

Change? or Deja Vu all over again.

So why are we first hearing about this? And the \$5 million fee to the State, we need Gov. Paterson to "waive it goodbye" IMMEDIATELY.

By the way, one correspondent queries: "and have they cut anything yet? All the waste they have? I see it on the LIRR and in the subway."

The question becomes: "What change besides a fare and other hikes do we see every day?"

http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/2009/06/26/2009-06-26_mta_needs_600m_to_keep_going.html



MTA needs \$600M to keep going

BY [Pete Donohue](#)

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The MTA has to borrow a mountain of cash because the state won't fork over the agency's transit funds until the end of the year, officials said.

Adding insult to injury, the MTA will have to pay the state a fee as high as \$5 million when the agency borrows the \$600 million needed to pay expenses, officials said.

"Sadly, what the state giveth, it often taketh away," [Gene Russianoff](#) of the [Straphangers Campaign](#) said.

"First, the state provides new revenues so late that the MTA needs to borrow and then it charges millions of dollars in fees because the MTA has to borrow! Outrageous!"

The [Metropolitan Transportation Authority](#) expects to pay \$2 million more in interest and other expenses.

The Catch-22 stems mostly from the Legislature taking so long to adopt the MTA bailout, which contained a new payroll tax, and subsidies for buses, subways and commuter trains.

An Assembly spokesman declined comment, while a spokesman for the Senate Democrats, who

were in control when the bailout passed, didn't respond to a call for comment.

MTA financial chief [Gary Dellaverson](#) hopes to get a waiver on the bond fee that could go as high as \$5 million.

"This is not what the bond fee was intended for," he said.

Last June, [Gov. Paterson](#) appointed a state commission to propose a fund-raising plan, which was released in December.

The squabbling Legislature didn't approve the package of new taxes and fees until May.

A spokesman for the state budget division said the state, which collects the taxes for the MTA, won't be able to hand over the payroll tax proceeds until November or December.

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