdf)

<sup>v</sup> Fatality Analysis Reporting System, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, <http://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/States/StatesPedestrians.aspx>

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