



May 9, 2018

Andy Byford
President
New York City Transit
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dean Fuleihan
First Deputy Mayor
Office of the Mayor, City of New York
City Hall
New York, NY 10007

Dear NYCT President Byford and First Deputy Mayor Fuleihan,

We write regarding mitigation strategies related to the upcoming 15-month closure of the Canarsie Tunnel, which links Brooklyn to Manhattan on the “L” subway line. We acknowledge the steps that the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) and New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) have taken thus far to propose plans for rerouting the 400,000 New Yorkers who rely on the L-train and for conducting outreach to the affected communities and our offices. However, we also want to request the MTA and the City take additional steps to minimize the impacts of the closure.

We ask that the City and MTA identify the specifics of the proposed bus routes and present details to the relevant Community Boards before the MTA board finalizes the plans, in order to leave enough time to incorporate feedback from affected communities. We also ask that your agencies implement any necessary street use changes well in advance of the tunnel shutdown, so that commuters and traffic patterns can adjust. This would include making accommodations for deliveries in consultation with local businesses, determining routes and times for HOV lanes, implementing signage in accordance with any changes, installing fare collection machines, and making sure buses are purchased in advance and ready to be deployed. Introducing these changes early will facilitate their acclimation, and should help to reveal and address any unforeseen complications before the onset of the shutdown.

Finally, we ask that the agencies coordinate street openings and closures in advance of the tunnel shutdown and postpone any non-urgent construction or closures on the affected blocks for the


duration of the tunnel shutdown. This coordination should include the Department of Environmental Preservation, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, Con Edison, National Grid, the Mayor's Office of Special Projects and Community Events, the Department of Design and Construction, Department of Buildings, CitiBike, and any other relevant agencies or entities. Keeping the roadways clear to the extent possible during the tunnel closure will be crucial for accommodating the bus routes and bike lanes that are part of your agencies' plans. We understand that during this period, certain projects will arise that the City will need to address immediately. In these instances, we ask that the City and its agencies can coordinate with the MTA to minimize interruptions to service on any of these routes.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue that will affect hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. If you would like to discuss this matter, you may contact any of us directly, or via Danielle Zuckerman in Senator Kavanagh's office at 718-875-1517.

Sincerely,




State Senator Brian Kavanagh



Congresswoman Nydia Velázquez



Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams



State Senator Martin Malavé Dilan



Assemblymember Harvey Epstein



Assemblymember Joseph R. Lentol



Council Member Margaret Chin



Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney



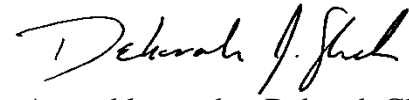
City Council Speaker Corey Johnson



Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer



State Senator Brad Hoylman



Assemblymember Deborah Glick



Assemblymember Yuh-Line Niou



Council Member Stephen T. Levin



Council Member Antonio Reynoso



Council Member Carlina Rivera

cc: Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner, Department of Transportation
Rick Chandler, PE, Commissioner, Department of Buildings
Vincent Sapienza, Commissioner, Department of Environmental Protection
Ana Barrio, Acting Commissioner, Department of Design and Construction
Julie Menin, Commissioner, Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment
Paula Galvin, Interim Executive Director, Mayor's Office of Special Projects and
Community Events
James O'Neill, Commissioner, New York City Police Department
Daniel A. Nigro, Commissioner, New York City Fire Department