



DANIEL SQUADRON
SENATOR, 25TH DISTRICT

THE SENATE
STATE OF NEW YORK

RANKING MEMBER
INVESTIGATIONS
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JUDICIARY
TRANSPORTATION

December 8, 2011

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

The legislation passed last night by both houses of the legislature provides New York with a much-needed capital investment to create jobs and grow our economy.

In particular, there are three projects in my district that I believe the New York Works Infrastructure Fund should invest in to help propel New York forward: the rehabilitation of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway (BQE), an incentive program for Lower Manhattan businesses to increase energy efficiency, and a new academic center at New York City College of Technology (City Tech):

- Last month, the New York State Department of Transportation announced its termination of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the rehabilitation of the BQE in my district. The BQE is years past due for structural work, and as one of the most heavily-trafficked roads in the country, it impacts the safety and quality of life of millions, including the dense neighborhoods through which it runs. To stop the rehabilitation process now would be penny-wise and pound-foolish, especially after years of work and millions of dollars have already gone into the EIS.

The completion of the EIS would cost \$6 million, a small part of the \$300 million in Port Authority revenues designated for New York City improvements in this legislation. I urge you to use this opportunity to reverse NYSDOT's recent decision and reinvest in the BQE.

- The Downtown Alliance recently proposed a Green Commercial Incentive Pilot Program for businesses in Lower Manhattan. The program would cover the cost for new commercial tenants who make sustainability improvements to their spaces by offering a grant or refundable credits and supporting small businesses and building owners. This investment in energy efficiency improvements would reduce commercial vacancy, increase employment, and contribute to Lower Manhattan's continued redevelopment and growth. The program is particularly important in Lower Manhattan, which is home to New York's highest concentration of older, historic, and energy-inefficient buildings.

I urge you to invest in Downtown Alliance's Green Commercial Incentive Pilot Program by awarding the \$10 million necessary to launch the program.

- City Tech has proposed the construction of a new academic facility. The school has seen strong enrollment growth in recent years – including a 10 percent increase in the last two years alone. It requires additional, fully modern academic facilities, including classrooms, computer and science labs, a nursing simulation center, and more.

City Tech has already been granted \$240 million for the proposed building. Even a portion of the remaining \$150 million would be an important part of moving the new academic center forward. Doing so would help create a new academic resource at the gateway to Brooklyn, while providing even greater opportunities for striving New Yorkers.

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Thank you for your consideration of these requests. Please let me know if any additional information would be helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Squadron", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Squadron
State Senator
25th District