



## NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE

November 1, 2013

Governor Andrew M. Cuomo  
Executive Chamber  
State Capitol – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

We write regarding bills A.31/S.776, legislation that would require the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) to hold public hearings in each county affected by proposed major service changes or fare increases, and that such hearings be limited to one per calendar day.

This legislation will help make the MTA board more responsive to the people that it serves. In the past, the MTA has held multiple public hearings simultaneously in different counties, which resulted in sparse attendance at each venue by the board members. Riders' concerns and needs vary drastically among boroughs and counties and it is imperative that the MTA board understand how changes to fares and services will affect different areas. This can only be accomplished if as much of the MTA board as possible is present at each public hearing. Proposed changes can have devastating effects and deserve the Board's full attention so that the proper and least-drastic course of action can be undertaken.

Increasing board attendance and participation will enable the general public to have greater input into the MTA decision-making process.

This bill would not require public hearings to be held regarding standard seasonal or holiday adjustments, temporary changes due to routine maintenance and/or temporary changes in response to emergency situations.

On behalf of the residents in the MTA region we respectfully request that you sign this legislation into law. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Linda Rosenthal'.

Linda B. Rosenthal  
Member of Assembly

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr.'.

Charles J. Fuschillo, Jr.  
New York State Senator