



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Joseph P. Addabbo Jr.

Addabbo to Mayor: Reactivate a Permanent, Full-Time Ferry Service in Rockaway

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Queens, NY (February 3, 2015) - State Senator Joseph Addabbo, Jr. this week sent a letter to Mayor Bill de Blasio, requesting the reinstatement of a full-time ferry service in the Rockaways following the closure of the Rockaway Ferry in October 2014.

"I am hopeful, and requesting, that an improved ferry service on the Peninsula be obtained before the start of the upcoming summer season," **Addabbo** wrote.

"Rockaway has great year-round potential, but it's major economic strength is its summer season, which is a time when connecting the Peninsula with the remainder of the city would maximize the benefit for all individuals within the city limits."

Before docking the ferry last year, Addabbo mentioned the Mayor and members of his administration met with the Senator and several other local elected officials. In that meeting, de Blasio said an improved ferry transportation proposal to be revealed after the previous service was terminated.

“I would like to sit down with the Mayor and hear of any progress on a proposal for transportation in the Rockaways. Leaving such an isolated area, one that is part of our great city, without credible travel options is unfair and irresponsible,” **Addabbo** said. “Right now, the Peninsula’s only viable transportation option is a water, ferry service and it is up to our government to provide it.”

The Senator believes that a ferry service can be an attainable, reliable and convenient mode of transportation for daily commuters and weekend travelers. A full-time, seven-day ferry would also allow beach goers to visit the Rockaways on the weekends, ultimately boosting the local economy.

“The ferry is a win-win for everyone. City Budget negotiations for Fiscal Year 2015-2016 will soon commence, and restoring this vital service should be a high priority,” **Addabbo** said.

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