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*For Immediate Release*

## **STATEMENT FROM THE CAMPAIGN FOR NEW YORK'S FUTURE**

**NEW YORK, June 22, 2007** – The following may be attributed to Michael O'Loughlin, Director of the Campaign for New York's Future:

"We are pleased that leaders in Albany focused on critical issues pertaining to public health, the environment and smart growth but are disappointed that the legislative session ended without formal agreement on a plan to provide New Yorkers with the benefits of congestion pricing and improved public transit. We remain optimistic that the dialogue of recent weeks laid the groundwork for resolution during a special session in July.

"Governor Spitzer, Majority Leader Bruno and Speaker Silver deserve credit for recognizing the severity of the problems New York confronts – traffic congestion that chokes our economy, asthma attacks tied to air pollution that send kids to the hospital because they literally cannot breathe, and a subway and bus system that desperately needs new revenue to hold down fares in the face of massive structural deficits.

"Likewise, all three leaders deserve credit for their willingness to compromise and for the proposed creation of a commission to implement the Mayor's plan.

"But now it is time to close the deal – before New York misses out on substantial federal funds and before another mother rushes her asthmatic child to the hospital. July 16 is a critical date if New York is to qualify for up to \$500 million in federal funds to improve our public transit system and prepare a pilot congestion pricing program, two essential steps toward a cleaner, healthier, more livable future for all New Yorkers.

"Some deadlines matter. Some emergencies cannot wait, and the more than 140 organizations that make up the Campaign for New York's Future will continue to call for quick and effective action on PlaNYC based on its merits and that it not be held hostage to agreements on other, unrelated matters."