



2 BROADWAY, 16TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, NY 10004
1 WEST STREET, MINEOLA, NY 11501
(212) 878-7087 *mail@pcac.org*

MARK J. EPSTEIN CHAIR

LARRY RUBINSTEIN VICE CHAIR

NASSAU COUNTY OWEN COSTELLO • MICHAEL GODINO

RAYMOND PAGANO • BRYAN PERANZO

LARRY RUBINSTEIN

SUFFOLK COUNTY GERARD P. BRINGMANN

SHEILA CARPENTER • MARK J. EPSTEIN

MAUREEN MICHAELS

QUEENS COUNTY IRA GREENBERG

KINGS COUNTY MATTHEW KESSLER

WILLIAM A. HENDERSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ELLYN SHANNON ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

ANGELA BELLISIO TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

BRADLEY BRASHEARS TRANSPORTATION PLANNER

KARYL BERGER CAFIERO RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

DEBORAH MORRISON ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

PRESS RELEASE: #15-12

For Immediate Release

Contact: William Henderson
212-878-7087

July 29, 2015

LIRRCC Supports Governor's Call for Funding MTA Capital Program without Added Fare Hikes

The Long Island Rail Road Commuter Council (LIRRCC) is gratified that Governor Andrew Cuomo has committed to secure State support to fund \$8.3 billion of the gap in the MTA's proposed 2015-2019 Capital Program. The MTA has developed a plan to close the remaining gap by reducing the cost of the Capital Program by \$2.2 billion and relying on the City of New York to contribute a total of 3.2 billion toward Capital Program. The Council encourages the MTA, State, and City to come to a prompt resolution on levels and sources of funding that will allow critical investments in the MTA system to move forward without delay or additional costs.

The Council is encouraged that the Governor has taken the side of riders by stating that he does not want the MTA to raise fares beyond currently scheduled fare increases to bridge the Capital Program gap. LIRRCC Chair Mark Epstein notes "we have said for many years that even moderate fare increases in an atmosphere of stagnant or falling household incomes has stretched many commuters and their families to a breaking point. We are pleased that the Governor understands the heavy burden of transportation costs that working families face and has committed to a plan that does not place the weight of funding the Capital Program on the backs of riders."