

# NEWS

## Assemblymember Jim Brennan

44th Assembly District

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### **Over 30 State Elected Officials Urge Governor Cuomo to Fully Fund the MTA Capital Plan Before End Of Session.**

Today, New York State Assemblymember James F. Brennan (D.-W.F.-Brooklyn), Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions, announced that over 30 New York State Assemblymembers and Senators signed on to a joint letter to Governor Cuomo calling for the full funding of the \$32 billion capital plan and the allocation of \$1 billion for suburban and upstate transit systems.

The MTA had a \$15 billion shortfall in its proposed \$32 billion 2015-2019 capital plan. The plan, which only identified \$17 billion in available funds, was submitted to the MTA Capital Program Review Board in October of 2014, and was disapproved. In the state budget adopted on March 31, 2015 only \$1 billion was added to help fund the 2015-19 capital plan, leaving a funding gap of \$14 billion.

Failure to fill the funding gap will severely limit the MTA's ability to keep the system operating in good repair. Without these funds the MTA's ability to start new expansion projects and upgrades throughout the system will be hindered. This year's legislative session is scheduled to end on June 17, 2015 leaving only a few short weeks to reach a solution on how to fully fund the MTA.

"With MTA ridership at an all-time high, now more than ever we need to make sure that the MTA's capital plan is fully funded. The menu of options is extensive and diverse. They include increased State and local government support as well as possible new revenue sources for the MTA. The time is running out in this legislative session to reach consensus on how to make this happen. I hope that our Governor will help us find a solution," said Assemblymember Jim Brennan.

A copy of the letter that was sent to Governor Cuomo is attached to this press release.

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