



ANGELO SANTABARBARA, PE
Assemblyman 111th District

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ALBANY

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April 24th, 2026

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of the State of New York
NYS State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

We are writing together on behalf of the City of Schenectady to request your consideration of targeted state support as final budget discussions continue.

We recognize and appreciate the State's continued investment in municipalities through base funding and recent proposals to provide additional assistance. However, recent budgets have also demonstrated that when cities face financial pressure and present a clear case, the State has the ability to provide targeted support beyond the base formula.

In past budget cycles, the State has demonstrated that targeted support beyond the base formula can be provided when cities present a clear case. That approach has been applied within the Capital Region. We are requesting that the same level of consideration be extended to Schenectady—so that cities in the same region are treated consistently.

We have seen this approach used in past budget cycles, particularly when cities highlight structural pressures such as tax-exempt property, regional service demands, and the cost of maintaining infrastructure and public safety. These are the same types of challenges Schenectady faces today.

When we look at both base funding and additional municipal aid, a consistent pattern emerges. Cities of similar size, such as Utica, receive higher levels of support, and even within the Capital Region, cities like Albany and Troy are receiving higher levels of additional aid than Schenectady. This indicates that the issue is not limited to one program, but reflects a broader imbalance in how funding is distributed.

While Schenectady is expected to receive a portion of general municipal assistance, the level of support currently anticipated does not reflect the level of consideration that has been demonstrated in similar situations.

As budget negotiations continue, we respectfully request that Schenectady be included in those same discussions for targeted support.

Specifically, we are requesting \$10 million in additional, targeted state support beyond existing municipal aid and current budget proposals for the City of Schenectady in the final enacted budget.

This investment would support continued stability, protect essential services, and ensure that Schenectady remains on a strong path forward within the Capital Region.

We want to be clear: this request is not made in opposition to any other community. Rather, it reflects a commitment to ensuring that Schenectady is included in the same conversations and considerations that have guided targeted state support in prior years.

Schenectady continues to be an important part of the Capital Region's growth and success. With the State's support, we can ensure that progress continues in a fair and balanced way.

Thank you for your consideration and your continued commitment to supporting communities across New York State.

Sincerely,



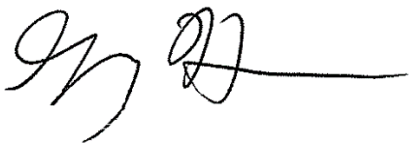
Angelo Santabarbara, PE

Member of the New York State Assembly

111th District | Representing areas of Montgomery & Schenectady Counties



Gary McCarthy, Mayor of the City of Schenectady



Gary Hughes, Chair, Schenectady County Legislature