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## Letters: Priorities for LI and infrastructure

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Water on the Long Island Sound. Photo Credit: File  
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Apparently, Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo is spearheading major infrastructure and economic development investments for our region.

Many of the infrastructure projects are

transformative, including the third track. It would alleviate an existing bottleneck on the Long Island Rail Road's main line, thereby augmenting capacity and permitting reverse commuting during peak hours, something that is virtually impossible now.

Reverse commuting would grow our workforce and economy by enabling city dwellers to work on the Island. The third track would also enable intra-island transit commuting for the Island's workers. Importantly, the additional constructed capacity would allow the multi-billion-dollar East Side Access project to realize its full potential, as well as present Long Island communities with the expanded opportunity to develop mixed-use projects proximate to rail stations.

Not surprisingly, immediately following the governor's announcement, opposition surfaced from various quarters, including state lawmakers. The time has passed when the vocal minority controls the growth and prosperity of Long Island.

The Long Island Regional Planning Council's 25-year sustainability plan, LI 2035, should have been a clarion to our elected leaders that not only do we need to control the costs of government but we also need to grow our tax base — an unattainable goal without an expanded and improved public transportation and environmental infrastructure system.

***John D. Cameron Jr., Rockville Centre***