

NEW YORK  
STATE  
SENATE



SENATOR MICHAEL N. GIANARIS  
12<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
CODES COMMITTEE  
COMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
FINANCE  
HEALTH  
JUDICIARY  
LABOR

April 26, 2011

Jay Walder  
Chairman  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
347 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017

Dear Chairman Walder,

I write regarding an important transportation matter affecting bus riders in western Queens.

In June 2010, as part of several cuts to bus service across the five boroughs, the MTA terminated the Q22 express bus that travelled from Astoria, Queens to Manhattan. The explanation given by the MTA indicated that budget constraints made system-wide cuts of this sort inevitable and communities were assured that the cuts were not falling disproportionately on any particular borough.

Recently, the MTA announced with great fanfare the reinstatement of service on two express buses servicing Brooklyn commuters, the X27 and X28, which were also terminated in June 2010. While I am glad bus riders in Brooklyn will have their service restored to pre-cut levels, I am concerned that the same consideration is not provided to Queens commuters who are facing similar hardship as a result of last year's cuts.

When viewed in light of the MTA's recent acquiescence in efforts to relocate a bus depot from Brooklyn to Maspeth, Queens, a troubling pattern appears to be emerging of your agency being more responsive to one part of the city over another.

This is obviously unacceptable.



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Accordingly, I respectfully request that the MTA give the same consideration to western Queens express bus riders as was given to those in Brooklyn and restore the Q22 express bus as soon as possible.

I look forward to your prompt reply. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael N. Gianaris".

Michael N. Gianaris  
New York State Senator