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Congestion Pricing Plan Included in State Budget

ACEC New York/Fix Our Transit Coalition Supports Plan to Strengthen Public Transit

NEW YORK, April 1, 2019 — After years of advocacy, a comprehensive congestion pricing plan will be included in New York State’s budget. This proposal is timely, as the region’s transit system shows continued signs of deterioration from years of underinvestment. New York now joins London, Stockholm and Singapore, who have been using congestion pricing to reduce traffic and invest in mass transit for over a decade. ACEC New York is part of the Fix Our Transit coalition, which is comprised of over 100 transportation, environmental, business, labor, clergy, public health and justice organizations that fully back congestion pricing.

“ACEC New York strongly supports New York’s bold action to lead the nation in transit support and effectiveness,” said Jay Simson, President & CEO of ACEC New York. “Led by Governor Cuomo, Majority Leader Stewart Cousins and Speaker Heastie, the new plan, which features congestion pricing, will allow the MTA to address critical needs in both maintenance and improvements. This program is the first of its kind in the US and will help all New Yorkers throughout the 21st century. We applaud our leadership for taking this monumental step forward.”

By introducing market-driven pricing for the most congested areas of the city while lowering tolls elsewhere, \$1.5 billion a year can be raised to fund transportation and transit projects in New York. The funds generated will be used to maintain, improve and build new transportation systems, which in turn will increase ridership. Less traffic translates into reduced emissions that are harmful to humans. This plan will also enhance economic activity in New York City. Expanded transit services will facilitate commuting as well as trips to Manhattan for recreation and shopping. In addition, the plan has the potential to create approximately 35,000 annual recurring jobs that would stimulate all sectors of the state’s economy. For more information on the state budget and on congestion pricing, visit the Fix Our Transit website at fixourtransit.org.

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ACEC New York is a proactive coalition of nearly 300 firms representing every discipline of engineering related to the built environment—civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, environmental, geotechnical—and affiliated companies. Our shared goals are to further the business interests of our membership, enhance the quality and safety of the environment we live and work in, and help ensure the vitality of our communities. For more information, visit www.acecny.org.