

To: Members of the NY/NJ Port Authority Board and Staff

Re: Publishing Updated Daily Ridership and Crossing Information as Open Data

Dear members of the NY/NJ Port Authority Board of Commissioners,

We the undersigned ask you, in the spirit of transparency and partnership, to publicly release complete and timely information about your respective agencies' daily ridership, bridge and tunnel crossings, and toll collection. This data is essential to understanding how you are serving the public, and for regional understanding of transit ridership and traffic patterns.

Specifically, we request:

- Daily and weekly ridership data across all Port Authority systems, including PATH trains, buses, and paratransit, for calendar years 2023 and 2024, and on an ongoing timely basis. This should be disaggregated by line, and include crossings into the Manhattan Central Business District. Ideally, this data should be further broken out hourly so that analysis can be done by time of day, i.e. showing peak vs off-peak trips.
- Service performance data, such as on-time performance for PATH trains and buses, and customer journey and travel times for calendar years 2023 and 2024, and on an ongoing timely basis.
- Daily and weekly vehicle and crossing data, broken down by mode of transportation, across all Port Authority bridges and tunnels for the calendar years 2023 and 2024, and on an ongoing timely basis. This data should include crossings into the Manhattan Central Business district. Ideally, this data should be further broken out hourly so that analysis can be done by time of day, and showing peak vs off-peak trips.

We request that this information be released in an open data format, including visualized on data dashboards and available in a downloadable tabular format.

Release of timely, complete, and open ridership data is essential to increase transparency and build trust with transportation advocates and elected officials who support the goal of increasing transit to improve public health, public safety, and economic security. It will also help bring both agencies into alignment with several other sister agencies, such as [MTA in New York](#), [CTA in Chicago](#), [BART in San Francisco](#), and [LA Metro](#), who regularly publish ridership information.

This kind of transparency is also critical for transit agencies who continue to face pressure around the need for increased funding, and we believe that making ridership information more easily accessible will allow for better advocacy and better decision making around transportation funding. The COVID-19 crisis began a transitional time for both transit and road users in the NYC metro area, and that transition is continuing with the implementation of congestion pricing. Commuter patterns are changing, and understanding these changes will be key to future planning for your agencies to ensure the best possible experience for all transit and road users.

We look forward to working with you on this and future priorities that affect the residents of both of our states. Thank you for your consideration of this critical issue.

Signed,

Rachael Fauss, Senior Policy Director
Reinvent Albany

Nicole Rodriguez, President
New Jersey Policy Perspective

Renaë Reynolds, Executive Director
Tri-State Transportation Campaign

Doug O'Malley, Director
Environment New Jersey

Tiffany-Ann Taylor, Vice President of
Transportation
Regional Plan Association

Lisa Daglian, Executive Director
Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to
the MTA

Betsy Plum, Executive Director
Riders Alliance

Susan Lerner, Executive Director
Common Cause/NY

Andrew Rein, President
Citizens Budget Commission

Noel Hidalgo, Executive Director
BetaNYC

Debra Coyle, Executive Director
NJ Work Environment Council

Drew Tompkins, Director
Jersey Renews

Nicole Miller, Chair
Newark Green Team

Natasha Elder, Regional Director
Straphangers Campaign/New York Public
Interest Research Group

Charlene Walker, Executive Director
Faith in New Jersey

Winn Khuong, Executive Director
Action Together New Jersey

Ben Dziobek, Executive Director
Climate Revolution Action Network

Mara Novak, Co-Executive Director
NJ 11th for Change

Anita Edward, Administrative Assistant
Clinicians For Climate Action NJ

Karla Sosa, Project Manager, New York -
New Jersey State Affairs
Environmental Defense Fund

Zeke Weston, Policy Coordinator
New Jersey Future

Ed Potosnak, Executive Director
New Jersey League of Conservation Voters

Jennifer M. Coffey, Executive Director
Association of NJ Environmental
Commissions (ANJEC)

Jesse Burns, Executive Director
League of Women Voters NJ

Betsy Gotbaum, Executive Director
Citizens Union of the City of New York

Nedia Morsy, Interim Director
Make the Road NJ

William S. Kibler, Executive Director
Great Swamp Watershed Association

Debra Kagan, Executive Director
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Talya Schwartz Naor
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Anjuli Ramos-Busot, Director
NJ Sierra Club

Taylor Jaffe, Program Manager
Catskill Mountainkeeper

Kevin Garcia, Senior Transportation Planner
New York City Environmental Justice
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Christopher Schuyler
Managing Attorney, Disability Justice
Program
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Sara Lind
Co-Executive Director
Open Plans

CC: Rick Cotton, Executive Director