

Comments on the elimination of the QM3, Express bus from Douglaston/Little Neck area to Midtown Manhattan – provided by Barbara Linton, Douglaston Civic Association board member, on behalf of our community:

We vigorously oppose the discontinuance of this bus line. The proposed alternatives put forth by the MTA are either costlier (LIRR+Subway) or more time consuming (local bus lines). There is also the issue of access to these other alternative modes of transportation, since for example, accessing the LIRR from the Eastbound service road to the LI Expressway would be difficult without driving to the Douglaston or Little Neck stations. In particular, any additional vehicle activity would be troublesome for the area by the Douglaston train station. There is no public parking lot available, only metered parking around the station area, resulting in additional commuters going into the neighborhood and utilizing the already limited parking spots. Currently, many commuters from Great Neck and other areas east on the LIRR Port Washington line come into Douglaston to park because the LIRR fare is less expensive than that from their locations. In addition, the concept of having less public transportation by eliminating this bus line seems at odds with the initiatives of both NYS and NYC to increase affordable housing and thereby increasing future population density in the Douglaston/Little Neck area, as well as the MTA's own congestion pricing initiative. We already live in a public transportation desert; we should be getting more public transportation options, not less, if the aim is to discourage driving as the primary mode of transportation from Northeast Queens into Manhattan.

Comments on the proposed stops to be eliminated on the Q12 bus line – provided by Barbara Linton, Douglaston Civic Association board member, on behalf of our community:

Our concern is that this line has been designated a "Limited" bus line and stops will be spaced further apart than they are currently. This action will place an undue burden on disabled/elderly neighbors that may have difficulty walking further to the closest bus stop. In particular, we are concerned about the elimination of the stops at Alameda and Northern Blvd., both Eastbound and Westbound. Those stops are important access points for the Douglaston neighborhood South of Northern Blvd. Eastbound, the space between the previous stop Northern Blvd/232 St and the proposed stop to be eliminated at Alameda and Northern Blvd. is one continuous block with no access to Northern Blvd. for our neighbors, the road is uphill all the way to the next available stop at Northern Blvd/243 St, and it would mean navigating a fraught path to get past the driveways of all the car related businesses to the stop at Northern/232 St. Likewise, on the Westbound side, eliminating the Alameda and Northern Blvd. stop would be a long walk on a not well-maintained sidewalk to Northern Blvd/232 St, or a substantial walk to make it to Northern/Douglaston Pkwy for our neighbors on the South side of Northern Blvd.

Comments on the proposed stops to be eliminated on the Q36 bus line – provided by Barbara Linton, Douglaston Civic Association board member, on behalf of our community:

We are concerned about stop spacing in regards to CommonPoint Queens Sam Field Center (YWHA) and the CommonPoint Queens Tannenbaum Family Pool on Little Neck Parkway, specifically the removal of the Westbound stop at Little Neck Pkwy/60 Av because of the population both of these community centers serve (i.e., after-school programs, services for children with special needs, older adult services, community mental health services). It's important that these groups are not impacted adversely due to the proposed stop removal.