



**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND CAPITAL
INVESTMENT, AND TRANSPORTATION**

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Oral Testimony by Invitation Only

Monday, February 2, 2015
10:30 am
Hearing Room A
Legislative Office Building
Albany, NY 12247

SUBJECT: Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Budget and Finances

PURPOSE: To examine the changes necessary to prevent annual operating deficits and stop the continuing cycle of increased fares and decreased services.

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) provides public transportation in and around the New York City area, stretching into seven counties in New York State and two counties in Connecticut. The system includes the Long Island Railroad, the Metro-North Railroad, the Staten Island Railway, MTA Bus, New York City Transit, and the bridges and tunnels into New York City. The MTA has an operating budget of \$14.4 billion with over 69,000 employees for 2015.

The MTA is implementing a number of cost saving actions for the current operating budget to be balanced. Even with these actions, the MTA will have a predicted operating budget deficit of \$322 million in 2018. The proposed \$32.1 billion capital program for 2015-2019 has a funding gap of \$15.2 billion, almost half of the total costs.

The purpose of this Hearing is to investigate the serious financial problems at the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. The Infrastructure and Capital Investment, and Transportation Committees will convene to examine what changes need to be made to prevent predicted deficits and stop the continuing cycle of increased fares and decreased services.

Oral testimony will be accepted by invitation only and limited to 10 minutes in duration. 15 copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committees would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements. Written testimony will also be accepted and may be sent to the contact person listed on the reply form. In order to further publicize the hearing, please inform interested parties of the Committees' interest in receiving written testimony from all sources.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Legislature, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Legislative facilities and activities.

Senator Carl L. Marcellino, Chairman
Senate Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Capital Investment

Senator Joseph Robach
Senate Standing Committee on Transportation