



January 5, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
 Governor of New York State
 Executive Chamber, State Capitol
 Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

The undersigned organizations, representing the full spectrum of New York’s economy, business, labor, industry and municipalities, support a long-term, adequately funded New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) capital program that ensures the safety and efficiency of roads, bridges, and

public transportation systems across the State. In the FY27 Executive Budget, we strongly urge you to invest an additional \$950 million in the NYSDOT capital program

We commend your leadership in adding \$800 million to the NYSDOT capital program in the FY26 New York State Budget to help offset inflationary pressures that jeopardized projects and thousands of jobs for workers. Investing in roads and bridges makes traveling more affordable for motorists and businesses by saving them money on repairs, fuel, and time while improving traffic safety.

Current NYSDOT road and bridge conditions data demonstrates that our transportation system continues to worsen at alarming rates. New York ranks 45th nationally for the percentage of major roadway pavements in good condition - a 30% decline over the past five years. These roadways carry essential mobility and freight traffic critical to the state's economy. New York ranks 46th nationally for share of deficient bridges. According to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), 27% (4,431) of the State's bridges show significant deterioration in key structural components such as decks and supports.

An additional \$950 million in your FY27 Executive Budget for NYSDOT's core capital program is a necessary step to help reverse these trends. We must make fiscally prudent infrastructure investments that benefit all New Yorkers and continue to annually reevaluate road and bridge conditions.

We know you understand the primary cause of this deterioration of our state highway system is the unprecedented spike in inflation impacting highway materials over the past few years. At your October 22, 2025, press conference you explained that when the State's five-year plan was first implemented in 2022, it did not foresee the supply chain issues and tariffs which have driven costs up. At the same announcement you noted the additional \$800 million would allow NYSDOT to rehabilitate 2,100 lane miles of roads. This is a big step in the right direction but in the agency's latest pavement condition report they noted the state has 14,906 lane miles of road in fair or poor condition.

In the FY27 Executive Budget, we strongly urge you to invest an additional \$950 million in the NYSDOT capital program to continue building on your strong record of creating construction-related jobs and making motoring more affordable by fixing our roads and bridges.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Elmendorf II, President & CEO
Associated General Contractors of
New York State

John T. Evers, President/CEO
American Council of Engineering Companies of
New York

Chris Koetzle, Executive Director
Association of Towns

Josh Veronica, Director of Government Affairs
Buffalo Niagara Partnership

John F. O'Hare, Managing Director
Building Contractors Association, Inc.

Earl R. Hall, CEO
Building Industry Employers of New York State

Joseph Alston
The Business Council of New York State

John Ravitz, Executive Vice President/COO
Business Council of Westchester

Thomas J. O'Connor, Vice President, Gov't
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Construction Exchange of Buffalo & WNY, Inc.

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Construction Industry Association of Rochester

Jeff DiStefano, Executive Director
Rebuild NY Now

John T Cooney Jr, Executive Director
Construction Industry Council of Westchester
and Hudson Valley Inc.

Todd G. Helfrich, President & CEO
Eastern Contractors Association, Inc.

Brad Buyers
FAIR Committee of WNY

Garry Douglas, President and CEO
North Country Chamber of Commerce

James A. Dussing, President
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Abby Clairmont, Communication &
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New York State Hospitality & Tourism
Association

Molly Dillman, NY State Assistant Director
NFIB

Matt Cohen, President & CEO
Long Island Association

Marc Herbst, Executive Director
Long Island Contractors' Association

Ronald L. Epstein, President & CEO
New York Construction Materials Association

Donald Ranshte
GCA NY

Peter Rescigno, Executive Secretary
New York Electrical Contractors Association

Alison Ritchie, President
New York State Association of Convenience
Stores

Kim Gaylord, President & CEO
Builders Exchange of Rochester

Erin DeSantis, Director
New York Chemistry Council

Perry Ochacher
New York Electrical Contractors Association

Barbara Van Epps, Executive Director
NYS Conference of Mayors

Ryan M Silva, Executive Director
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Mark Dorr, President
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Justin Guiles, President
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James A. Dussing, President
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NYS Council of NECA Chapters

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Felice Farber, Executive Director
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Justin Wilcox, Executive Director
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IUOE Local 158

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