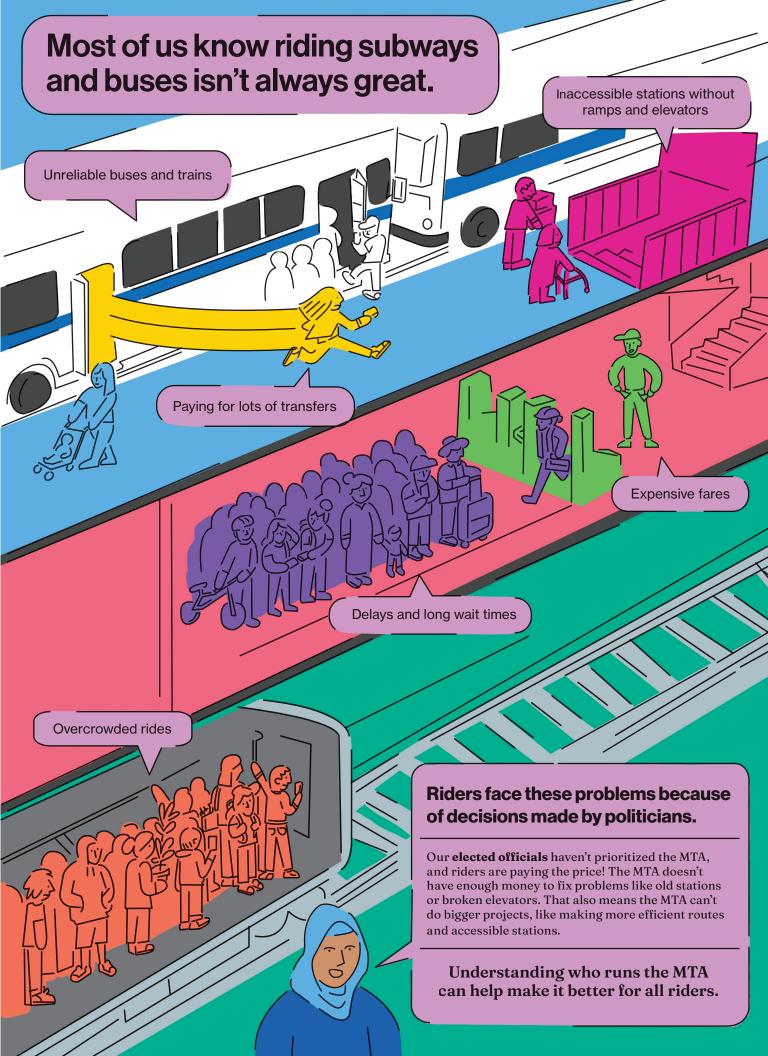


Public transportation is essential to New Yorkers.

8 million people move around the city by bus and train every day.





So who runs the MTA?

Decisions about the MTA's service are made by New York State's governor (not the mayor!)

This means the governor gets to:

Decide how much money the MTA can spend each year on maintaining and improving bus and train service. Usually, this amount is less than what the MTA actually needs to keep running regular service.

Decide where to build better transit

and what communities to invest in.

They could put money towards stations that serve wealthier neighborhoods and tourists, instead of fixing old stations that need it.

Take money away from the MTA and use it for projects that aren't transit-related!

In 2018, New York's Governor spent \$30 million of the MTA's budget on expensive tiles for the Queens Midtown tunnel, instead of on buses

In 2017, New York's Governor took money out of the MTA's budget to pay for ski resorts upstate!



Choose the people who run the MTA. The MTA board votes on major decisions like fare increases and improvement projects. The governor appoints most of the MTA's board members, which means they have a lot of control over the decisions the board makes.

Board members appointed by the governor don't represent riders – most members don't regularly ride the bus or subway!

The Governor can (and should!) make the MTA better!

The governor is supposed

to represent you — so make

sure your voice is heard.

The governor should fix service in neighborhoods that need it most!

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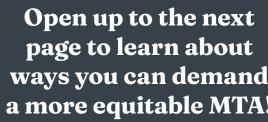
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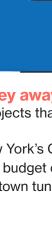
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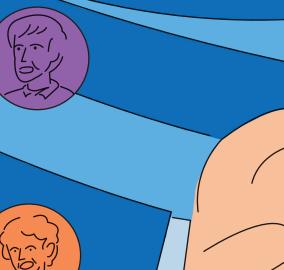
Improve transit by joining campaigns to pressure the governor.

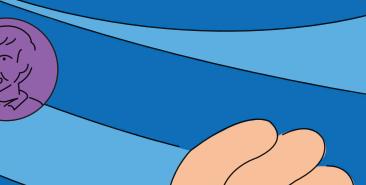
Your state representative also has the power to pressure the governor. Talk to your state rep about your transit needs and experiences.

> page to learn about ways you can demand a more equitable MTA!



















Transit is ours!

What should our MTA look like?

More elevators in stations

Affordable

fares

Faster buses! Fewer delays!!!

Working air conditioning

Bathrooms in the stations

More ways to get between boroughs!

Less crowded

trains and buses!

Better options When there's construction

Build power

The most powerful thing you can do is organize, build power, and demand a better MTA!

Talking with your friends, family, and coworkers about your experiences riding transit, learning more about the MTA's decisions, and encouraging other people to join rallies and campaigns can improve the MTA for all riders.

> Steps you can take to make sure your voice is heard:



Talk to your state representatives about your commute and how you want to see it improved. The governor cares what state representatives think because they vote on their proposals!



Vote for city and state politicians who want to fund and fix MTA service.



Join local organizing campaigns through groups like Riders Alliance. Check the back for more groups!



Here are some recent wins that riders made happen:

The R and G train tunnel shutdowns threatened to leave thousands of riders without a direct commute. Riders organized with their community, Riders Alliance, and elected officials to get more bus and train service to those areas.



In 2021, riders organized and won dozens of miles of bus-only lanes which will speed up bus service and prevent buses from getting stuck behind cars and traffic.



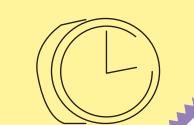
Riders fought for the Fair Fares program that offers half-price metrocards to some low-income New Yorkers. Over 70 community organizations helped organize their members to make funding this a top priority for elected officials.



Riders fought for congestion funding, which will provide money to fix the outdated technology in the MTA. This will raise \$1 billion per year, speed up service, fund new elevators, and upgrade trains.



Riders Alliance worked with City Council to dedicate funds for bus countdown clocks so riders know when the bus is coming. There's now over 200 clocks installed across the city!





Riders have the power to transform our public transit system.

As riders, we know the ins and outs of our transit system better than anyone. With our collective knowledge and experience, we have the power to change public transit. Join the fight for a more just transit system!

Groups organizing for better transit:

Riders Alliance

347-603-1413 ridersalliance.org

Straphangers Campaign

212-349-6460 straphangers.org

Transportation Alternatives

212-629-8080 transalt.org

RIDERS ALLIANCE

Riders Alliance is a grassroots organization of subway and bus riders who fight for a reliable, affordable, world-class public transit system in order to build a more just and sustainable New York.

ridersalliance.org

Center for Urban Pedagogy (CUP) is a nonprofit organization that uses the power of design and art to increase meaningful civic engagement, in partnership with marginalized communities.

welcometocup.org

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the Arts



