

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

September 2, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

On September 2, 2021, New York Governor Hochul officially requested an Emergency Declaration for the State of New York as a result of the severe impact the storm had. As Members of Congress representing communities directly impacted by the severe winds, heavy rains, and record-breaking flooding, we urge you to issue such a declaration as soon as possible.

Last night, our constituents experienced historic flooding and winds from the remnants of Post-Tropical Depression Ida. As a result, thousands of New Yorkers woke up this morning with flooded homes, damaged vehicles, and an inability to access critical public infrastructure like public transportation and hospitals. Tragically, this storm also took numerous lives, with still potentially more people who have not been accounted for. The impact of Ida will also leave us with many significant health and economic strain as the people of our states work to find a safe path to recovery in an already difficult time.

New York State has deployed significant resources in response to Ida across the state Department of Transportation, Thruway Authority, Department of Environmental Conservation, Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Department of Public Service, New York State Police, New York Power Authority, New York State Canal Corporation, the Canal Corporation, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Port Authority and Department of Financial Services. Substantial funding will be required in infrastructure repair and debris removal costs that exceed both the per capita threshold and the Statewide threshold.

As we continue to face the COVID-19 pandemic and the surge in cases of the Delta variant, it is critical that everyone who calls New York home has reliable electricity, telephone, and internet service. Combined with the challenges already facing municipal budgets in both states, and ongoing recovery from several major disasters in recent years and today's co-existing pandemic, the extensive damages caused by Ida pose a serious threat to New York's economic recovery. Federal assistance is urgently needed.

On behalf of our constituents, we respectfully urge you to grant Governor Hochul's requests and immediately deploy federal resources to support the response to Post-Tropical Depression Ida.

We stand ready to work together to address this crisis and thank you in advance for your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Jamaal Bowman, Ed.D.  
Member of Congress



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Congress



Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



Thomas R. Suozzi  
Member of Congress



Elise Stefanik  
Member of Congress



Sean Patrick Maloney  
Member of Congress



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



Nydia Velásquez  
Member of Congress



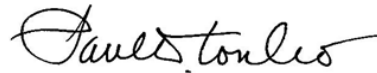
Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



Grace Meng  
Member of Congress



Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress



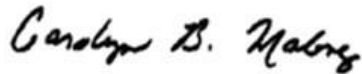
Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



Antonio Delgado  
Member of Congress

  
M.C.

Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress



Adriano Espaillat  
Member of Congress



Lee Zeldin  
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Mondaire Jones  
Member of Congress



John Katko  
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Claudia Tenney  
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Kathleen M. Rice  
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Cc: The Honorable Deanne Criswell  
Administrator  
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