

Members of Congress: Carolyn Maloney Jerrold Nadler Nydia Velazquez



State Senators:

Brad Hoylman
Liz Krueger
State Assemblymembers:

Deborah J. Glick
Brian Kavanagh
Richard Gottfried



Manhattan Borough President:
Gale A. Brewer
City Councilmembers:
Corey Johnson
Rosie Mendez
Dan Garodnick

January 17, 2017

Thomas F. Prendergast Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Metropolitan Transportation Authority 2 Broadway New York, NY 10004

Polly Trottenberg Commissioner New York City Department of Transportation 55 Water Street, 9th Floor New York, NY 10041

Veronique Hakim President MTA New York City Transit 370 Jay Street Brooklyn, NY 11201 RECEIVED

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Dear Chairman Prendergast, Commissioner Trottenberg, and President Hakim:

In November of last year, our offices met with representatives from your agencies regarding the upcoming L Train shutdown, repairs to the Canarsie Tunnel, and the traffic study for 14th Street and other Manhattan neighborhoods that will be affected. We want to thank you for your commitment to keeping our offices informed as the project progresses. We also appreciate the Department of Transportation's commitment to hold public hearings in advance of the traffic study to hear from the community regarding the needed scope of this study.

The changes to the L Train, which will begin in 2019 with the full shutdown of the Canarsie Tunnel, will have a major impact on the public and commuters. However, a well-executed public information campaign aimed at educating commuters on alternative transportation options will help ease the shock of an L Train shutdown. As of the November meeting, it was clear that there would be a number of local impacts that have not yet been considered for this project. In addition to the impacts on traffic along 14th Street and surrounding cross-streets, and changes to commuter patterns between Brooklyn and Manhattan, the local communities in Manhattan will feel the strain of this

extensive work. This corridor already experiences a high level of private development and public street-level work that impacts the quality of life of local residents. We appreciate your commitment to partnering with our offices and the local community to gather input from the local communities in advance of finalized plans in order to help minimize the impact of this shutdown as much as possible.

As you know, this project will require the coordination of multiple agencies. Heightened oversight of the project and coordination between agencies is paramount to ensuring the public and surrounding residents can cope with impacts brought on by construction. For example, street closing permits issued by the Department of Transportation may be issued to a private developer doing a building renovation, or to Con Edison working on a gas line, or DEP for maintenance of water mains. Communication and coordination are imperative.

To that end, we would like to reiterate the ask from July 26, 2016, that we understand you have been working on, that your agencies, along with the help of the City Administration, create a task force that will coordinate the multiple agencies and address the needs of the communities impacted by this project. The taskforce should include the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Department of Transportation, MTA New York City Transit as well as other relevant agencies such as the Department of Buildings, Consolidated Edison, Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Design and Construction, NYPD, Department of Small Business Services, all adjacent Community Boards and elected officials' offices. Other agencies and stakeholders should be brought in as deemed relevant. A comprehensive taskforce will ensure that all key stakeholders are fully briefed on developments and can have a central point of contact to relay questions or concerns.

A good first step towards public discourse is your agreement to participate in one west side and one east side community workshop—tentatively scheduled for early February—to solicit feedback and suggestions from the local communities most affected by the future closure of the L Train. This is a welcome and necessary start to addressing the concerns of the affected communities.

We look forward to working with you over the coming years to address specific issues surrounding the L Train shutdown and its impact on affected communities. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Maloney
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler Member of Congress

Cerrold Hallen

Nydia Velazquez Member of Congress

Brown Hoylman
State Senator

Liz Krueger State Senator

Deborah J. Glick Assemblymember

Delarah J. Jul

Brian Kavanagh Assemblymember

Richard Gottfried Assemblymember

Gale A. Brewer Manhattan Borough President

Corey Johnson Councilmember

Rosie Mendez Councilmember

Dan Garodnick Councilmember

CC: Mayor Bill de Blasio

Manhattan Community Boards 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 New York City Department of Buildings

New York City Department of Environmental Protection New York City Department of Design and Construction New York City Department of Small Business Services Consolidated Edison