



CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MOUNT VERNON
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March 2, 2026

Hon. Kathy Hochul
Governor
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Hon. Andrea Stewart-Cousins
Senate Majority Leader
332 State Capitol
Albany, NY 12247

Hon. Carl Heastie
Assembly Speaker
LOB – Room 932
Albany, NY 12248

Dear Governor Hochul, Majority Leader Stewart-Cousins, and Speaker Heastie:

On behalf of the City Council of the City of Mount Vernon, we write to express our appreciation for the Governor's 30-day amendments to the Executive Budget, which include an additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance (TMA) to be allocated in the same manner as in the past two years.

This proposal reflects a meaningful recognition that New York's strength begins in cities like Mount Vernon. A strong and reliable state-local partnership is essential to delivering services, maintaining infrastructure, ensuring public safety, and protecting the quality of life our residents expect and deserve. We commend the Governor for reaffirming this commitment through continued investment in local governments.

The City of Mount Vernon continues to face mounting fiscal pressures driven by inflation, increased service demands, aging infrastructure, and rising operational costs. At the same time, we are working diligently to protect our taxpayers amid rising living costs and uncertainty about future federal support. These challenges underscore the importance of sustained and predictable state assistance for our city.

The proposed additional \$100 million in Temporary Municipal Assistance will provide much-needed support to communities like Mount Vernon, helping to stabilize local finances and maintain essential services for our residents. We respectfully urge the State Legislature to include, at a minimum, this additional \$100 million in TMA in the final adopted State Budget.

At the same time, we encourage the Governor and State Legislature to develop a more permanent and predictable solution for unrestricted municipal aid. Establishing a long-term framework for annual increases in Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) funding would provide the fiscal certainty the City of Mount Vernon needs to plan responsibly and sustain the services our residents rely upon.

We greatly appreciate your partnership and look forward to continuing to work together to strengthen the City of Mount Vernon and New York State as a whole.

Respectfully,

The Mount Vernon City Council