

November 30, 1999

**BOROUGH PRESIDENT FERRER: NYC NEEDS NEW SUBWAY
FROM BRONX ALONG 2ND AVE TO BROOKLYN INTO QUEENS**

Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer today sent a Second Avenue trolley on its way from The Bronx County Building through Manhattan to Brooklyn Borough Hall to show support for a strategic plan to improve mass transit in the next century. “Transportation’s vital role in the development of New York City as the greatest City in the world and the extraordinary threat posed by our inadequate mass transit system require all New Yorkers to commit to a program that makes sense for the next century,” Ferrer said.

Ferrer, a staunch advocate of the full-length Second Avenue Subway reaching from Co-op City in The Bronx through Manhattan to the Lower East Side and into Brooklyn and Queens, supports the five point program advanced by a coalition of government advocacy, environmental, planning and transportation groups and organized labor.

In addition to the full-length Second Avenue Subway, the Ferrer-supported plan includes:

- **increasing service by buying 5,000 more subways cars and 1,000 more buses to reduce crowding;**

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- **reducing air pollution by extending the No-New Diesel Buses policy for the MTA Long Island Bus division to MTA New York City Transit which currently plans to add 756 air-polluting diesel buses and only 300 clean fuel natural gas buses to its City fleet;**
- **allocating capital funds based on New York City Transit moving 91% of all MTA’s customers; and**
- **committing more State funds for capital improvements to the City’s transit system.**

“We need this sound five-point plan to provide a viable means to move New York City workers from their homes to their places of employment and back again,” explained Ferrer. “In just two years, ridership increased by one million and the system needs to plan for some 1 million new jobs anticipated through the early part of the next century.

“The Bronx and many other parts of the City experienced retail economic growth after investment in new and rebuilt housing,” Ferrer continued. “Sound investment in mass transit offers a powerful economic engine to further our City’s revival.

“Moving commuters from cars to mass transit helps reduce stress on our regional transportation network, allows a quicker movement of goods and people and improves air quality,” Ferrer said.