



PCAC

PERMANENT CITIZENS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MTA

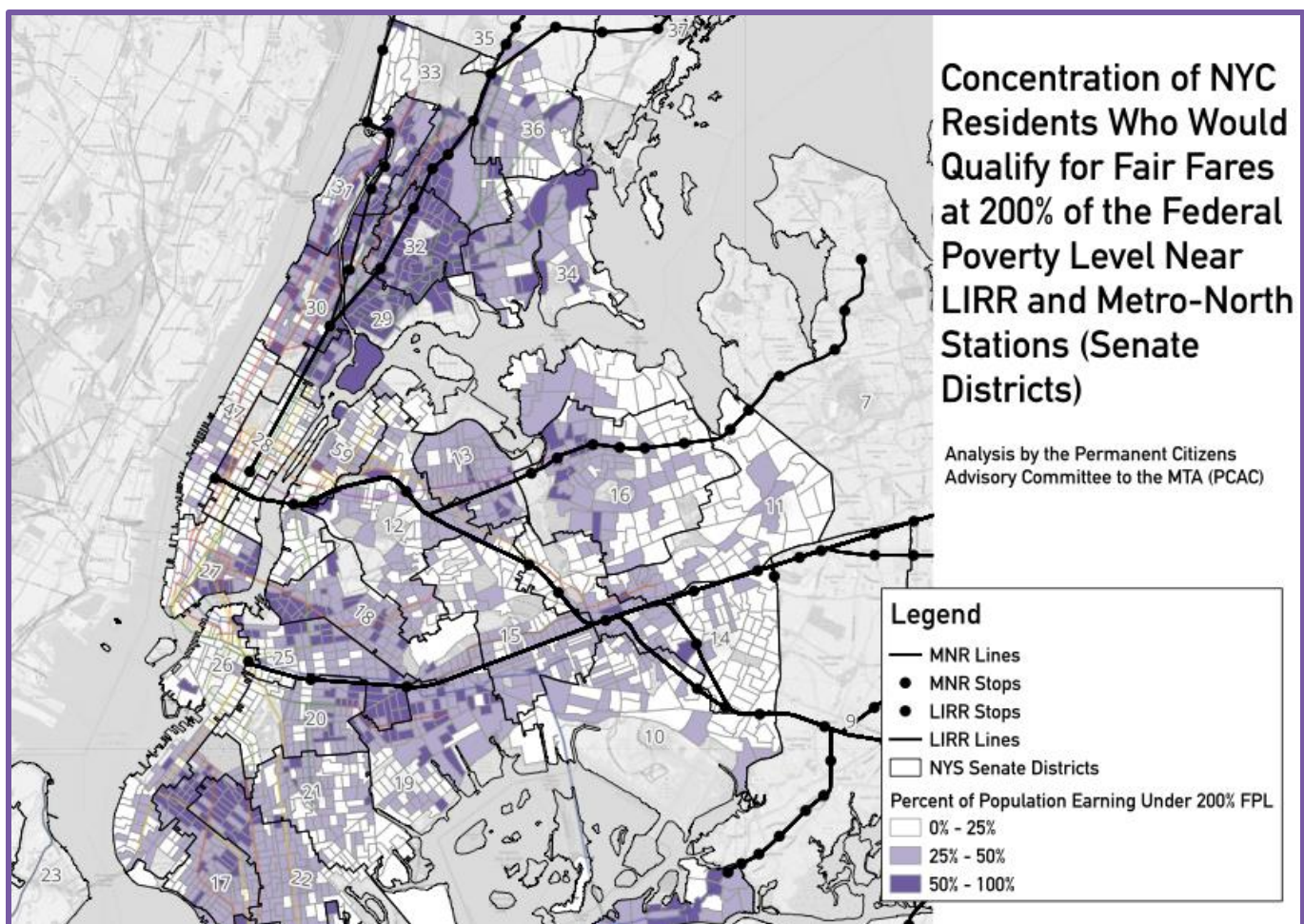
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New Map Shows: 70% of City LIRR and Metro-North Stations Located in Areas with Potential for High Fair Fares Eligibility

PCAC analysis finds a high concentration of people earning less than 200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) live near* 28 of the city's 40 commuter rail stations. Passing the FARES Act and raising Fair Fares eligibility to 200% of the FPL would drastically improve transit access, equity, and affordability in the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, and Upper Manhattan



ENACTING THE 'FARES ACT' AND INCREASING FAIR FARES TO 200% OF FPL MEANS:

- 11 of the 13 Metro-North stations in the ***Bronx and Upper Manhattan*** are near/within census tracts where over HALF of people would be eligible for Fair Fares at or below \$2.50 per ride off-peak within NYC and \$1.63 within the Bronx for intra-borough travel
- Of the three LIRR stations in ***Brooklyn***, all three are near/within census tracts with between 25% and 50% of people who would be eligible for Fair Fares at or below \$2.50 per ride off-peak within NYC, more than half at East New York
- Of the 22 LIRR stations in ***Queens***, 14 are near/within census tracts with over 25% of people who would be eligible for Fair Fares — of those, seven are near/within census tracts with over half of people would qualify for Fair Fares

* LIRR and Metro-North stations were considered "near" a high concentration of Fair Fares eligible residents if they were in or adjacent to a Census tract where more than 25% of residents had incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty level. 2018-2022 ACS 5-Year Estimate (US Census) and OpenStreetMap data used.



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Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC) FY25 Budget Priorities

Created by the legislature in 1981, the PCAC's legislative mandate is to represent riders on subways, buses, the Staten Island Railway, LIRR, and Metro-North Railroad. PCAC advocates on behalf of riders and advises the MTA on operational performance and capital projects through policy recommendations and reports. On behalf of MTA riders, we extend our gratitude to Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins for including the 'FARES Act' and Speaker Heastie for increasing Fair Fares eligibility to 200% of the federal poverty level in their respective One-House Budget Resolutions.

PCAC PRIORITIES - SENATE ONE-HOUSE BUDGET RESOLUTION:

| Section | Part | Position | Description |
|--------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---|
| TEDE / Aid to Localities | VV / Page 1242 | ARDENTLY SUPPORT | Provides \$40 million for the 'FARES Act': expands Fair Fares to LIRR & Metro-North in NYC, creates a weekly CityTicket w/ free subway & bus transfers, expands Senior & disabled half fares to the AM peak |
| TEDE | A | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of the Executive Budget proposal to extend the MTA's TIF authority to April 1 st , 2034 in the enacted budget |
| TEDE | C & D | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of the Executive Budget proposals to strengthen penalties for toll evasion and falsely claiming a CBDTP exemption in the enacted budget |
| TEDE | I | SUPPORT | Enacts Sammy's Law |
| ELFA | Q | SUPPORT | Lifts the 12.0 FAR Cap, enabling more riders to live near transit |
| Aid to Localities | Page 1241 | SUPPORT | Enacts the "Get Congestion Pricing Right Act" (S.8658), providing \$90 million for increased MTA bus frequency, reliability, and affordability |
| Capital Projects | 604 | SUPPORT | PCAC supports the inclusion of funds for: Hudson Line resiliency projects; a feasibility study of QueensLink; and the Senate's recommendations for the next MTA Capital Plan |

PCAC PRIORITIES - ASSEMBLY ONE-HOUSE BUDGET RESOLUTION:

| Section | Part | Position | Description |
|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|--|
| TED | A | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of the Executive Budget proposal to extend the MTA's TIF authority to April 1 st , 2034 in the enacted budget |
| TED | C & D | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of the Executive Budget proposals to strengthen penalties for toll evasion and falsely claiming a congestion pricing exemption in the enacted budget |
| TED | I | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of Sammy's Law in the enacted budget |
| ELFA | Q | AMEND | PCAC supports inclusion of the Senate One-House or Executive Budget 12.0 FAR Cap proposal in the enacted budget |
| Aid to Localities | Page 1234 | SUPPORT | Enacts the "Get Congestion Pricing Right Act" (A.9415), providing \$90 million for increased MTA bus frequency, reliability, and affordability |
| Aid to Localities | Page 1234 | SUPPORT with amendments* | Expands Fair Fares eligibility to 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and to Express bus service |

PCAC FY25 New York State Budget Recommendations:

- Expand the Fair Fares program to the commuter rails in NYC with eligibility at 200% of FPL and improved outreach.
- Fund a weekly CityTicket, including free transfers to subways and buses.
- Provide AM peak fare discounts to seniors and individuals with disabilities across the MTA commuter rail system.
- Enact the Rider Representation Act, S.20A/A.923A.