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Posted on 04/17/2026

"New Jersey is ready and excited to host eight FIFA World Cup matches this summer, including the World Cup Final. Since I took office in January, my Administration has been focused on the lead-up to the World Cup, and we have worked across government to ensure we are prepared to host the biggest sporting event our state has ever seen. This includes readying our transit infrastructure to transport more than 40,000 fans to and from each match safely and efficiently.

"We know that this event will deliver real economic benefits for our communities and businesses. At the same time, hosting cannot come at the expense of New Jersey commuters and taxpayers.

"In the agreement that my Administration inherited, FIFA put zero dollars towards transporting World Cup fans. In addition, it eliminated parking at MetLife Stadium, putting the burden of transporting four times more matchday riders than typical for an event at the stadium on NJ TRANSIT. On top of extensive logistical considerations to ensure transportation is safe and efficient throughout the tournament – for regular commuters and FIFA ticket holders alike – this agreement will cost NJ TRANSIT at least \$48 million, while FIFA is positioned to make \$11 billion during the World Cup.

"We are committed to ensuring costs are shared fairly. As I have said repeatedly, FIFA should cover the cost of transporting its fans. If it won't, we will not be subsidizing World Cup ticket holders on the backs of New Jerseyans who rely on NJ TRANSIT every day.

"I have also directed NJ TRANSIT to provide discounts for riders impacted by service changes on Monday, June 22nd and Tuesday, June 30th, the two dates that overlap with peak commuting hours. My Administration is also coordinating closely with PATH to cross-honor tickets and provide additional service to keep people moving during this busy time.

"This is about striking the right balance. We will showcase New Jersey on the world stage while protecting our residents, supporting our workforce, and making sure the economic upside of this event is felt in communities across our state."

Governor Mikie Sherrill

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