



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Malcolm Smith

## Statement From Senate Democratic Leader Malcolm A. Smith On Funding For New York City Transportation Improvements

MALCOLM A. SMITH August 13, 2007

Today, New York City officials announced the approval of more than \$350 million in Federal funding for transportation improvements. This is great news as we proceed with long-range plans to address traffic congestion and enhance public transportation throughout the City and the Metropolitan region.

Last month, the Senate passed legislation authorizing the creation of a 17-member New York City Traffic Congestion Mitigation Commission to review Mayor Michael Bloomberg's comprehensive plan to address traffic congestion and make recommendations on how it should be implemented.

Members of our Conference who represent several districts throughout the Metropolitan area have many important ideas on how best to reduce traffic congestion. Going forward, my goal is to ensure that the concerns of the members of our Conference are adequately considered and addressed by the Commission.

Notwithstanding, I am excited about the opportunity for the City to recapture its national leadership role for developing innovative strategies as the country faces new challenges during these changing times. I want to congratulate the Mayor and the Governor for their

visionary leadership in addressing traffic congestion and the need for enhanced public transportation, and I look forward to working with the Mayor, the Governor and the Legislature in implementing a plan that benefits the City.

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