

Virtual Question & Answer Session with



Senator Carl L Marcellino



**The Virtual Q&A Session:
03:00 PM - 04:00 PM
Wednesday, December 14**

Session Transcript:

Senator Marcellino (Oyster Bay): We will begin our Our Virtual Town Hall soon, I have received a lot of advance questions and look forward to the interaction



Senator Marcellino (02:50 PM):

Frank W. Halloby (Huntington): When do you expect Senator Lavalley's Senate bill S817-2011 to get out of the Finance Committee and passed by the full Senate ? (tax credit removal/replacement of home fuel oil storage tanks)



Senator Marcellino (03:01 PM): I had passed the same legislation that expired in 2003 credit and it was a successful mechanism to get New Yorkers to replace and close underground oil tanks. This bill I advanced the bill out of my Committee in June, but as you know the bill did not make it out of the Finance Committee for a vote before the full Senate. The bill will be recommitted to my Committee in January and I anticipate it will move out of my Committee again in 2012.

Peter DeFilippo (Locust Valley): Hello Senator Marcellino: I have heard of the Dream Act...can you tell us how close are we to getting such an act passed which may help the younger undocumented residents of our area...and NY State as well? Is this act going anywhere on the Federal level?



Senator Marcellino (03:01 PM): As a State Senator, I would be the wrong person to ask about the Federal Dream Act legislation and its progress. There is a State version of the bill, S.4179-B, Senator Perkins, which was introduced in March of 2011, but is still working its way through the Committee process and currently sits in the Senate Finance Committee.

Rocco Campanale (Syosset): Why is the MTA raising bridge tolls and using some (a lot) of the money for real estate development? Isn't that illegal?



Senator Marcellino (03:02 PM): As we all know, the MTA is not known for their sound judgment and fiscal decision making. I agree that the revenue generated from the tolls should be used to increase the efficiency and overall operation of the system. While there is no specific law dictating where the funds should be used, it demonstrates why I investigated the MTA through my Senate Investigations Committee and will continue to keep a close on all MTA comings and goings.

Robert Nelson (Hicksville, N.Y.): Will you vote against the Freedom of Choice Act?



Senator Marcellino (03:03 PM): I am pro-life.

Kirk (Oyster Bay): Do you think your texting and driving law is being enforced?



Senator Marcellino (03:04 PM): Since my bill was signed in July, violations are up. According to DMV, from July through mid-September of this year, the number of tickets issued outpaced all of 2010 by 43 percent statewide and 73 percent outside of New York City.

Mark Fierstein (Woodbury): Can the residents of the Town of Oyster Bay count on you to do everything in your power to make sure that the fate of the Cerro Wire site remains in the hands of the Town Board and that Taubman is unsuccessful in its attempt to circumvent the Town's authority in this matter?



Senator Marcellino (03:06 PM): I have opposed the Cerro Wire project in the past because it is just too big for the location and will continue to do so. I believe local zoning should be left in the hands of County, Town and Village officials.

A. Flanc (Huntington Station): Dear Senator Marcellino: What is your take on the privatization of Long Island Bus? Every day there seems to be a different story. The employees are not getting an accurate picture of their job status for 2012! How can Nassau County be sure this new company will be able to take over a bus line of this capacity assuring their riders and employees a fair deal??Please give me your opinion. Thank you.



Senator Marcellino (03:06 PM): I agree, I have to trust that Nassau County has done a thorough job of investigating the company. Undertaking a project with the significance of the bus take over, the public and the bus employees must and deserve to be kept up to date on the process and progress of the plan. As you do I still have many questions for which I am seeking answers.

Karen Seltzer (Muttontown): Senator--I sent you an advance e-mail regarding my disappointment at the cancelled vote on a library district for Muttontown. I know your legislation expired. I am particularly upset that the town had plenty of time to do this yet cancelled the vote the day before. Will you push for a new vote?



Senator Marcellino (03:07 PM): I too was disappointed that the vote did not take place. I will be reintroducing the legislation to extend the dates to vote. The residents need and deserve to have quality library service in the area.

Maryanne (Huntington): What hot button issues will likely dominate this session?



Senator Marcellino (03:08 PM): The number one issue I expect will be the economy. We

need to continue to create jobs and opportunities for New Yorkers while also cutting taxes so we can all afford to not only continue to live in New York State, but on Long Island as well.

Carrie Schmermund (Syosset): Several years ago, I discovered that Representative Suozzi changed the tax formula for commercial and residential real estate which resulted in a larger share of the tax burden for residents. That tax rate switch resulted in the largest tax increase for residents and many of my neighbors can no longer afford their homes. I saw a tax increase from about \$16,000 to \$23,000. per year shortly after that formula change was enacted. When can we expect our representatives in the legislature to address the way businesses and residents are taxed in Syosset to favor residents so we can afford to stay in our homes?



Senator Marcellino (03:09 PM): I am all too aware of the property tax burden we Nassau County property owners face. That is why I supported the 2% property tax cap. It is a strong first step towards providing meaningful and sustained tax relief on Long Island.

Gerry Klingler (Syosset): How do the vast majority of tax payers not using the LIRR living in Nassau and Suffolk benefit from the MTA Payroll Tax ? If ever there was taxation without representation this is it.



Senator Marcellino (03:10 PM): Simply put, it doesn't. Since the day I voted against the tax, I have said it is a job killer that should never have been enacted. We took a great first step by rolling back 80% of the tax last week. I am hopeful that down the road we can eliminate the tax all together for the entire MTA region.

Maria Ruotolo (Huntington Station): The tax cap will create more cuts to our schools unless costs are lowered. What are our state senators doing now to address the growing disparity between funding and costs now? What action is being taken to prevent more cuts to kindergarten, AP classes, varsity sports and busing? What considerations are being made for LI districts with higher than average ESL and Special ed costs? There has been a mandate relief committee in NYS for over a year. Exactly which mandates have been relieved?



Senator Marcellino (03:10 PM): The Governor's Mandate Relief Commission is still operating, but that does not and should not prevent the legislature from passing our own mandate relief bill. During the property tax debate, I have consistently said that the cap MUST be paired with significant mandate relief for the schools. I believe as school districts seek to squeeze the efficiency out of every dollar in the budget, they need to focus their cuts on the administrative side of the district and preserve the funding that benefits the work being done in the classroom for both the students and teachers.

howard rotto (syosset): if the coliseum project would have truly created new jobs, even for a limited period, it would have also created new jobs down the line. Unlike the Cerro project, it would not have created significant new traffic congestion, as access to major roadways is already there. Therefore, why was this project not supported with the full support of many of the local elected officials.



Senator Marcellino (03:11 PM): The answer to your question has to be asked of the Hempstead and Nassau County officials who control that project.

Lynn Testa (East Norwich): I was wondering if there has been any more information on veterans that served in the military during 1980-88. I was told I could not buy back my years of service. A law was being looked at to allow all veterans to buy back their time. Has this been passed? It

has been a long time in process. Thanks in advance.



Senator Marcellino (03:12 PM): This legislation has not become law in our State yet. We need to amend the law to allow all US military veterans to buy back three years of their military service regardless of where or when they served. I support this legislation and would vote for it.

Fred Von Burg (Woodbury, NY): Please oppose S.2524(Klein)/S.2844(Stewart-Cousins). This is a radical abortion bill advocated by a very small group of pro-abortion extremists. The bill would provide full legal cover for the practice of abortion-on-demand through all nine months of pregnancy.



Senator Marcellino (03:13 PM): I agree with you; I oppose this legislation.

Clifford Sondock (Jericho): How can New York State intervene to protect New Yorkers' property rights from overreaching villages and towns? Too often, villages and towns cater to civics and other special interests over both individual property owners and regional needs.



Senator Marcellino (03:14 PM): If there is a specific incident you would like my office to investigate please contact me directly with the details and your contact information.

Aldo Rovere (Northport): Why do we allow out-of-state college students to attend our State Universities for significantly less than they would charge our students to attend their State Universities? And our schools have higher rankings!!! Makes no sense. Why are we subsidizing out-of-state students???



Senator Marcellino (03:14 PM): The SUNY system was established to provide an affordable college education for New York State students. I agree that we should take steps to give admission preference to our home grown students over those coming from outside NYS.

Joseph Molinaro (Hyde Park): Dear Senator Marcellino: When will you present and support the Crossbow to be used in any season to hunt deer for senior Sportsmen and Women 65 and over. I will be 80 years old next year(the Lord willing)and please do not tell me that I may use a modified bow. I have been unable to brace a legal compound bow for many years due to a shoulder replacement! Respectfully; Joseph T. Molinaro Jr.



Senator Marcellino (03:15 PM): Currently the Crossbow is legal during the regular hunting season. There is no current pending legislation to expand the use of crossbows at this time.

John Bruscella (Bayville): What is your position on term limits?



Senator Marcellino (03:16 PM): I oppose term limits as a stand alone bill. I face a term limit every two years when I go before the voters of the 5th Senate District.

John Bruscella (Bayville): Considering the fact that property taxes on Long Island are so high compared to most other parts of the country and the school tax make up almost 70% of the property taxes, what do you propose as a way of controlling and/or rolling back this portion of the property taxes?



Senator Marcellino (03:16 PM): The recently enacted 2% property tax cap is a major step in the right direction. Now we need to pair it with meaningful mandate relief, consolidation of services and spending cuts.

Steven Kane (Woodbury): Dear Senator Marcellino, I am most concerned with the uncontrolled growth in Local, School, and State Taxes. More than interest rates the extreme growth of real estate taxes have become a drag on the sale and price of homes and make it very difficult for individuals to purchase and afford a home. We need a solution that will not only stop the growth of these taxes, but will actually reduce them. Do you have any suggestions on how to accomplish this daunting task.



Senator Marcellino (03:17 PM): During the property tax cap debate, I consistently said that while it is a good first step, my constituents need to have their taxes reduced. That is why we need to continue to eliminate mandates, cut spending and consolidate services. To set an example the State reduced spending to 2008 levels and the Governor negotiated with the unions for no increases in salary for State employees.

marc maslin (woodbury): how come; were the most taxed in the usa, the most costly school supt. @ asst. one million dollars .this all under your watch love to here from you.



Senator Marcellino (03:17 PM): Superintendents salaries and other school district employees are determined by the local School Boards not the New York State legislature. That is why I fought for the 2% property tax cap and will introduce legislation in the 2012 session to cap administrative spending by school districts to 3% of their total budget.

Ken Farrell (Northport): Hi Senator, Merry Christmas. Please tell me how I can get my mortgage company, Chase, to re-negotiate my loan to a lower interest rate. I am currently paying 7.5% while the average rate for a 30 year fixed mortgage is now 4.25% My home value is approximately 500K and the mortgage is 600K. My wife and I both work and we have a perfect credit. I have written letters with no response from the bank.



Senator Marcellino (03:19 PM): Perhaps you could attempt to refinance your mortgage with another lending institution besides your current company. If they are not providing you with a quality service there is nothing preventing you from shopping for a better rate elsewhere. With a perfect credit rating, you should find a willing bank with little trouble and a Merry Christmas to you too.

Jay Becker (Syosset): Please do whatever is necessary to insure that no shopping mall is ever built on the Cerro Wire facility in Syosset. Now the LI Regional Planning council is getting involved bringing in a new set of political problems, and there is talk of Taubman doing an "end around play" to get the state involved. Please use your political influence in the Senate and with the governor, local authorities to make sure that this effort by Taubman is blunted. Perhaps a bill requiring local community votes on major projects of this nature is called for.



Senator Marcellino (03:20 PM): I do and will continue to oppose this project.

Karin Ralph (Greenlawn): I am opposed to hydraulic fracking and would like to know your views on this subject.



Senator Marcellino (03:20 PM): The process needs to be studied and all safeguards must be put into place. If it can be done safely then okay if not then it should not be done. I will continue to review the reports and studies on fracking as they are made available.

Leonard Smallberg (Melville, NY 11747): Mta payroll tax. Why are self employed persons

earning more than \$50,000, which includes Limited Liability Companies, are still subject to the MTA payroll tax?



Senator Marcellino (03:21 PM): I voted against the MTA payroll tax. It should have never existed in the first place. We took a great first step in increasing the taxable earnings of the self employed from \$10,000 to \$50,000. I will continue to fight for the total repeal of this burdensome and job killing tax.

george ketterer (hicksville): taxing wall street one half of 1 %per cent on all stock transaction.



Senator Marcellino (03:21 PM): I do not support the taxing of stock transactions.

John Desiderio (Northport): Why is your celltower bill only dealing with distance from schools when children are home - as well as adults and pets - more time than in school? I agree with your concerns about cell tower emissions however don't understand why only schools. My neighbors and I are opposing a possible T-Mobile, 60 foot, tower within 200 feet of our homes!!!!



Senator Marcellino (03:23 PM): While I share your concern, absent a definitive study that establishes the danger of these towers being placed in residential areas, a balance has to be struck between public health and the public's desire for quality access to technology. I will continue to support my legislation calling for a NYS Health Dept. study on cell towers and the school cell tower siting legislation.

s.gubernowycz (Bayville): WHY DO WE NEED PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS WHEN WE HAVE THE NASSAU POLICE DEPT??THESE ARE JUST MORE PATRONAGE JOBS .ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.



Senator Marcellino (03:23 PM): During these difficult financial times all levels of government must analyze how they spend every cent of taxpayer provided funding. The Town must evaluate the cost of public safety officers vs. the public safety needs of the residents of the Town.

Noreen O'Donnell Crayne (Hicksville): Senator Marcellino, would you support or oppose funding of embryonic stem cell research? Thank you.



Senator Marcellino (03:24 PM): I would support stem cell research on existing stem cell lines. However I do not support creating life to destroy it for experimental purposes.

Linda & Lou Podesta (Huntington): RELIEF FOR SENIORS - Both of us are in our mid seventies and have been living in Huntington for close to forty years. We love our home and would like to continue to live here, but our taxes are outrageous. We pay over \$20,000 per year for the privilege of living in West Hills. I can remember a number of years ago we used to pay \$50 per quarter to our trash collector (\$200/Yr.) Then the town came along and told us that we would be saving money by having the town take over the refuse collection charges. The last time I looked we were paying over double what we used to pay (\$400/Yr.) When does this nonsense stop? It makes it doubly hard to take considering we never sent any children to the local schools (we know that everyone must pay their fair share), but it is becoming ridiculous. We do not even bother voting on school budgets anymore since it is a waste of our time. Why do you allow re-votes when a budget is turned down? We would like a re-vote when a budget is approved. This nonsense must stop!



Senator Marcellino (03:25 PM): I agree that we must help our seniors stay in their homes by controlling property taxes. The 2% property tax cap will help and I have

consistently voted for legislation freezing property taxes for seniors 70 and older. Unfortunately the Assembly never takes up the legislation.

Lawrence C Koenig (Hicksville): It concerns me that in a recent study by George Mason University, on Economic and Political Freedom by state, New York came out dead last. We are the least free of the fifty states. What can be done about this?



Senator Marcellino (03:26 PM): I agree that we need to focus on turning around the economic fortunes of New York State instead of investing time infringing on the personal freedoms of New Yorkers. Keep in mind this report covers the years when the Eliot Spitzer and David Paterson were Governor and the Democrats were controlled by the Senate. We cannot go back to these days and this report shows exactly why. During the two years in control of the Senate along with a Democratic Governor and Assembly, New York became, by far, the state with the highest taxes in the country. Now, times have changed in New York with a Senate Republican majority working with Governor Cuomo, we are working to cut taxes and the bureaucratic red tape that New York have been known for the past few years. New York State is back open for Business and I look forward to continuing this trend and seeing dramatic improvements in the next study conducted by George Mason University.

linda carter (hicksville): I would like to know what is being done about one family dwellings being rented out to boarders or having illegal apartments. If someone chooses to report any of these situations they are required to fill out a form with personal information including a copy of one's driver's license. It is no wonder that homeowners with boarders and illegal apartments are not being reported to authorities.



Senator Marcellino (03:27 PM): I share your concern with this most serious issue. I have had numerous meetings on this problem and will be introducing legislation in the 2012 Session to address it. My bill will increase the penalty for illegal housing and will provide more effective tools for increased enforcement by the Town

Joan Tipping (Huntington): I am an injured worker currently on Workers Comp & Social Security Disability since 2002. These new guidelines that came into effect in 2010 are absolutely NOT FAIR. For the injured people such as myself, the stress brought on by Workers Compensation/ Insurance companies is only adding the the problem(s). I have submitted documentation from my doctor's for years now they are demanding I enter the workforce. Since I have many restrictions including back,hands,feet and etc how can one be expected to work. This has been brought on by Insurance Carrier (Sedgewick) because I did not want to settle. In fact, the Ins carrier,along with both attorneys and myself AGREED upon my bi-weekly payment for life. This has been draining on myself and is only causing me more stress and pain. These so called new guidelines are absolutely unfair and need immediate attention. The Insurance Companies are trying to control people and not care about a person's well being-sad but true. Regards, Joan Tipping



Senator Marcellino (03:27 PM): There is currently legislation pending in the Legislature that would prohibit the look back that is allowing Insurance Companies to alter existing, needed disability services under Workers Comp law in NYS. I supported this legislation, S3746, through the Committee process and would vote for it if it came before the full Senate for a vote.

Georgia Czerwinsky (Huntington Station): Hi, I am very, very concerned with what's going on with the gang shootings in Huntington Station. I don't live too far from where these terrible things are happening and I have to drive though that section to get to the mall. I realize police security

has been increased there but it doesn't seem to be working. Please do something about this issue. I am embarrassed to say that I live in Huntington Station.



Senator Marcellino (03:28 PM): The violence in Huntington Station is very disturbing. I have and will continue to meet with residents, elected officials, law enforcement and community groups to find real solutions. The community deserves to live without fear and we must provide the tools and resources that will allow law enforcement to combat the problem head on.

David Budner (Locust Valley): As a follow-up on your inquiry on LIPA's response times & procedures following the last big storm on Long Island, what changes have been made to their policies & procedures to insure future power outages are not as prolonged as during the last storm.



Senator Marcellino (03:29 PM): To date, LIPA has instituted no permanent changes to their procedures for future power outages. Too often during my investigation of LIPA, I was shocked that the powers that be at LIPA were satisfied with their response. My recommendations that came as a result of my hearing are available at my website if you would like to review them.

tommy boy (greenlawn): What are you doing to roll back the obscene high salaries of municipal union workers ? Are you beholden to them and if so how and why?. It can't go on.



Senator Marcellino (03:29 PM): First and foremost, I do not negotiate the contracts given to union employees. In these difficult times, a sense of shared sacrifice must be a part of all contract negotiations. It is this type of negotiation that led to the recent contract agreements between the State, PEF and CSEA. Pairing responsible contracts with the recently enacted Tier V pension programs will help control costs that will have long term savings for the taxpayer.

Philbert Robertson (Elmont): Senator Marcellino, what are you and your team doing to create more jobs..... Regards, Philbert Robertson 516-352-1926.



Senator Marcellino (03:30 PM): The most recent thing I've done is vote for the Middle Class Tax Cut and Job Creation Law. The plan cuts the corporate tax providing a major boost for job creation. It supports the New York Works Initiative an infrastructure investment fund designed to create jobs through development of highways, bridges and major construction projects. The plan also provides MTA Payroll Tax relief for small businesses and job training for young New Yorkers. I look forward to building on to this during the upcoming 2012 Session.

Bob Smith (Lloyd Harbor): Will you pledge to really reduce spending? Not the Washington hocus pocus of reducing the rate of spending growth. It has to stop.



Senator Marcellino (03:33 PM): I do pledge to reduce spending. Take last year's budget for example, we closed a \$14 billion deficit through spending cuts and consolidation of services. It is my goal to eliminate this year's deficit in the exact same manner.

Chester Lech (Hicksville): What ever happened to the measure(bill), by Senator LaValle, to exempt some seniors over 75 from paying school taxes ? I understand it passed in the Senate, but no further word.



Senator Marcellino (03:34 PM): S.2988 (LaValle) passed Senate in 2011 again with my support and failed to move in Assembly. This bill amends the real property tax law by establishing a fixed real property school tax rate for persons seventy years of age or over who meet the requirements for the enhanced STAR exemption.

Shirley (Jericho): Where does all the State Lottery money go?



Senator Marcellino (03:35 PM): The Lottery contributed more than \$3 billion to help support education in New York State in fiscal year 2010-11 which is over 15 percent of total state education funding to local school districts. Visit their web site to see exactly where the money goes and how much to each district

Rod Chrysler (Syosset): Senator, What is your position on "Microstamping" pistol/rifle Cartridges?



Senator Marcellino (03:38 PM): The technology is easily defeat and would not produce the desired results, capturing those who use handguns illegally

Frank (Syosset): Why not repeal the entire MTA tax?



Senator Marcellino (03:39 PM): I voted against the original plan, but unfortunately to eliminate the whole thing at one time would create too large a deficit in the MTA budget. This MTA roll back will eliminate or reduce the current MTA tax for 80% of those small businesses currently paying it. A good thing for job creation and I look forward to eliminating the rest of this ill conceived plan down the road.

Alex (Huntington): Under the tax cut plan, how much will the average taxpayer save a year?



Senator Marcellino (03:40 PM): Under this Middle Class Tax Cut and Job Creation Plan, approximately 4.4 million middle class taxpayers will receive \$690 million in personal income tax relief, allowing them to save approximately \$300 to \$400 a year.

Chuck (Bayville): How do you see the 2012 Budget shaping up?



Senator Marcellino (03:41 PM): As we stand now, the State is facing a roughly \$2 billion deficit. Compared to last year's \$14 billion deficit, the climb is not so steep. It will be my goal to close this gap through further spending reductions and consolidation of State agencies and entities. I believe we have laid the ground work for another on time budget in 2012.

Steve Haar (Bayville): How would one go about changing the way appointments are made for the Board Of Regents. Currently the members are all very wealthy connected New Yorkers, many of whom never attended public schools and who are making decisions affecting the education level of our children and the exorbitant school taxes we pay. There should be a broader spectrum of board members, representing all strata of education in New York State including teachers, parents, etc.



Senator Marcellino (03:44 PM): Under the NYS Education Law and NYS Constitution, the members of the Board of Regents are elected by the membership of the Legislature. To change the election process or power of the Board of Regents would require both Constitutional and State law changes. While the Senate would be willing to do so, the Assembly would not. Due to the sheer numbers advantage in the Assembly versus Senate (150 to 62), the Assembly enjoys the monopoly they have on picking the Regents.

Peter (Hicksville): What can be done about school spending?



Senator Marcellino (03:45 PM): We took the first step to help control spending by enacting the 2% property tax cap. On top of that, our schools need to squeeze the value out of each and every dollar. I believe they should be looking to eliminate duplicative administrative positions and processes. They should cut the beauracracy, not the classroom funds that help our children learn.

Patrick (Old Brookville): How do you feel about red light camera?



Senator Marcellino (03:46 PM): I believe they can be an effective deterrent to help keep our streets safer. But I also believe drivers deserve warning of their locations. I will be introducing a bill in 2012 requiring a sign to be posted at all red light camera locations.

Josephine (Melville): Recently, New York State has ben hit with a number of corruption investigations and indictments of public officials. How can New Yorkers rid themselves of these scoundrels and feel better about those they elected to represent them



Senator Marcellino (03:50 PM): It is unfortunate that a few members have been indicted or convicted of using their office for personal benefit. I hope New Yorkers will look closely at who they elect. The public has a powerful tool at their fingers: elections. The ultimate decision to who will represent you at every level is yours. In this case, a few bad apples shouldn't ruin a bunch.

Nicole (Glen Head): Do you think there will be a Tier VI soon?



Senator Marcellino (03:52 PM): Tier V, created in 2009, was a step in the right direction to controlling long term pension costs, but I firmly believe that the creation of a Tier VI which moves the State towards a non-defined benefit system for new hires is gaining serious momentum in Albany.

Rod Chrysler (Syosset): Senator, Your thoughts on "concealed carry" permits for those who pass background checks. Proven fact, more guns in the general population = less crime. Despite what Bloomberg says.



Senator Marcellino (03:53 PM): I have consistently stood with legitimate gun owners in supporting legislation that defends the legal use of firearms and cracks down on illegal guns favored by dangerous criminals. We must ensure that our laws punish criminals rather than innocent, law-abiding citizens.

Marvin (Woodbury): Do you think LIPA is prepared for the next large storm?



Senator Marcellino (03:54 PM): No, I think LIPA has to ensure that the proper personnel and procedures are in place to get us through the next large storm. I don't think LIPA has learned the lessons from the mess that Irene created.

Tom (Oyster Bay): What do you want for Christmas?



Senator Marcellino (03:55 PM): I am just happy with the health and happiness of my family and friends as corny as that sounds - But I wouldn't turn down a new sports car !!!

August (Jericho): Do you feel that our State Government is too big and should be downsized?



Senator Marcellino (03:59 PM): Yes, I am currently looking into consolidations on several levels of government and hope some of these proposals will be implemented in the upcoming session.

Rebecca (Locust Valley): Do you think the Counties, Towns and Villages should have to pay the MTA payroll tax?



Senator Marcellino (04:00 PM): No, I believe no one should have to pay a payroll tax to the MTA, I believe the MTA payroll tax should be repealed for all employers outside of NYC. The City and State should look at other more equitable ways to fund the MTA.