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August 8, 2019

Andy Byford
President
MTA New York City Transit
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Craig Cipriano
Executive Vice President
MTA New York City Transit Department of Buses
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Re: B38 and B54 Bus Service

Dear President Byford and Executive Vice President Cipriano:

I join my colleagues, constituents and community stakeholders in opposition to the proposed reduction in service along the B38 and the B54 bus routes.

Thousands of Brooklyn residents rely on these bus routes to get to and from work, school and medical appointments. Often these buses connect riders to the subway system to travel into Manhattan and points beyond. Any reduction in service resulting in greater wait times and overcrowded buses is an assault on the quality of life to people who need this bus service and do not have other transportation options.

The MTA's Fast Forward Plan includes the evaluation and "redesign" of the New York City bus network. The Brooklyn Bus Redesign has not yet taken place. Therefore, these changes are simply premature. Why are we redesigning services when an evaluation of the Brooklyn bus network has yet to be initiated? I strongly oppose any change in service until the roots of the problem have been appropriately studied and identified.

Brownstone Brooklyn is in dire need of increased frequency in service as well as bus lines that connect people to neighborhoods throughout the borough. Bus service is vital for the residents of these communities to live their lives. Any reduction of service will only make things harder for the people who live in these areas.

President Byford and Executive Vice President Cipriano
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Additionally, there are plans to replace the standard buses with the accordion-style articulated buses along the B38 bus line. Although these buses will have increased capacity, these buses turn very wide and create a hazard to drivers, cyclists and pedestrians. **Additional service utilizing standard buses should be on the table for consideration.**

I respectfully request that the New York City Transit Authority reverse the proposed changes and increase the frequency of bus service along the B38 and B54 routes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Senator Velmanette Montgomery
25th Senate District

cc: Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams
Legislative Colleagues
Community Board 2
Community Board 3
TWU Local 100
Myrtle Avenue Revitalization Project LDC (MARP)
Riders Alliance