



January 24, 2024

Testimony Re: Fiscal Year 2025 Executive Budget Proposal

The New York State Laborers' Political Action Committee (NYS Laborers' PAC) is an organization representing over 40,000 union members and 24 local unions. The NYS Laborers' PAC aggressively advocates for wage and safety standards for our members, raising the floor for both union and nonunion construction workers.

The NYS Laborers' PAC extends thanks to Chairs Krueger, Weinstein, Kennedy, Magnarelli and all members present for the opportunity to provide written testimony on the Executive budget proposals relating to transportation.

It is imperative that the state prioritize a robust transportation agenda that provides for a fully funded five year DOT Capital Plan. Following the introduction and enactment of the five year NYS DOT Capital plan in 2021, materials costs have increased significantly. These cost increases must be accounted for with an adjustment in funding. An additional \$400 million investment from the state will ensure that New York continues its sustained funding trajectory while creating good jobs for workers and well maintained roads and bridges for communities across our state.

Additionally, we implore the Governor and the legislature to increase funding for the Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) from the FY2024 funding level of \$479,300,000. An increase in funding will ensure local roads and bridges do not fall into disrepair, providing for a safe commute for New Yorkers across the state.

New York State has the opportunity to create good jobs with family-sustaining wages and benefits, while building and maintaining first-rate infrastructure projects. Prioritization of infrastructure funding will create a stronger New York for all.

Thank you for your consideration of these important topics related to the FY 2025 state budget. Should you have further questions or concerns, please contact Amanda Jensen, amanda.nyslecet@gmail.com.