



July 24, 2020

Dear Senator Schumer and Gillibrand:

The U.S. House of Representatives passed the Moving Forward Act, H.R. 2, a \$1.5 trillion plan to rebuild America's transportation infrastructure on June 26. A vital part of the Moving Forward Act for New York City is that it would extend commuter tax benefits to include bikes, e-bikes, and bike share memberships. Specifically, it would provide riders with a pre-tax benefit of up to \$54 a month to cover commuting costs.

As elected officials representing New York City, we thank you for being champions of public transportation and want to add our support to this proposal if it comes to the U.S. Senate.

New York is a place of particular need for these transportation investments, as we are always faced with challenges related to commuter congestion and advocating for alternatives to traditional transportation. In normal times, we struggle with car-jammed streets, and crumbling and crowded subways, let alone in times when we are trying to social distance amid COVID-19. Bicycling is a way to alleviate the crowds underground and not add more cars to our lanes of traffic in the city.

In New York City, with 1,301 lane miles of bike lanes, approximately nine hundred thousand (900,000) adults ride regularly, at least several times a month. 50,900 New Yorkers use a bicycle as their primary mode of commuting to work - that is a total of 101,800 bike trips per day. From 2013 to 2018, cycling to work has grown more than two times faster in New York City than it has on average in peer cities like Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington DC.

As we recover from COVID-19 and start moving forward again, we need to support commuters and ensure their safety. The support in pre-tax benefits included in the Moving Forward Act would assist many New Yorkers, in their bank accounts, in practicing social distancing, and in getting back to work.

We appreciate your continued support for New York City during difficult times. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Sincerely,

Council Member Keith Powers  
Senator Andrew Gounardes  
Assembly Member Nily Rozic

Senator Brian Kavanagh  
Senator Brad Hoylman  
Senator James Skoufis  
Senator Jen Metzger  
Assembly Member Steve Englebright  
Assembly Member Deborah Glick  
Assembly Member Dan Quart  
Assembly Member Harvey Epstein  
Assembly Member Patricia Fahy  
Assembly Member Donna Lupardo  
Council Majority Leader Laurie Cumbo  
Council Member Margaret Chin  
Council Member Carlos Menchaca  
Council Member Vanessa Gibson  
Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez  
Council Member Justin Brannan  
Council Member Ben Kallos  
Council Member Carlina Rivera  
Council Member Diana Ayala  
Council Member Andy Cohen  
Council Member Mark Treyger  
Council Member Karen Koslowitz  
Council Member Alicka Ampry-Samuel  
Council Member Daneek Miller  
Council Member Debi Rose  
Council Member Jimmy Van Bramer  
Council Member Eric Ulrich  
Council Member Barry Grodenchik  
Council Member Peter Koo  
Council Member Alan Maisel  
Council Member Antonio Reynoso  
Council Member Stephen Levin  
Council Member Helen Rosenthal  
Council Member Fernando Cabrera