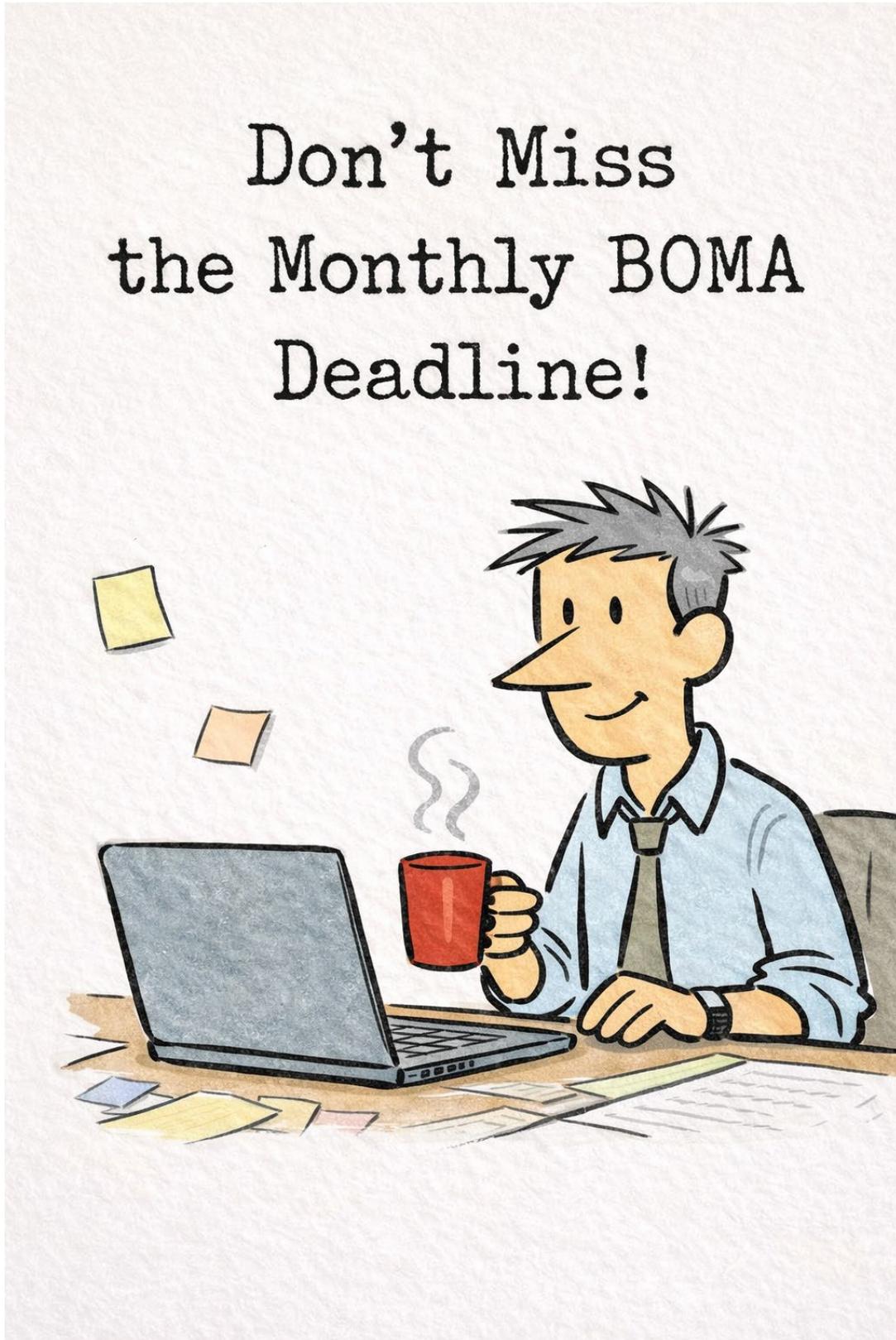


# BOMA-NEW JERSEY

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Don't Miss  
the Monthly BOMA  
Deadline!



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**GLENN WALDORF, BELL ENVIRONMENTAL  
973-924-9004, GWALDORF@BELLENV.COM**



# BOMA-NEW JERSEY

March 2026

Glenn Waldorf, Bell Environmental Services



Today is the deadline for the Monthly BOMA Report.

It's always the second Thursday. Why don't I remember this?



I got this.

I just need the best stories.

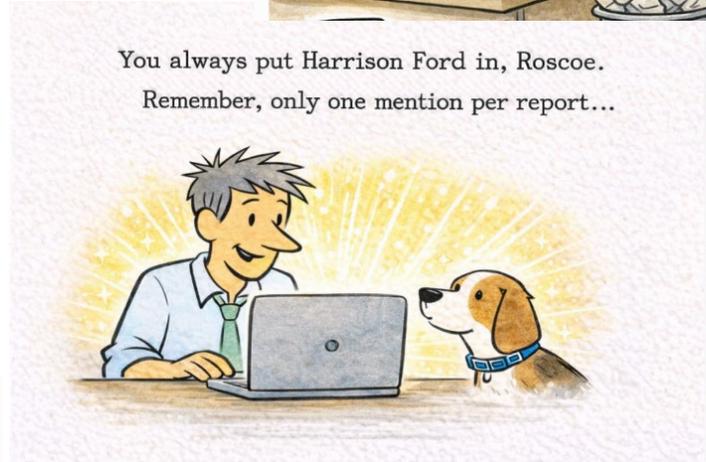
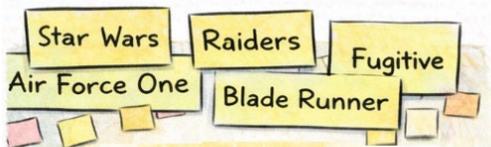


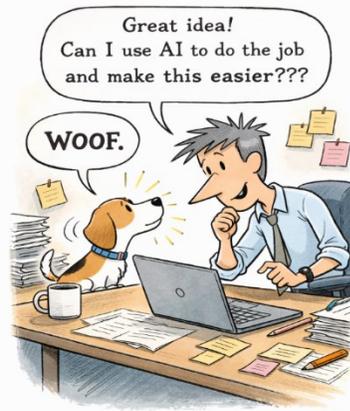
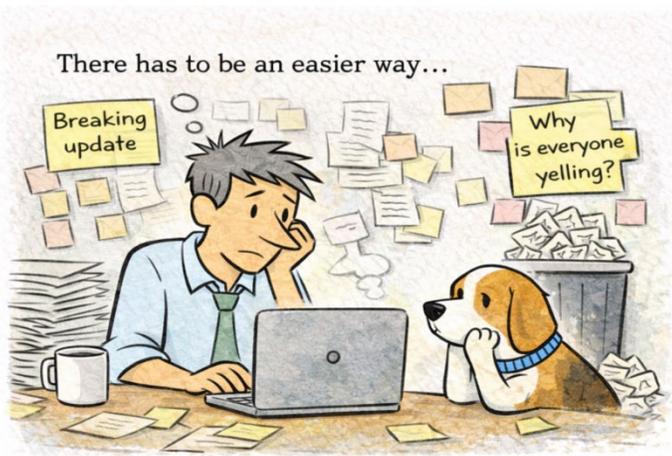
Oooh. This is good.

Roscoe... any news to share?



You always put Harrison Ford in, Roscoe. Remember, only one mention per report...

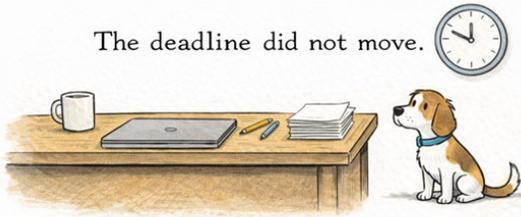




# I NEED ALL OF THEM!!!!



The deadline did not move.



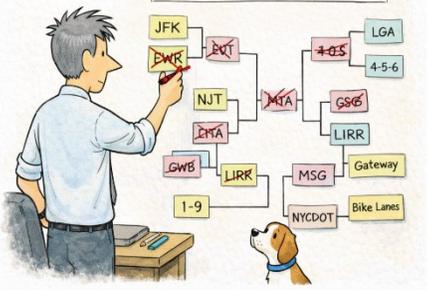
O.K.



You're right Roscoe. Shorter is better.



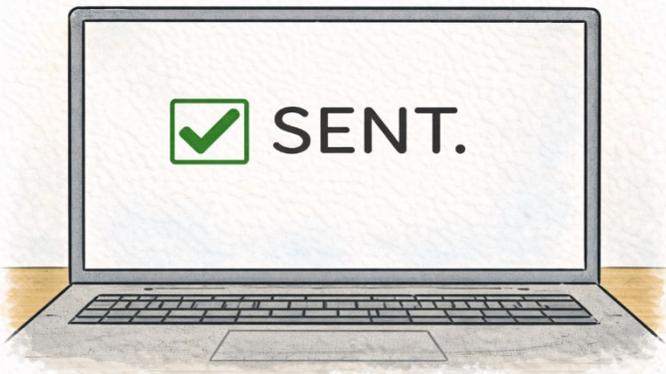
THE TRANSPORTATION BRACKET



... O.K.



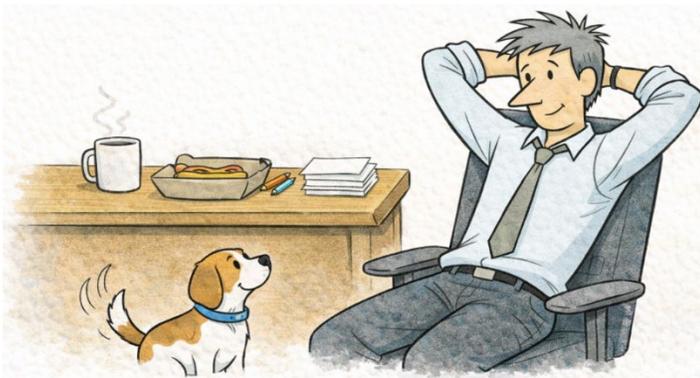
✓ SENT.



C'mon Roscoe, we're done workin'. Let's go hit the park.



The deadline will be back. But at least there's a summer hiatus.



### Why the Comic?

Hope you enjoyed and recognized our homage to children's author and illustrator Mo Willems at the front of this report. If you haven't read his books, [watch this video](#) and take a 5-year old to the library and enjoy the experience.

Mo's books have a very specific superpower: they take big emotions: impatience, excitement, frustration, determination, and make them funny, familiar, and human, even when the main characters are talking animals. One of his earliest and most famous creations is a very stressed, very persuasive pigeon who desperately wants to do one simple thing: **Drive the Bus**. The pigeon bargains, pleads, negotiates, and escalates... until eventually there's a primal scream of "LET ME DRIVE THE BUS!" After the reader pushes back, with a firm "NOOOOO!" the pigeon regroupes and accepts things, until he finds a new obsession.



That emotional arc is hilarious when you're five. It's still pretty accurate when you're a lot more than five....

BOMA members ask me how I manage to write these reports done every month. They're a labor of love. You read the finished product: clever headlines, the curated chaos, and the weird stories that somehow belong. What you haven't seen til now is the messy part. March is the right month for a behind-the-scenes look at the creative madness because it's when everything feels like a bracket: too many contenders, too little space, and constant pressure to choose wisely.

Thanks for your kind and appreciative words. I'm happy you read, enjoy, and learn from these reports and use them to help your commercial real estate businesses. It makes the monthly effort worth it.

- Glenn

P.S. - Beagle hugs from Roscoe.



OK, thanks to 🐶 Roscoe, here's the short version of the report:

1. War with Iran disrupted worldwide travel and sent gasoline prices higher.
2. Congestion Pricing was upheld against a Trump Administration challenge in Federal Court.
3. February Blizzard disrupted NY Metro Region, but warmer temperatures before + after and some learning from January storms made the recovery faster. At least NYC students got a snow day.
4. The Trump Administration released the held up funding for the Gateway Tunnel and the project resumed.
5. The Trump Administration is still holding up funding for NYC subway projects and MTA is threatening a lawsuit.
6. Mayor Mamdani proposed new housing over the Queens Sunnyside rail yards and got Presidential buy in.
7. Subway crime went up vs last year during this very cold winter.
8. The NJ Portal Bridge Repairs, scheduled to end March 15, really disrupted NJ Transit routes.
9. The Governor of NJ is planning a single replacement for the Newark Bay Bridge instead of 2 spans.
10. NY and NJ are preparing for the World Cup this summer. There are questions about how the transportation network will be ready. MetLife Stadium is mainly accessible by car.



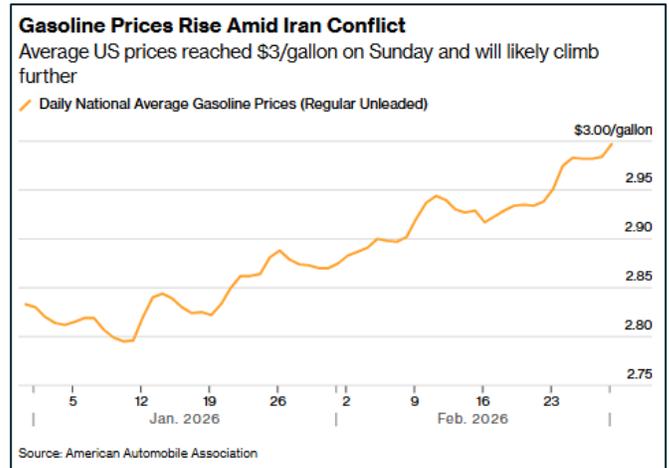
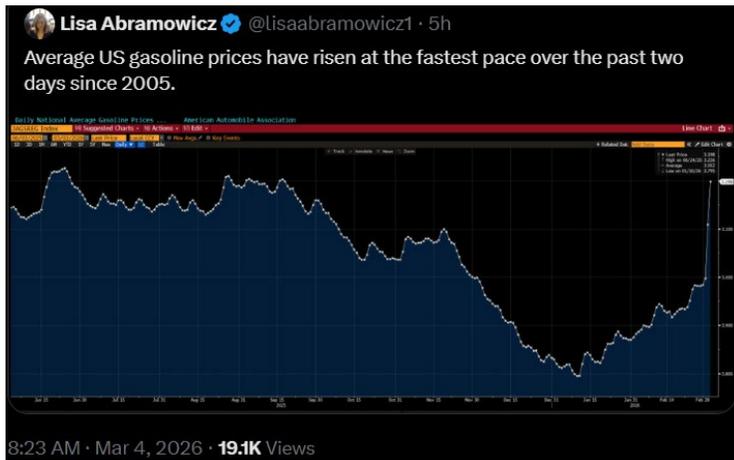
**Worldwide Caution** Following the launch of U.S. combat operations in Iran, Americans worldwide and especially in the Middle East should follow the guidance in the latest security alerts issued by the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

## IRAN WAR DISRUPTIONS

### Surging Gasoline Prices Create New Political Woes for Trump

- Gasoline and diesel futures surged as much as 9% after the US and Israel launched attacks on Iran, threatening to disrupt the flow of crude and fuel through the Strait of Hormuz.
- The price of crude accounts for about half of how much motorists pay at the pump, and when oil rises quickly, gasoline prices tend to follow suit.
- The surge in gasoline prices poses a risk for the president heading into the midterms, as voters typically blame the White House when prices rise, and the memory of a price spike can last longer than the spike itself.

### How Bad Could This Get? [How War in Iran Could Turn Into an Oil Shock Nightmare](#)



### Travel stocks tumble as US-Iran conflict sparks worst disruption since pandemic

**Even if you're not going there, the Iran war will affect your flight: *War-driven airspace closures may affect routes, prices and timing, even if you're not headed to the region***

## Congestion Pricing

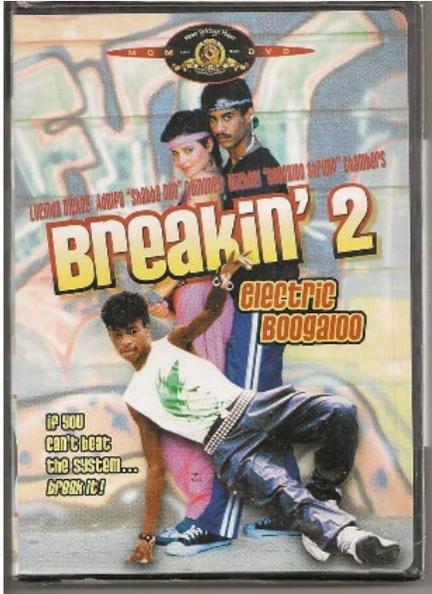
[Trump's Attempt to End Congestion Pricing Is Shot Down. Congestion Pricing Wins in Court After Lengthy Battle With Trump.](#) A judge ruled to preserve the toll, ending, for now, a dispute that has become emblematic of New York's resistance to federal intervention in local affairs.



## Gateway Tunnel Funding Restored

Gateway tunnel receives \$205M after judge orders funds unfrozen. Trump obeys judge and releases money for Gateway. But N.J. gov blames him for costing the project millions more. Gateway may be entitled to \$30 million more based on a repayment status report filed with the U.S. District Court Judge.

Gateway Tunnel workers to return to the job as major N.Y.-N.J. project gets a dire warning about funding: there could be other federal suspensions.



## Winter Storm 2 - Definitely Not Electric Boogaloo

After criticism over storm deaths, garbage pileup, Mamdani braces for a blizzard

Absolute mess': Return to school in NYC hindered by major blizzard

Once Again, Airlines Shut Down Operations and All Delta Flights in NYC and Boston Were Cancelled.

MTA flips the bird at Old Man Winter, bucking previous policy to shut service for snow

Didn't do much good: NYC subway service melts down as riders return  
NJ Response To Snow Apocalypse

Teaneck mayor used drone to record miles of unplowed roads

How Mamdani Learned From the First Snowstorm and Prepared for the Second. Urged staff to implement new policies and emphasized the need to communicate aggressively about the snow.

Did you see any of these snow sculptures in New York City? They included a snowy depiction of a man's head and a gathering of polar bear sculptures in Central Park.

Only in New York 🤔



1 Bed 1 Bath - Apartment  
\$2,500 / Month

Message seller

Is this still available?

Send



## Messy Sidewalks: No Bette Davis Eyes Beneath This “Pure” New York Snow

[Dog poop data reveals New York City's crappiest block: A revolting reality has emerged as the snow from January's storm melts away: New York City's dog owners don't scoop their pets' poop from the sidewalks, and NYers are fedup.](#)

*Remember What Your Italian Grandmother Taught You:*

*"Chi fa la cacca sotto la neve, prima o poi si scopre" (Who does poop under the snow, sooner or later it is discovered).*

*"Quando si scioglie la neve, si vede lo sporco"(When the snow melts, the dirt is seen).*

[Melting snow exposes weeks of sidewalk litter](#)

[We tested those gross piles of snow on NYC's sidewalks. Here's what we found.](#)

## January Storm Debrief

[Snow removal on the LIE under question after a deadly crash sparks suspension of a NYC Sanitation Department supervisor.](#)

[Instagram videos showed subway platforms flooding with melting snow.](#)

[Why doesn't NYC use a giant snow vacuum like Montreal? Garbage!](#)

## ❄️ Blizzards Beat 🌯 Burritos

[Door Dash Shut Down!](#)

[Door Dash Being Shut Down Is Like Waffle House Being Shut Down In Other Regions!](#)



**Andrew Giambrone** @AndrewGiambrone · Feb 22

no DoorDash orders in NYC starting at 830pm tonight due to the blizzard...

**DoorDash has activated its Severe Weather Protocol and will temporarily suspend operations across New York City from 8:30 PM ET tonight.**



**Adam Carlson** ✓  
@admcrln

You're laughing?

A Gen Z finance bro named Asher who lives in Murray Hill who has never cooked for himself in his entire life is gonna start a small fire in his apartment tonight attempting to make a grilled cheese, and you're laughing?



## Mayor Mamdani

[Mamdani and Trump Raise Sunnyside Yards Housing Plan From the Grave.](#) The project would build housing above the Sunnyside rail yards in Queens.

[The history of plans for the Sunnyside rail yards goes back more than a century - with Donald Trump once wanting to put a football stadium there!... Here's a great story that includes both Cuomos, AOC, Bloomberg, de Blasio, and Mamdani.](#)

[The Mamdani 'Streets Master Plan': Big! Bold! No Mileage Benchmarks! Benchmarks? They don't have to show you any stinking mileage benchmarks.](#) The new DOT master plan will not require the agency to build a set number of bus or bike lane miles, but will instead focus on "outcomes."

[Mamdani Calls for Free Express Buses.](#) Some Riders Say They Want Better Service Instead. The buses cost \$7.25 each way, on par with the Long Island Rail Road peak city fare. Average daily ridership for express buses is 60,000 across 80 routes, far below the more than 1 million average daily passengers on other city buses. The mayor says his promise to make buses free would cover the faster, nicer and pricier rides, but not everyone who's paying for them now is sold on that plan.

[Mamdani revives bus, bike lane projects in the Bronx and Brooklyn axed by Adams administration](#)

[Mamdani shortchanges MTA by \\$621M in preliminary budget while pushing free buses](#)



I will be holding a  
**FREE**  
**Snow Shoveling Class**  
at my driveway.

Come and join the class and  
learn proper ways to shovel snow.

My actual driveway will be provided,  
so that the training simulates  
real world conditions.

Bring your own shovel.



### **Dangerous Games**

[Shock video shows group of teens climbing Queensboro Bridge before 16-year old boy's near-fatal 50-foot-fall.](#)  
[Three teens ages 14 and 15 were charged with criminal trespass and reckless endangerment. The 16-year old was seriously injured when he fell down one of the bridge shafts, leading to a major emergency response at the bridge to rescue him.](#)  
[The group of friends were participating in "urban exploration," or "urbex" where practitioners explore off-limits areas. When he fell, his friends left him there. The injured teen suffered brain injuries and has been in and out of consciousness this week.](#)  
[Youths move parked G subway train, accidentally connect it to another train](#)



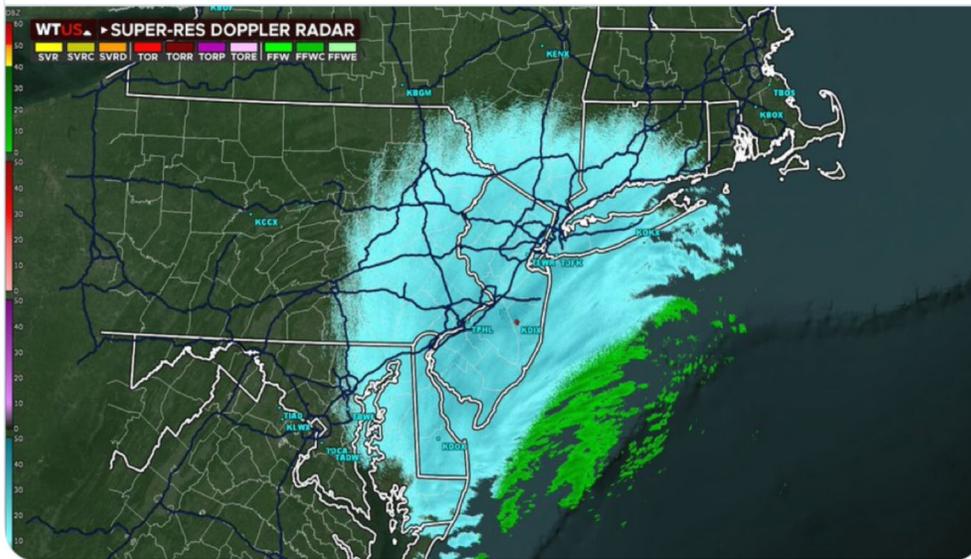


**New Jersey** @NJGov · 51m

we are still here

**lividwx** @lividwx · 12h

new jersey is gone



### **Jersey, Jersey, Jersey!**

[Melting snow is making NJ miserable: Temperatures are finally climbing. The mountains of dirty snow were melting. So why are some of us still miserable in New Jersey, suffering from watery and itchy eyes, a wheeze, congestion or a cough? Blame snow mold, the microbial menace hiding beneath the snowpack.](#)

[Gov. Sherrill backs plan for single Newark Bay Bridge replacement. Sherrill said the project will support about 19,000 jobs and allow traffic to begin shifting off the current bridge in about five years. A single bridge would save billions in construction costs, reduce air and noise pollution, shorten construction time, lower the risk of disturbing hazardous substances in Newark Bay, and avoid costly litigation.](#)

### **Building Jersey**

[New Jersey Gives Municipalities Tool with Landmark Project Labor Agreement \(PLA\) Expansion to allow local governments to use on public works projects with local Building Trades Councils for sub-\\$5 million projects. A PLA is a pre-hire collective bargaining agreement that establishes the terms and conditions of employment \(standardized wages, define work rules, provide dispute resolution procedures, and prohibit strikes and lockouts\) for the duration of specific construction projects.](#)

[Building the Road Ahead: How transportation infrastructure investment is reshaping South Jersey's economy. From the long-awaited completion of the Direct Connection project linking I-295 and Route 42 to expanded NJ Transit bus service and modernized freight rail corridors, the region is investing heavily in infrastructure that will shape economic development for years to come.](#)

[Transponder Makeover: E-ZPass could soon change for New Jersey drivers as officials test a new sticker with a digital chip to replace the current white plastic transponder.](#)

[NJ TRANSIT is testing new high-tech bus stop signs with digital screens showing customers the real-time arrival information of the next bus. The pilot program showcases two companies' technology at eight bus stops.](#)



## Jersey Rails

[New Jersey Bridge Project Could Snarl Rail Traffic for a Month - Construction on the new Portal North Bridge is expected to disrupt commutes into Manhattan on NJ Transit, PATH and Amtrak trains Through Mid-March 2026](#)

[NJ Transit cancels 27 trains on first day of Portal Bridge cutover](#)

[The Jersey Headlines Are Less Refined: 4 weeks of hell start Sunday: What to know as NJ Transit cuts 50% of trains](#)

[The Public Weighs In On How To Resolve The NJ Transit and Amtrak Wire Problems. This video shows how to fix the catenary wire sagging and weather-related problems.](#)

[Sing along NJ: "Ohhhhh... We're halfway there..... Ohhhh Livin' On A Prayer!" March 2 marks the halfway point of the four-week Portal Bridge cutover project to replace the century-old rail bridge over the Hackensack River.](#)

[Amtrak to make urgent repairs amid Portal Bridge cutover disruptions: This work was not previously disclosed during multiple media briefings in January and February. The work, in the same area as the 2017 Summer of Hell repairs \(\*How many of those summers have we had?\*\), will cost \\$3.5 million and be paid with Amtrak's state of good repair program. The repairs are starting March 9 and scheduled to end the evening of March 15, the same day the cutover process is expected to end.](#)

[Any hiccup in the work could cause continued service reductions or train cancellations](#)

[NJ Transit says it will follow Sherrill's ICE order after riders plead for protection](#)

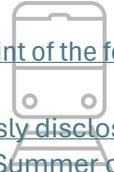
[Smoke at Hoboken station suspends PATH service to WTC and 33rd](#)

[Metropark station commuters complain about doorless shelters - Busy NJ Transit station has heat in this bitter cold. But what happened to the doors?](#)

[NJT experienced suspensions and major delays in and out of Penn Station on Feb 9-10 due to overhead wire issues.](#)

[PATH weekend shutdowns: Complete guide to service changes and shuttle buses](#)

[Transitway project advances with \\$22M contract for Secaucus to Jersey City segment](#)



## World Cup: 28,000 Parking Spaces Later

[A free, 5-week bus program could be implemented during the World Cup in NYC. Mayor Zohran Mamdani is pushing a five-week free-bus pilot during the FIFA World Cup, but the plan depends on state approval and MTA support.](#)

[The 2026 World Cup Final is being played at MetLife stadium in five months. FIFA's biggest event on Earth, hosted at a venue where walking is literally illegal. International fans from countries where you stroll to the stadium from a pub 3 blocks away are about to encounter a place where the nearest hotel requires a car to travel a distance you can see with your eyes. MetLife Stadium sits on 2.1 million square feet of parking. 28,000 spaces. The parking lots are larger than the stadium itself. The entire Meadowlands complex was purpose-built so that the only way a human being can reach it is inside a 4,000-pound metal box. The NJ State Police printed signs warning against walking to the stadium as illegal and dangerous, because pedestrians were never part of the design.](#)

[NYC Tourism + Conventions invites visitors to explore the five boroughs during FIFA WORLD CUP 26™](#)

[NY, NJ are co-hosting the 2026 FIFA World Cup, but will the tourists come? July 2026 flight bookings from Europe to JFK and Newark airports are down 21% from July 2025, according to the aviation analytics company Cirium. The company said overall bookings from Europe to the United States have fallen 14%.](#)

[Will ICE Scare Some Fans Away From the World Cup? The congresswoman representing the district where the final will be played asked the director of ICE about his plans. She was not encouraged by his response.](#)



## Tourism: A Red Flag 🚩

In 2025, the US was the only tourist area to see a decline in visitors. It's not looking any better this year

*'Don't go to the US – not with Trump in charge': the UK tourist with a valid visa detained by ICE for six weeks*

**NYC still hasn't returned to pre-pandemic tourism numbers – falling short by millions of visitors in 2025: report**

The US visa bond pilot program now applies to these 38 countries: The payment scheme is part of a year-long visa bond pilot program first launched by the Trump administration in August 2025. The program requires tourists and business travelers from 38 nations to post bond payments of between \$5,000 and \$15,000 in order to receive B1 and B2 visas.

## MTA - Follow The Money 🗺️🔍👉👈

The Policy Brief: Understanding the MTA's operating and capital budgets: In 2025, the MTA Board approved two budgets: the 2026 operating budget and the 5-year capital financial plan. The MTA explains the differences and why understanding the NY transportation system means understanding how we invest in it.

This is the new MTA: Better. Faster. Cheaper. \$1.2 billion saved just last year— and it all goes right back into the transit system. MTA threatens to sue Trump if the administration does not release more than \$58 million in frozen and overdue funding for the Second Avenue subway expansion by next week.

Getting MTA's per-unit costs for things like stations, tunnels, & elevators down to just 2x the cost of Paris's RATP is daunting bc we have so far to go. But they're making real progress! MTA just shaved 33% off Communication-Based Train Control (CBTC) self-driving train signal upgrades from a very simple fix.

## MTA - Gates of Wrath 🍷👁️

Woman who suffered several facial injuries simply exiting through the new fare gates at the 23rd Street-Baruch College subway station in Manhattan. As the reporter exited the train, she saw a man who had just been hit by the gates and had a gash on his forehead. MTA is "making adjustments" to the fare gates and preparing educational videos.

NYC 'Fare Evasion Olympics': "We had a pole dancer, a parkour athlete and a rock climber."

## MTA - Rules & Rails 📄👤

MTA changes one-way LIRR ticket expiration dates: LIRR tickets now expire at 4am the morning after purchase. That unused ticket you're saving? Better check the expiration date.

LIRR fare beating crackdown: MTA opens new front in war on commuter rail ticket evasion

LIRR exec got his son a job by pushing him on MTA contractors in shameless ethics violation: probe

OMNY JFK AirTrain vending machines are soon going to be installed.

New OMNY kiosks spotted at Jamaica Station signal the next phase of JFK AirTrain's shift away from MetroCards.

Oh crap! LIRR worker sues after getting covered in human waste after repair job gone wrong

## MTA - Tales & Tails 📖🐕

These are NYC's bag dogs. MTA said "dog in a bag" for the subway, so these legends' humans grabbed shopping bags and backpacks. Giant pups peeking out all chill and happy, calmer than the rest of us.





## Lions and Tigers and Bears (And Seals. And Owls. And One Emotional Support Chicken.) — Oh My!?!

### ♥️🐾 Hearts & Paws: Winter Rescues Edition

🐻🏠 [Lake Tahoe homeowner was surprised to find a bear and her newborn triplets in the crawlspace of their home. Now, a nonprofit is helping the bears and community stay safe while the mom and cubs take shelter under the cabin until April. The bears have no interest in porridge.](#)

🐻🚗 [Baby seal was spotted napping on a New Jersey road on Feb. 24, The Marine Mammal Stranding Center rescued and cared for the seal which made a 300-mile journey from Canada/New England to NJ. Guess it heard about NJ bagels, pizza, and funnel cake.](#)

🐮🚗 [Video shows escaped cows holding up thruway traffic in upstate New York](#)

🐕🚗 [Snow plow driver rescues lost dogs during height of blizzard on Sunrise Highway in Babylon, Long Island](#)

🦉🍪 [Shoppers in upstate New York earlier this month turned up a rare find while perusing a local antique store this month: tucked next to a cookie jar made in the shape of a chicken was a live owl resting peacefully on a shelf.](#)

🐕❄️ [As animals freeze and starve in extreme cold, a Long Island nature center works around the clock to save them](#)

🐕🚗 [Adorable pup ditched at Las Vegas airport by heartless traveler gets new home with cop who rescued him](#)

🐔📺 [This animal is too close a friend! Professor travels with an emotional support chicken: 'She can understand my emotions' \(And cross the road.\)](#)

🦌🚗 [Startled moose gets stuck in neck deep snow in New Hampshire. The moose was found by a group of snowmobilers who helped get her out.](#)

🦌❄️ [Deer rescued from icy waters in Oceanport](#)

🦅🚗 [Eagle-eyed NYPD to the rescue. NYPD Harbor Unit officers spotted an injured bald eagle floating on the ice in the Hudson River and calling out for help. They acted quickly and brought the bird to safety.](#)



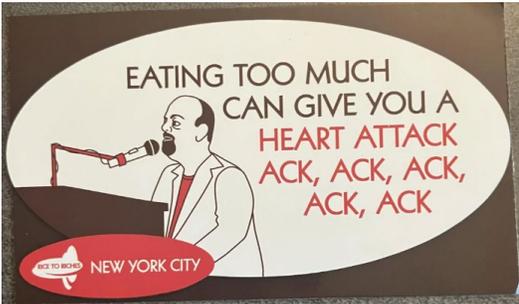
## 🎵 New York State of Dine 🍷🍔🎵

[In-N-Out is reportedly opening its first location in NYC later this year.](#)

[Melba's Restaurant sees success in Grand Central location and new Newark spot on the way](#)

[The world's biggest fast-food chain just landed in NYC. We tried Mixue, and the hype is real.](#)

[Dimes Square Dining Threatened by New Outside Seating Rules](#)



## Bikes & The City 🚲🚲🏠

[Bicyclists across the 4 major East River bridges set record-high for fifth-straight year with an average of 28,500 daily bicycle trips over a 7-month period. There were on average 31,687 trips each day in September 2025.](#)

[A Proposal For A Path To Safer E-Bike Batteries](#)

[Mamdani supports 15 mph speed limit for cyclists in Central Park](#)

[NYC's New E-Bike Trade-In Program Aims To Hit Two Birds With One Stone. It hopes to make safe and certified e-bikes accessible to food delivery riders who need them most.](#)

[Does Citi Bike's Price Increase Promote Reckless Riding In NYC?](#)

[NYC pols blast CitiBike's slow-poke snow removal: 'We deserve better'](#)



## Zooming Out

[LISTEN: 'The Master Plan of New York is the Subway' - Mamdani swept into City Hall on hopes and dreams of making the city affordable, and the key to affordability in New York City is housing. People are not moving out of New York City because the bus fare is three dollars. People are moving out because they can't afford the rent. Child care is too expensive. ... it's an old formula in New York: Subways beget development so if you want to make a dent in housing affordability, as the mayor does, you need to have a plan that sort of unleashes that development. There is a new proposal by the Marron Transport and Land Use Program at NYU to remap the city with 12 new projects, 64 new subway stations and 41 new miles of rail — all for about the same cost as making buses free. And that in turn would lead to more areas with transit, spread populations, and lead to more housing options and growth.](#)

[Whether you use it or not, better public transit makes your commute better](#)

## Subways: The Underground Dispatch

[Subway crime is up. The NYPD said the uptick in crime is likely a result of more people relying on the subway system during the extreme cold. There were 246 major crime incidents on the subway in the first five weeks of 2026, vs 210 for the same period in 2025. Such crimes include felony assault and grand larceny. Total crime above-ground throughout the city dropped 7.5% during the same period.](#)

[When Mr. Stand Clear Of The Closing Doors Is On The Subway With You!!!!](#)

[A Prehistoric Fault Explains Why the Subway Goes Above Ground At 125th Street](#)

[Mamdani says his admin is 'digging into' restoring weekend G train service to Forest Hills](#)

## NY TIMES METROPOLITAN DIARY

Grouchy Angel



Dear Diary:

I was at a busy intersection in Midtown preoccupied by something I had just recently learned, when, thinking it was our turn to walk, I stepped into the street.

I was only spared from being hit by a taxi because an older woman with a surprisingly strong grip grabbed the back of my shirt and jerked me backward.

With the momentary high of a person who had just cheated death, I spun around with a grin on my face and began thanking her effusively.

She wasn't impressed and began telling me off for being so careless and not paying attention.

We must have been a sight, me grinning and thanking her, and her scowling and yelling at me.

I promised I would be more careful in the future.

"What am I supposed to do," she said, "follow you around everywhere?"

— Denise Linville



## Airlines: Cabin Pressure ✈️

[United Airlines is paring back rewards for travelers who don't have its credit card in MileagePlus overhaul: Travelers with the airline's credit card will earn more miles and get higher discounts compared with those without the card. Customers who don't have one of the cards or elite status won't earn miles if they book in basic economy.](#)

[Can American Airlines Turn Itself Around? American Airlines has promised Wall Street and travelers that 2026 will be a turnaround year. It's been trailing its U.S. competitors. In 2025, American made \\$111 million, while rivals Delta Air Lines and United Airlines posted \\$5 billion and more than \\$3 billion in profit, respectively. Pilot and flight attendant unions have questioned CEO Robert Isom and American's leadership. The airline is trying to revamp its business around and catch up to rivals with premium offerings like a larger top-tier cabin that brings in higher revenue than coach.](#)

[United Airlines plane bound for Newark. burst into flames shortly after takeoff as emergency LAX landing and evacuation ordered.](#)

## Airports: Departures & Disruptions ✈️ 🛫

[WAR WITH IRAN: Airlines grapple with disruptions that 'far surpass' past Middle East conflicts](#)

[WSJ Exclusive | Classified Report Finds Kristi Noem Created Security Vulnerabilities at Airports - Noem's handling of issue related to allowing travelers to keep shoes on at checkpoints fits pattern of incidents that has alarmed some national-security officials](#)

[DHS reverses suspension of PreCheck as it takes shutdown steps](#)

[LaGuardia's New Lounge Opens at Terminal B—No Card Required](#)

[A high-tech feature at JFK's new terminal will be a free \(and fast!\) alternative to Global Entry. A new biometric system at JFK's New Terminal One could let U.S. citizens breeze through passport control in seconds](#)



**Amanda Killian**

@eroscestlavie\_x



I love flying into Newark because it's a fun adventure re: whether you'll get ushered into the nice terminal with the big Rutgers sign and good bagels OR any of the other two terminals which always seem to be operating on Christmas Eve capacity and serve you warm salad in a cup

## EWR Dispatch

[Bullet found in plane's overhead bin at Newark Liberty International Airport!](#)

[Majority of N.J. travelers have avoided paying extra \\$45 fee at the airport, TSA says](#)  
[Newark Airport reopens after aircraft emergency caused ground stop, FAA says](#)  
[Svetlana 'the stowaway' Dali allegedly snuck onto United flight at Newark airport](#)

## Tow & Order (Journalism Works!)

[How to spot an unlicensed tow truck in New York City](#)

[Ghost fleet: How New York City lost control of the tow truck industry: the number of unlicensed tow trucks in the city has increased from 54 in 2021 to at least 712 today. Meanwhile, the number of licensed tow trucks has fallen from 995 in 2021 to 764 today. The increase in unlicensed trucks coincides with a shift in NYPD policy starting in 2020, when police brass instructed officers to stop responding to less serious car crashes.](#)

**[NYC puts tow truck operators on notice following Gothamist investigation!!!](#)**



## Amtrak at a Crossroads

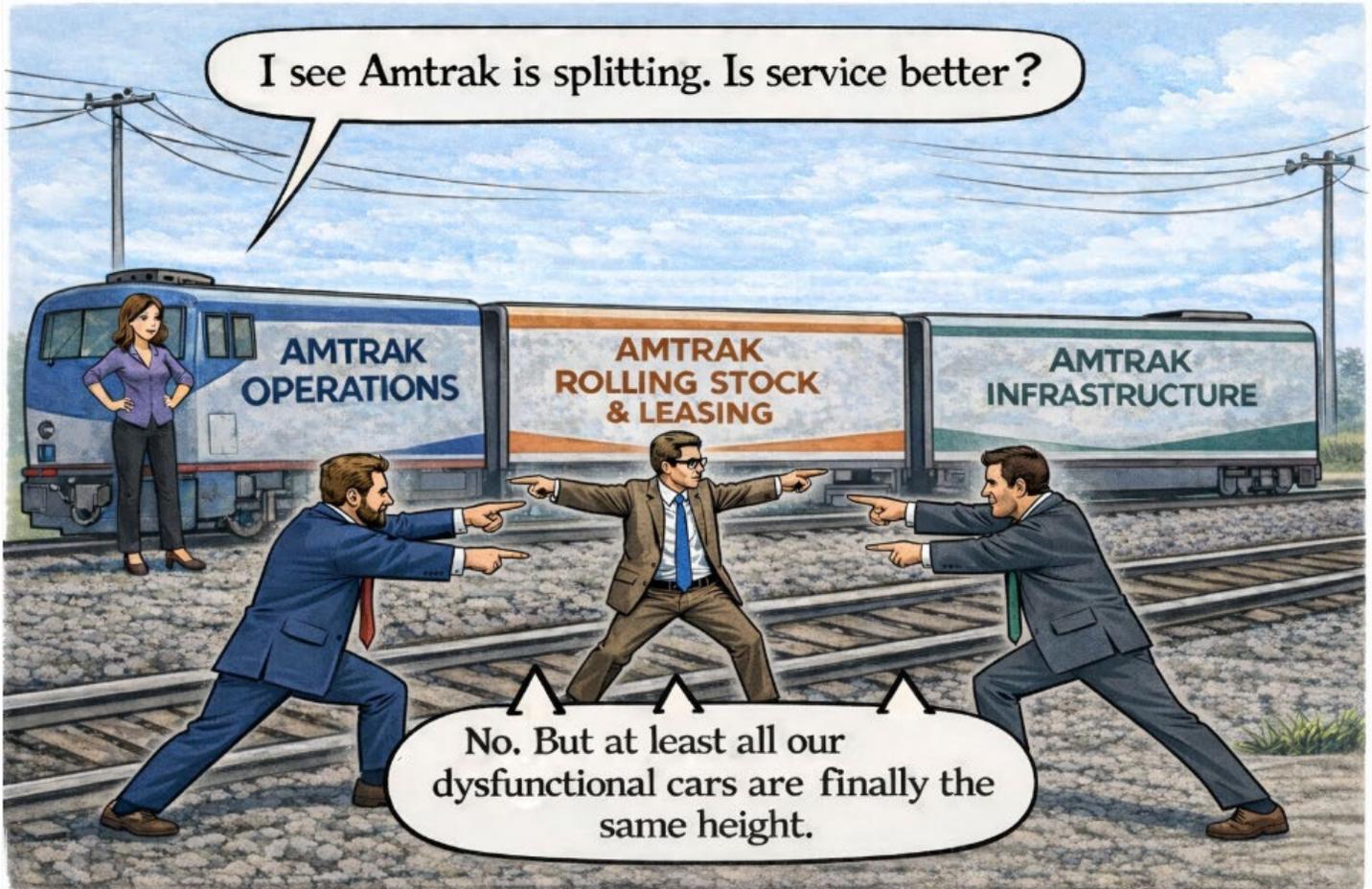
FRA proposes Amtrak become holding company, overseeing three divisions, passenger group says  
[Rail Passengers Statement on Proposed Amtrak Restructuring](#) : "The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has revealed that it is directing Amtrak to undertake a dramatic organizational restructuring, breaking itself into three distinct operational entities within an umbrella holding company, focusing on operations, rolling stock management and leasing, and infrastructure management and construction. When done correctly, there are potential benefits to a structural reorganization. However, the experiences of European and Asian railways tell us there are clear and present dangers to this kind of restructuring. If done incorrectly, it can lead to service reductions, elimination of routes, increased fares for passengers, and even degradations in infrastructure and safety. Critically, in the absence of predictable and sufficient public funding, this restructuring is certain to fail."

[Amtrak Is Revamping Its Run-Down Fleet. Check Out the New Trains.](#) Step inside the sprawling factory in California where the largest fleet replacement in Amtrak's 55-year history is coming together piece by piece.

[On Feb 11, Amtrak canceled all service between New York and Boston due to loss of overhead power.](#)

[Reminder: Amtrak had record ridership in 2025.](#) As with year before. And for the several years prior to COVID. Should it be way better? Of course. But the US has prioritized freight over passenger rail for decades

[Amtrak ends plans for new bi-level cars: Company will seek to develop new single-level cars for long-distance operations.](#) The move reflects "extensive analysis of the challenges associated with operating a hybrid fleet;" industry feedback from its prior proposals on new bi-level cars; and findings from a joint review by Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration.



## Driverless Dilemmas 🚗 🚫 🧑

[In reversal, Hochul says no way on Waymo outside NYC.](#) A poll released earlier this month found that self-driving cars are deeply unpopular in New York. Legislators were not in favor either.

[Waterlogged Waymos get stranded in LA flooding: 'Hopefully nobody inside'](#)

[Port Authority To Test Self-Driving Shuttle Buses At Newark Liberty Intl. Airport This Spring](#)



## Caffeine & Consequences

***Dunkin' Is Testing a 48-Ounce Drink Bucket..... yada yada yada..... beware the Subway Bathrooms!***

[Mamdani Pitches New Public Toilets While 50 Park Bathrooms Sit Closed](#)

**Remember:** [Most NYC subway bathrooms lack basic amenities like toilet seats and soap, audit finds.](#)

[Midtown coffee cart prices spike as supply issues threaten NYC's last affordable java: many spots have upped prices by 50 cents in recent months, with a small cup going for \\$1.50 and a large up to \\$2.50. Cart jockeys blame inflation and tariff threats and warn it could turn into a full-blown coffee cart crisis.](#)

**\*At Coffee Cart**

Guy in Lulu pants and Patagonia vest:  
"Lemme get my usual."

Coffee Guy: "I don't know who the f—  
you are."

@overheardnewyork

**DUNKIN'**  
Tests 48oz Cold  
Beverage Buckets  
at select locations in  
New Hampshire  
and Massachusetts only!



**\*Dad looking annoyed pushing his toddler's stroller**

"Sweetheart, we've been over this before.  
Bugs Bunny is the cartoon, Bad Bunny is  
the rapper."

@overheardnewyork

## Hands Across the Hudson: Even Tony Would Approve

[Maybe NY and NJ Can Get Along! NYC's Museum of the Moving Image in Queens is honoring 'The Sopranos'](#)

### Hands Across the Hudson: The Port Authority

[Why this political deal between 2 governors matters for millions of New Jersey and New York commuters? It reshapes the structure of an agency in one of the country's most transit-dense corridors. It also lands after years of friction between the two states over its governance. Sherrill agreed to the appointment of Kathryn Garcia, a former top aide to Hochul, as the authority's new executive director. In return, Hochul signed off on Jean Roehrenbeck, a former Sherrill aide, becoming deputy executive director, a position that sat vacant for 13 years. The agreement is viewed by New Jersey insiders and experts as an early victory for Sherrill, restoring a position designed to give the state and its commuters a stronger voice. The New Jersey vacancy stems from the fallout over Bridgegate, the scandal that overshadowed the second term of then-Gov. Chris Christie.](#)

## Global Detour: Chicago, LA, Philly, Venice, Venice and Wisconsin. Wisconsin? Yes, Wisconsin.

[Breaking Chicago News: 'Abolish ICE', 'Caleb Chilliams' Among Winners of Annual Snowplow Naming Contest](#)

[No Hollywood Ending! Just a Stinker of a Campaign That Went Down the Drain, a Different Kind of Bus Bomb... Stop Us Before We Get Flushed. LADOT's 'don't poop on buses' campaign takes bizarre twist. Officials pulled the six clips begging passengers not to use buses as bathrooms from YouTube and its website, claiming they were never supposed to be made public. \(BTW - I thought the last bomb on a bus was by Dennis Hopper and thwarted by Keanu Reeves.\)](#)

[Philly Always Raises The Steaks.... After 14 inches of snow fell in Philadelphia, one motorist discovered his car filled with snow when his key fob accidentally rolled the windows down overnight.](#)

[Why does Philly have so many chicken bones lying around?](#)

[Rampant littering by humans eating on-the-go and, significantly, foraging animals like rats and raccoons tearing open trash bags. These animals pull food scraps from garbage, leaving the bones scattered on sidewalks and around transit stops.](#)

[Venice, Italy footage shows large numbers of fish swimming through shallow water in the street during high tide.](#)

[Wisconsin Streets: The unofficial Olympic sport of Wisconsin just dropped and it's electric. Beer Case Curling!](#)



## Street Level

[9 Car Pile Up Backed Up Traffic For 3 Miles! Click to see the aftermath! Feb 27, 2026 around 9 AM on westbound LIE in Queens near Midtown Tunnel/25th St. ~9 vehicles involved, some stacked on top. No fatalities reported. 4 injured: 1 critical, 3 serious per FDNY. Cause under investigation.](#)

[With fixes still up in the air, will the BQE become NYC's own Big Dig? The Big Dig was Boston's notorious project to tear down an elevated highway downtown and build a new one underground. The Big Dig took two decades to complete. It cost nearly \\$15 billion, making it the most expensive highway project in U.S. history. It became a cautionary tale for government officials seeking to do something ambitious with an old highway.](#)

[Tribeca manhole explosion injures 2 kids and woman.](#)

[DOT seems to be gearing up for a full build out of the pedestrian spaces around the Flatiron Building: Major Concession ULURP Land Use Application - presented to Manhattan Community Board 5 - February 2026](#)

[FDNY taking criminal action against drivers parked at fire hydrants in NYC](#)

[Runaway Carriage Horse Fled Central Park and Crashed Into Cars](#)

[Unlicensed e-hail app defies NYC taxi rules, offers cheaper rides than Uber and Lyft. The company, called Empower, markets itself as a pro-worker platform where drivers pay a \\$50 monthly fee to use the app. The driver can take home 100% of their fare, which they set themselves. The system leads to cheaper rides for passengers and higher wages for drivers, the company claims.](#)

[Repair plans for a Bronx highway: As Gov. Kathy Hochul prepares to announce a plan for a \\$900 million overhaul to repair and expand the Cross Bronx Expressway, community advocates are opposing the project in favor of more limited fixes and improvements to local streets.](#)

[Community Board Urges 20 MPH Speed Limit Across Hell's Kitchen Under Sammy's Law](#)



**Fashion Police**

### Airport Division

[Florida airport teases clothing ban after US transportation secretary's dress code warning ruffled travelers' feathers](#)

### Cruise Division

[Norwegian Cruise Line slammed over dining dress code change: 'Idiotic rule'](#)

### Transit Division

[I've heard of Alligators in the Subway- but does anyone want to see- or wear Lego Crocs when stepping onto the platform?](#)

[The LEGO Crocs are wildly uncomfortable, and the defense that "they aren't supposed to be worn" just doesn't work.](#)



**DON'T**



Step on LEGO® bricks barefoot.

### Lego - Let's Go!

[Lego built a Bugatti out of bricks. Gives a different feeling of Whoa! Vs. Ow!!!! when you step on this Lego!](#)

### Parking: Asphalt Economics

[Uber acquires parking app SpotHero moves beyond ride-hailing, delivery. Uber said it's acquiring parking app SpotHero for an undisclosed sum. Uber said it plans to offer a parking reservation experience powered by SpotHero for events and at venues and airports. Deal expected to close in 1H26.](#)

[Making people pay for street parking in this gridlocked city? That could generate \\$1.3 billion—yes, billion—each year. And unlike taxing the rich, this revenue idea is completely within the City's power to implement. Now we're talking!](#)

[Extra Extra: What if way more NYC parking spots were metered](#)

[NYC's bizarre solution to illegal hydrant parking, using massive potted plants, only to thwart FDNY trucks and Bravest during emergencies has Queens locals and politicians fuming.](#)



## Thank You and Obligatory Celebrity Mentions

As I told Roscoe, we do our best to have only one transportation related Harrison Ford mention per month, which we shared in the opening pages.

[We highly recommend that you watch his speech accepting his Lifetime Achievement Award from the Screen Actors Guild.](#) We were moved by his recollection: *"Success in this business brings a certain freedom that comes with responsibility to support each other, to lift others up when we can. To keep the door open for the next kid, the next lost boy who's looking for a place to belong."*

I found this sentiment to be very BOMA. Thank you to everyone in BOMA who keeps the door open and makes sure others have a place to belong.

*And Now To Conclude: The Streets of NYC Used To Be Much Stranger.*

Here's a typical day in the life of Liza Minnelli: in 1978 she was walking in New York City when she was spotted by her boyfriend, Martin Scorsese. He stormed up and accused her of having an affair with Mikhail Baryshnikov, which she was. "How can you do this to me?" Scorsese screamed.

An awkward moment, no question. What gave it that extra Liza-with-a-Z oomph was that standing next to Minnelli was her then husband, Jack Haley Jr, the son of the man who played the Tin Man opposite Minnelli's mother,

