

June 7, 2016

## NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

Mr. Matthew Driscoll, Commissioner NYSDOT 50 Wolf Rd. Albany, NY 12224

Dear Commissioner Driscoll:

We are writing regarding regional funding allocations under the recently approved 2016-2017 State Budget transportation capital program. Ensuring equitable funding regionally is critical to Senators and Assembly Members in Region 4.

Great progress has been made over the past several years to assure parity, but the region still receives less than its traditional level of funding.

We strongly urge the DOT to adopt a plan that represents the transportation inventory of the region. Traditionally, Region 4 has received approximately 10% of the total state capital plan, which accurately reflects the state lane miles, bridges and culverts contained within the region. Additionally, we respectfully request that you inform us of the exact percentage of the total state capital plan that is received by Region 4. Every region of the state has significant needs and the regional funding allocations in the next five year plan should reflect each region's inventory. LOSP, canal bridges and others are in critical need of work.

Finally, there are ongoing concerns regarding the lack of projects being let in the region. Local transportation advocates are concerned that other regions of the state have let projects at a significantly faster rate. I strongly urge you to work with local representatives to ensure that the prior work schedule is completed as soon as possible. Advancing current projects and ensuring fair, reliable future funding is critical to the economy and public safety of the region.

Thank you for your consideration regarding these extremely important issues facing Western New York. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Josep E Robach, Senator District 56

> Steve Hawley, Assemblyman District 139

Robert G. Ortt, Senator District 62

Cc: Mr. Ronald Thaniel, Deputy Secretary of Transportation; Kevin Bush, Regional Director-Region 4