

March 31, 2008



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Hon. Thomas K. Duane, Senator
New York State Senate District 29
322 Eighth Avenue, Suite 1700
New York, NY 10001

Re: MTA Cutbacks on New York City Buses

Dear Senator Duane:

It has come to our attention that the MTA is planning further cutbacks to our already sadly diminished city bus service. These cutbacks are schedule to begin in April and possibly conclude in the Fall. However, past performance by the MTA shows that seasonal cutbacks often remain permanent.

The cuts will create *additional* gaps of one-to-three minutes between buses, and will affect all boroughs. However, as Chelsea and Midtown residents, we are particularly concerned with cuts to the M101, M102, M104, and, above all, the M11.

In recent years, headways to the M11 have been sharply increased. To make matters worse, buses are often dismayingly behind schedule, sometimes arriving more than an hour late.

It is ironic that just when far West Chelsea and Clinton (along with the Upper Westside and Harlem, also serviced by the M11) are becoming tremendously built up and attracting many new businesses and cultural institutions, transportation within these districts has grown less and less dependable.

Please keep in mind that the blocks between Eighth and Eleventh Avenues are quite wide and that the walk to the subway can be daunting. This is particularly true in inclement weather and for the elderly; disabled riders, for the most part, *must* rely on buses. Taken together, the lack of nearby subway service and booming development, make a compelling argument for increasing rather than decreasing service on the M

Home club of: City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn, State Senator Tom Duane; Assembly Member Richard Gottfried
State Committeewoman: Doris Corrigan; District Leaders: Mary Dorman and Tom Schuler
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We respectfully request that you bring our concern to Howard Roberts, Jr., President, Joseph Smith, Senior Vice President, and the Board of the MTA so that bus service will once again reflect the vibrancy of these neighborhoods.

Very truly yours,

FOR THE CHELSEA REFORM DEMOCRATIC CLUB

Lynn Kotler (II)

Lynn Kotler, President

cc: Hon. Richard Gottfried, New York State Assembly Member
Hon. Liz Krueger, New York State Senator
Hon. Jerrold Nadler, U.S. Congressman
Hon. Carolyn Maloney, U.S. Congresswoman
Hon. Bill Perkins, New York State Senator
Hon. Christine Quinn, New York City Council Speaker
Hon. Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President
Mr. H. Dale Hemmerdinger, Chairman, Manhattan Transit Authority
Mr. Howard Roberts, Jr., President, Manhattan Transit Authority
Mr. Joseph J. Smith, Senior Vice President, NYC Transit Dept. of Buses
Ms. Margaret Forgione, Manhattan Borough Commissioner, Dept. of Transportation
Mr. Daniel Brodsky, President, The Brodsky Organization
Ms. Christine Berthet, Transportation Comm. Co-Chair, Manhattan Community Board 4

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Ms. Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
Department of Transportation
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