



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

Statement On Proposed Mta Fare Hike

[MALCOLM A. SMITH](#) December 16, 2008

“Facing an economic crisis in which hundreds of thousands of jobs may be lost, we must do everything possible to protect everyday New Yorkers by reducing any proposed fare hikes while protecting the high standards of safety and services. We cannot return our state to financial solvency if commuters, particularly where the need is the greatest in Long Island and the suburbs, do not have access to an affordable and reliable means to get to their jobs and support their families. Further, as a representative of the Borough of Queens, I am deeply disappointed by the MTA’s proposal to eliminate the Rockaway Resident- Cross Bay Bridge Rebate Program. Eliminating the rebate is counterproductive to the local economy and its residents at a time when they can least afford it,” said Senate Democratic Leader Malcolm A. Smith.