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Keep NYC Free notes a very interesting bit of math following the disclosure that the MTA spent much more than one billion dollars in overtime (“OT”) last year. Indeed, according to the MTA Board’s Finance Committee, it spent \$.26 billion on overtime. While this amount is 9% less than in 2018, that figure exceeded the budgeted amount by \$261 million. **So the MTA’s annual OT expense, before busting its budgeted expense, just happens to approximate the same one billion bucks that last year’s state legislation requires the congestion tax to net annually.** Is that the real basis for the Governor and Legislature to pass the Congestion Pricing tax: to just continue raising taxes, rather than get spending under control. After all, it isn't their cash! Read more at Newsday (article below).

LONG ISLAND TRANSPORTATION

MTA exceeded its budget on overtime by 26%, despite vowing controls



By Alfonso A. Castillo
January 22, 2020 9:17 PM

The MTA busted its overtime budget by 26% last year, despite vowing to address its rocketing costs for extra pay, new figures show.

According to figures released this week by its finance committee, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority spent \$1.26 billion in OT in 2019. That amount was about 9% less than overtime paid in 2018, but \$261 million over what the agency had budgeted.

Read the full article at <https://www.newsday.com/long-island/transportation/mta-lirr-overtime-costs-budget-2019-1.40908098>