

A black and white photograph of a subway station. In the foreground, a circular sign with the MTA logo and the text "New York City Subway" is visible. The background shows the tracks and platform of the subway.

Rebuild NY Now Campaign fights for Transportation Parity



With New York's ailing infrastructure continuing to decay and Governor Cuomo having pledged an additional \$8.3 billion in funding for the MTA, Rebuild NY Now has launched another public affairs campaign aimed at restoring parity in funding between the MTA and NYSDOT capital plans. While the announcement by the Governor to

increase funding for mass transit is good for those who use it, New York has 6,000 bridges and 60% of roads in need of repair.

For decades, both mass transit and roads and bridges saw equitable funding levels for their respective 5-year capital plans. However, in 2009-2010 after a change in the political and geographical leadership in the legislature, parity between the MTA and NYSDOT plans were eliminated and mass transit have greatly outpaced road and bridge funding by roughly \$6 billion. In fact, while the MTA has been able to release their needs report and advocate for additional investment, the NYSDOT has not been allowed to release a needs report. The last report which was issued years ago showed that NYSDOT needed \$25.8 billion to maintain the current state of repair – a number far less than what was actually appropriated.

With the Governor and Legislature set to debate and approve a new 5-year \$26.1 billion capital plan for the MTA, Rebuild NY Now and its supporters contend that parity should be restored and a fully funded 5-year \$26.1 billion capital plan for

the NYSDOT be approved. Rebuild NY Now is in the midst of an aggressive media tour around the state, partnering with elected officials, business, labor, and many members of the NYSAOTSOH to build support for a comprehensive capital plan for our roads and bridges.

To date, Rebuild NY Now has made stops in Rochester, Buffalo, Albany, Syracuse, Binghamton, Dutchess County and Yonkers. The campaign has also had more than a million impressions statewide through social and digital media outlets and also taken to the airwaves, purchasing two weeks of television space in December with more planned in January 2016. The campaign has truly created an unprecedented coalition of partners, however the momentum the campaign has built must continue. The campaign has reached a critical mass and with your help, can achieve our goal for fairness and equality between mass transit and roads and bridges.

To help the campaign on a grassroots level and to send a message to Albany that road and bridge funding for our local communities must be a priority go to www.rebuildnynow.org and click on "Join the Fight." By sending a letter of support to the Governor and your State Legislators you will help the campaign make this the top priority throughout the 2016 Legislative Session.

Rebuild NY Now would like to thank all of the members of the NYSAOTSOH who have supported the campaign thus far, and looks forward to continued partnership as we look to secure the investment needed to fix our state's ailing infrastructure.

For more information on the campaign, or to view the most recent ad, visit www.rebuildnynow.org.