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August 30, 2022

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

Queens Borough Commissioner Nicole Garcia New York City Department of Transportation 120-55 Queens Boulevard, Room 285 Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez and Borough Commissioner Garcia,

We are writing to provide you with our recommendation for adjustments to the hours of operation for the bus lanes currently being piloted on Jamaica Avenue.

After observing the operation of the Jamaica Avenue bus lanes this past year, we believe it clear we need to reevaluate their designated hours of operation. Those hours, whatever they may be, should be beneficial to surrounding communities and businesses in order to promote fairness and ensure people have reliable methods to reach their destinations.

However, it has become clear that the current operation of these bus lanes 24 hours a day, seven days a week, does not accomplish these goals.

As it stands now, the bus lanes are not being used to their full potential and are constantly disrupted by vehicles not authorized to be in the bus lanes. Local businesses are also negatively impacted by having the bus lanes be in operation 24/7.

Therefore, to help improve access to local businesses, which have faced a large number of hardships during the past few years, we believe the hours of operation for the Jamaica Avenue bus lanes should be scaled back to the following:

- Monday Friday: 6-10 AM, 4-7 PM
- Saturday Sunday: No hours of operation

We thank you for your attention and your dedication to the residents and business owners of downtown Jamaica.

Sincerely,

Donovan Richards Jr. President, Borough of Queens Co-Chair, Downtown Jamaica Improvement Council

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Nantasha Williams Member, New York City Council Co-Chair, Downtown Jamaica Improvement Council

Leroy Comrie Member, New York State Senate

Alicia Hyndman Member, New York State Assembly

Khaleel Anderson Member, New York State Assembly

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Clyde Vanel Member, New York State Assembly

Adrie , Alimo

Adrienne Adams Speaker, New York City Council

Selvena Brooks-Powers Member, New York City Council

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James Gennaro Member, New York City Council