



THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

CHAIR  
COMMITTEE ON  
CORPORATIONS,  
AUTHORITIES,  
AND COMMISSIONS

COMMITTEES  
CODES  
EDUCATION  
REAL PROPERTY TAXATION

JAMES F. BRENNAN  
44TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT  
KINGS COUNTY

12 February 2014

The Hon. Sheldon Silver, Speaker  
NYS Assembly  
Room 932LOB  
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Speaker Silver:

The Executive budget recommends sweeping \$40 million in dedicated tax revenue from MMTOA, which primarily supports the MTA, to pay for a portion of the debt service associated with previously-issued MTA service contract bonds. Furthermore, the financial plan calls for \$20 million of dedicated MTA revenue to be redirected to the general debt service fund annually.

This contradicts the presumption under which these funds were enacted as dedicated support for the MTA's operations. As you will remember, both houses passed a bill last year nearly unanimously (vetoed by the Governor) to put monies from funds dedicated to mass transit into a "locked box" in order to protect these funds from being diverted for other purposes without specific legislative approval.

We believe that when the money is available it should be used to provide more services, or hold down the fare, not diverted for other purposes. We urge the Assembly to reject this sweep of funds, leaving \$40 million more for general operations of the MTA.

Yours truly,

James F. Brennan

Michael G. DenDekker

The following Members of Assembly join as signatories on this MTA diversion letter:

Vivian Cook

Deborah Glick

Richard Gottfried

Ellen Jaffee

Brian Kavanagh

Joseph Lentol

Margaret Markey

Joan Millman

Walter Mosley

Francisco Moya

Steven Otis

Jose Rivera

Daniel Quart

Matthew Titone

Harvey Weisenberg

The following Members of Assembly also join as signatories on this MTA diversion letter:

Michael Benedetto

David Buchwald

Karim Camara

William Colton

Marcos Crespo

Steven Cymbrowitz

Maritza Davila

Steve Englebright

Nicole Malliotakis

Shelley Mayer

N. Nick Perry

Linda Rosenthal

Nily Rozic

Michelle Schimel

Aravella Simotas