

NEW YORK
STATE
SENATE



SENATOR MICHAEL N. GIANARIS
12TH DISTRICT
DEPUTY MAJORITY LEADER

August 9, 2022

Janno Lieber, Chair
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, New York 10017

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

Dear Chair Lieber and Commissioner Rodriguez:

I write to follow up on invitations my office has received to attend the Queens Bus Network Redesign open house meetings. While I appreciate the volume of outreach your agencies have done on this plan, I believe bus riders in all of Queens' neighborhoods deserve the same opportunity to provide input and need more information and opportunities to comment. I ask that you consider holding further in-person engagement sessions throughout western Queens.

Your open house series, with language and ASL interpretation, provides an asset for community members who may not otherwise have time to engage in this critically important process. With the only session in western Queens being in Jackson Heights, neighbors in Long Island City, Astoria, Sunnyside, Ridgewood, Woodside, and other areas are not easily able to attend and participate. By holding more of these open houses in distinct neighborhoods, you will get a stronger turnout from community members and even more valuable feedback.

I hope you will consider doing additional, neighborhood-specific meetings about this plan in the coming weeks and months. The additional comments you receive will be important to the plan, and our commuters deserve every opportunity for input on a project of this scale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Gianaris".

Senator Michael Gianaris
Deputy Majority Leader

