**DATE**

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor of New York State  
NYS State Capitol Building  
Albany, New York 12224

Honorable John J. Flanagan

Majority Leader

New York State Senate

Capitol Room 330

Albany, New York 12247

Honorable Carl E. Heastie

Speaker

Legislative Office Building

Room 932

Albany, New York 12248

Dear Governor Cuomo, Senator Flanagan, and Speaker Heastie:

As a **[resident of Brooklyn OR indicate your organizational title & affiliation**], I urge you to enact legislation authorizing the NYC Department of Transportation (NYCDOT) to use a Design-Build approach to reconstruct the portion of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway from Atlantic Avenue to Sands Street.

Failure to pass this legislation this session will impose catastrophic and wholly unnecessary impacts on the health and safety of Brooklyn residents. According to NYCDOT’s analysis of the BQE’s accelerating deterioration, the diversion of up to 16,000 trucks daily onto our local streets will be necessary if the project is not completed by 2026. Design-Build is the only means to forestall this situation.

The addition of tractor trailers and delivery trucks on our narrow local streets will not only create unimaginable traffic congestion, but they will greatly threaten the health and safety of Brooklyn residents, particularly our young and elderly, and pedestrian fatalities will result. However, the nightmarish traffic will also damage our roadways and hurt businesses throughout the region that depend upon the BQE.

However, these dire consequences need not arise since the State can and should provide NYCDOT with Design-Build authority, the same authority given already to eight State agencies and authorities. The Legislature has recognized the benefits of this approach, most recently demonstrated by the fact that the new Koskiuzko and Tappan Zee Bridges have been built in record time and at great savings to the taxpayer by NYSDOT.

In this era where our infrastructure demands are so great, the cost savings from using Design-Build on the BQE Project will fund other critical infrastructure investments. Please protect the health and well-being of Brooklyn residents, strengthen our regional economy, and invest in our future by passing this legislation today.

Sincerely,