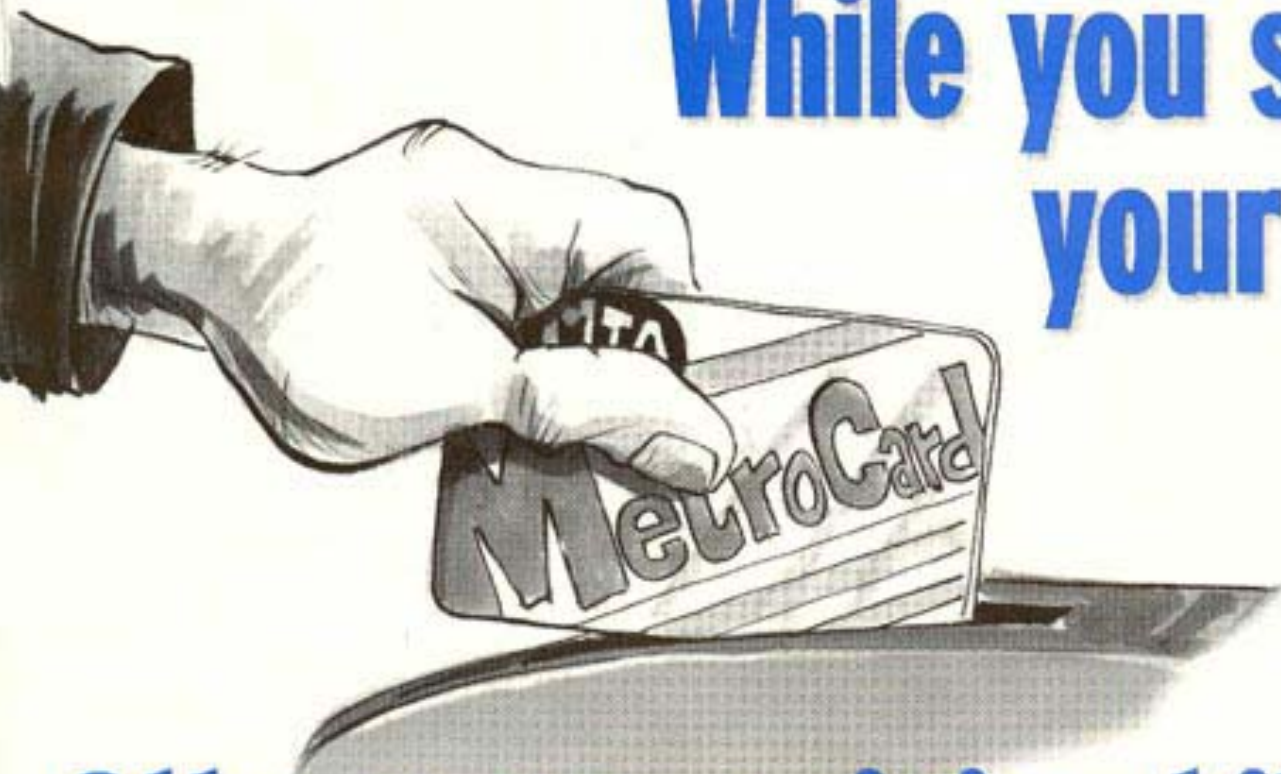


**While you swipe  
your card**



**Others are swiping billions**



**And public transit suffers!**

# We are TWU Local 100 On the job 24-7-365!

We're the 35,000 men and women of Transport Workers Union Local 100. It's our job to keep New Yorkers moving — 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. We operate and maintain the subways and buses that carry millions of people every day to their jobs, homes, appointments, schools and leisure activities — safely, inexpensively and on time.

We're also your neighbors. We care about your communities because they're also ours. Most of the dollars we earn stay right here in the metropolitan area, where the strength of our union local sustains the local economy.

The transportation policies and budget priorities of New York City and New York State are matters of great concern to us — and to you. That's why we want to alert you to problems that will only intensify if some politicians and certain corporate fat cats continue to behave irresponsibly.

With ridership growing by nearly 100 million passenger trips per year, the city's subways and buses are being "stretched to the limit," according to Republican State Sen. Roy Goodman. *But together, we can change things for the better.*

## When you ride with us, it's a great, big plus

Everyone benefits — not just riders — from the improved quality of life that public transit provides. The city is safer and healthier. Accidents, injuries and nerve-wracking noise are greatly reduced. Because of public transit, congestion is reduced by half a million cars every weekday in Manhattan's Central Business District.

But that's not all. At current ridership levels, public transit prevents millions of pounds of pollutants from poisoning the air we breathe. That includes:

- 600,000 pounds of soot and particulate matter that damages human lung tissue;
- 10 million pounds of nitrogen oxides which are linked to acid rain, breathing disorders and ozone depletion;
- 16 million pounds of hydrocarbons that cause coughing and chest pains;
- 250 million pounds of carbon monoxide, which limits breathing and causes

headaches, disorientation and impaired coordination.

Still, traffic delays in New York City cost local businesses an estimated \$5.6 billion yearly in lost production. Air pollution from traffic remains a serious public health concern. And if our elected leaders shorthanded public transit, it'll only get worse for us and for future generations.

## Feeding the fat cats means starving public services

Five years ago, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority borrowed billions of dollars by issuing bonds for mass transit backed *not* by tax revenues, but by anticipated fare increases.

Debt service on the bonds is growing at an

alarming rate, and fares can be expected to soar if too few tax dollars are earmarked for transit.

Sure, there are huge budget surpluses now and the economy is booming, but something strange seems to be going on. No one in city or state government — or at the MTA — offers any assurance that subway and bus fares will remain

stable. And they aren't saying much about whether transit workers will finally receive long-delayed pay and benefit improvements, either.

One big reason for the uncertainty is that billions of dollars are being squandered on subsidies, tax breaks and other giveaways to favored giant corporations. These deals "are usually trumpeted as 'economic development' or 'public-private partnerships,'" *Time* magazine reported in an award-winning series last year. "But a better name is corporate welfare."

According to *Time*, corporate welfare costs "(the) equivalent of nearly two weekly paychecks from every working man and woman" in the country.

Every New Yorker who struggles with a budget should be angry about state and city handouts to some of the most profitable companies in the world (see box below). For example, why should

GE (with 1998 profits of \$9.3 billion and a CEO, John Welch, who collected \$68 million) and Disney (with 1998 profits of \$1.9 billion and a CEO, Michael Eisner, who pocketed \$589 million) be pampered and subsidized at the public's expense?

## For you: higher taxes and higher fares

Many of these companies promised to create jobs and then reneged on their promises. Some threatened to lay off workers, close facilities or leave town if they didn't get what they wanted. All have shifted financial burdens off themselves and thereby shafted the taxpayer.

As *Time* pointed out, "When government distributes handouts to select companies, someone else pays, either in higher taxes or reduced services."

New Yorkers are already paying far more than people in other cities for subway and bus transportation. Fares cover some 66% of New York City Transit's operating expenses, compared to 29% in Boston, 30% in Los Angeles, 46% in

## NEW YORK'S "GIMME, GIMME GANG"

A few of the companies that have strip-mined the public treasury with the help of state and city administrations:

- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| American Stock Exchange | International Paper      |
| Bear Stearns            | Lockheed Martin          |
| Citicorp/Travelers      | McGraw-Hill Companies    |
| Conté Nast              | Merrill Lynch            |
| Walt Disney/ABC         | News Corporation         |
| Eastman Kodak           | N.Y. Mercantile Exchange |
| Equitable Companies     | N.Y. Stock Exchange      |
| General Electric/NBC    | Republic National Bank   |
| General Motors          | Time Warner              |
| IBM                     | Viacom                   |



Photo: Tom Matthews

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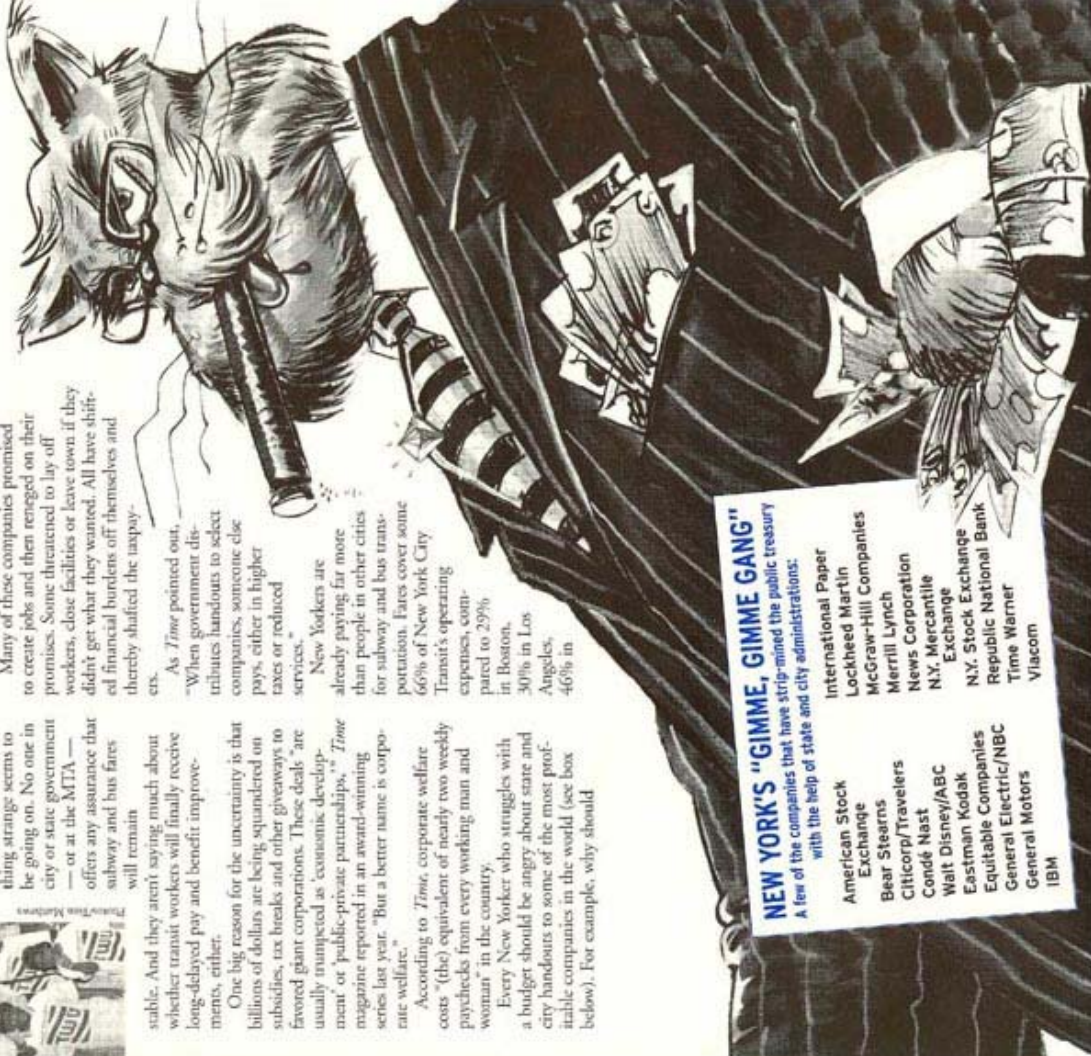


Illustration: Ed Marvinski

# Tell George & Rudy: Do your Duty Stop Corporate Welfare & Support Public Transit!



Here's what you can do:

1. Clip, sign and mail the sample letters or write your own.

Letters can also be e-mailed to:  
gov.pataki@chamber.state.ny.us  
giuliani@www.ci.nyc.ny.us

2. Fill out and mail the coupon (below right) to Transport Workers Union Local 100.

TO: Gov. George Pataki • State Capitol • Albany, N.Y. 12224

Dear Gov. Pataki:

Downstate New York is the economic engine and the cultural heart of America. New York City accounts for 42% of the state's non-agricultural jobs, 45% of personal income and nearly a third of retail sales.

Reliable, low-cost public transportation is vital to the well-being of all New Yorkers and to a robust economy. Public transit provides jobs not only to those who operate and maintain the subways, buses and trains, but also to the employees of businesses all over the state that supply the system.

Given these facts, it's outrageous that billions of dollars are being squandered on "economic development" giveaways to wealthy corporations. In exchange for empty promises to maintain or create jobs, corporate welfare cheats are gorging themselves on our tax dollars.

Adequate funding for public transit can and must come from tax revenues — without either fare increases or tax hikes for individuals. I ask for your pledge that your administration:

- WILL stop undermining public transit and other public services by giving away tax dollars to wealthy corporations;
- WILL launch an aggressive program to force companies that haven't retained or created promised jobs to pay back the taxpayers; and
- WILL insist upon adequate funding for public transit; tax policies that ensure timely payment of operational debt; fair contracts for transit employees, and no fare increase.

Please let me know how you plan to address these important matters.

Sincerely,

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

TO: Mayor Rudolph Giuliani • City Hall • New York, N.Y. 10007

Dear Mr. Mayor:

There's no excuse for handing out lucrative subsidies, tax breaks and other so-called incentives to a handful of corporate fat cats, while our public transit system and other essential services deteriorate.

Corporate welfare is a national scandal. As the authors of last year's widely praised *Time* magazine exposé said, "It has turned politicians into bribery specialists, and smart business people into con artists. And most surprising of all, it has rarely created any new jobs."

Your administration has unleashed "an avalanche" of corporate welfare giveaways totaling nearly \$2 billion, according to a July 1999 report by the Center for an Urban Future.

Our working families, children, seniors, the poor, and thousands of small- and medium-sized businesses (which do generate new jobs) are the victims of such dangerous policies. Is this your idea of improving New Yorkers' quality of life?

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Sincerely,

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

## Yes, I support the Campaign to Stop Corporate Welfare & Support Public Transit

- I have clipped and sent protest letters to Gov. Pataki and Mayor Giuliani.
- I/my organization have sent personal letters. (Please enclose copies.)
- Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of this brochure.
- Enclosed is a contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

made payable to:

Campaign to Stop Corporate Welfare  
& Support Public Transit  
Transport Workers Union Local 100, AFL-CIO  
80 West End Ave., New York, N.Y. 10023

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_



Corporate Campaign