



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 30, 2020

**MEDIA STATEMENT: AS ENVIRONMENTAL BOND ACT IS DROPPED, RISE TO RESILIENCE COALITION STILL VOTES “YES”**

Today is an unfortunate day for the environment and resilience of New Yorkers to flooding and the climate crisis. In rescinding the Environmental Bond Act, which would have created 65,000 jobs and put New Yorkers back to work on building a safer, more resilient New York State, we have lost the opportunity for a green stimulus that New Yorkers could have voted on in November.

In times of crisis, it's wise to invest in mitigating short and long-term damage to our economy. We know that investing in mitigating crises before they start reaps returns. Our states across the country face serious budget challenges and must prioritize funds where they are needed most. But the mid-term commitment of bonding need not necessarily be an either/or. It's time to get creative and develop a long-term revenue generator for flood resilience, for which there is currently no dedicated source of funds. Funding for open space, clean water, green infrastructure, and ecological restoration are not only wise climate policies but environmental justice issues that we cannot continue to ignore.

New York State is leading the nation on reducing carbon emissions in its passage of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act. On behalf of the [Rise to Resilience](#) coalition, we call for New York State to match that leadership with equivalent action on climate resilience to make sure we are not missing the boat before the flood.

**- Kate Boicourt, Director of Resilience, Waterfront Alliance and Rise to Resilience Campaign Director**

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**Rise to Resilience** is a campaign and coalition of residents, leaders in business, labor community and justice, volunteer organizations, scientists, environmental advocates, and design professionals collectively calling on our federal, state, and local governments to make

# RISE TO RESILIENCE

OUR COMMUNITIES, OUR FUTURE

building climate resilience an urgent priority in 2020 and beyond. The Rise to Resilience campaign is spearheaded by the Waterfront Alliance

**The Waterfront Alliance** is a nonprofit organization that inspires and effects resilient, revitalized, and accessible coastlines for all communities.