



**NEW JERSEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
14TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT**

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COMMITTEES:  
CHAIR,  
TRANSPORTATION AND  
INDEPENDENT AUTHORITIES  
HEALTH AND  
SENIOR SERVICES  
BUDGET

November 16, 2018

The Honorable Phil Murphy  
Office of the Governor  
PO Box 001  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Dear Governor Murphy,

I am contacting you on behalf of myself and the members of the Assembly Transportation Committee regarding the administration's response to yesterday's nor'easter in our state. The handling of this severe weather event was unacceptable and not only inconvenienced hundreds of our constituents but compromised the safety and well-being of drivers and students that were forced onto New Jersey's roads at the same time. According to NJ.com, yesterday resulted in more than 500 motor vehicle accidents in our state.

We understand there was a change in the forecast; however, given New Jersey's history with storms, it is always better to prepare for the worst. Also, our transportation agencies should work together with the most up to date information from National Weather Service in Mount Holly, OEM and law enforcement to prepare and adjust resources accordingly to make sure our roads are properly treated, cleared and most importantly, up to date information is given to the public in a timely fashion. This also requires coordination with our local partners in counties and towns. This did not happen yesterday and we must do better for our residents. There is no excuse.

I am heartened to learn that you are conducting a full review of the preparation and response to the storm and analyzing how the administration can coordinate better to keep New Jerseyans safe for the next weather event. I respectfully request that this be done as soon as possible and that your staff coordinate a call with myself and all of the members of the Assembly Transportation Committee to brief us on the results of this review and your plans for improvement going forward. I ask that this call be arranged for no later than November 26<sup>th</sup>. I also ask that DOT as well as representatives from NJT, NJTA, GSP, SJTA and the Port Authority of NY/NJ be represented on the call so all questions from members can be addressed.

Thank you very much for your attention to this matter. I look forward to working with you and your staff to ensure our transportation system works for all of our residents in the most efficient and safe manner as possible no matter what weather conditions we face. If you or your staff have any questions or wish to speak with me directly, please contact me at (609) 631-0198.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Benson".

Daniel R. Benson, Chair  
Assembly Transportation Committee

Cc: Speaker Craig Coughlin  
Members of the Assembly Transportation and Independent Authorities Committee