



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

December 4, 2024

MEDIA CONTACT:

Brooke Milos

[contact@rebuildnynow.org](mailto:contact@rebuildnynow.org)

## **Business, Labor, Municipal Leaders Urge Governor Hochul to Create Jobs and Improve Road and Bridge Conditions**

**ALBANY, N.Y.** - More than 40 leaders from groups representing the full spectrum of New York's economy, business, labor, industry and municipalities, are urging Governor Hochul take steps to reverse the unprecedented decline and road and bridge conditions in New York and create jobs by increasing funding for the NYSDOT Capital Program.

According to the group, it is imperative that two immediate steps are taken to rectify the situation. To prevent further deterioration and danger to New Yorkers, the groups urged the Governor to incorporate the following recommendations into the 2025-26 Executive Budget submission and subsequent negotiations:

### **1. Offset Inflation with an Additional \$800 Million for "Core" Projects:**

- Sustain programmed projects outlined in the Capital Plan's Memorandum of Understanding
- Aim to slow and reverse the decline in condition of NYSDOT road and bridge assets and
- Restore the purchasing power assumed when the plan was developed.

Without an infusion of additional resources, critical projects will disappear from the NYSDOT capital plan because of the cumulative impact of inflation and cost escalation. This will accelerate the already precipitous decline in the condition of New York's roads and bridges.

**2. Adopt a formal 20-Year Needs Multi-Modal Assessment Process for NYSDOT:** NYSDOT should adopt a structure that best identifies the continuing capital needs of the system, similar to the MTA. This system should capture and address future multi-modal NYSDOT needs and information should be publicly available.

### **What New Yorkers Should Know:**

- **All 11 NYSDOT regions reported declines in bridge conditions**
- Seven of 11 NYSDOT regions experienced declines in pavement conditions.
- An additional 138 bridges have transitioned from good to fair or poor condition
- An additional 630 lane miles maintained by NYSDOT have shifted from good to fair and poor condition, raising the statewide total in fair or poor condition to nearly 17,000 lane miles (***more than 40 percent***).
- The total number of structures in fair or poor condition - based on federal criteria – is nearly 11,400 or ***65 percent***.
- Overall investments in bridge safety assurance declined nearly 20 percent year-over-year.
- Overall investments in pavement renewal have decreased by more than 31 percent year-over-year.

Do the math. These findings stress the staggering need for increased investment in transportation infrastructure. The decline of New York's transportation infrastructure poses a serious risk to public safety and the state's economic competitiveness. Without adequate funding in the upcoming budget proposal, these challenges will escalate, leading to more costly repairs and diminished quality of life for New Yorkers. We urge you to prioritize the necessary investments to reverse these trends and ensure a sustainable, safe transportation network for the future.

[To read the full letter click here.](#)

###

### **About Rebuild New York Now:**

*Rebuild New York Now is a broad-based coalition comprising members of the construction industry, organized labor and business enterprises, representing more than 30,000 workers and their families with the common goal of investing in infrastructure to ensure the safety and economic health of New York State*