



CITY OF NEW YORK

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FOUR

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Burt Lazarin
Chair

Jesse R. Bodine
District Manager

January 11th, 2018

Joe Lhota
Chairman
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Veronique Hakim
Managing Director
Metropolitan Transportation Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Re: L Train Update

Dear Chair Lhota and Director Hakim,

Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) learned that the recently disclosed plan for the planned L subway train closure from Bedford Avenue to Eighth Avenue still does not plan any station improvements to the Seventh or Eighth Avenue stations in Manhattan during the shutdown.

The MTA will have unimpeded access to more than three route miles of track and six stations for 15 months. During that time, there will be no trains and no riders to contend with, a situation that would expedite repairs and improvements to the system.

The Regional Plan Association has studied needed improvements and MCB4 supports the following recommendations for our district, which were voted on at our January 3rd Full Board meeting with 35 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstaining and 0 present but not eligible to vote:

- All stations should be rehabilitated and brought to a state of good repair and be ADA accessible on Sixth Avenue

- Explore reopening the pedestrian underpass between Seventh and Eighth Avenues, a long-standing request of MCB4
- Improve Seventh Avenue Station Circulation: mainly the corridor to Seventh Avenue IRT station should be improved. The stairs from the platform to PATH/IND transfer should be widened
- Increase passenger flow, capacity, and efficiency by reconfiguring the transfer to Eighth Avenue Station/IND line, with direct connections to the southern end of the Eighth Avenue A, C and E platforms
- Increase capacity by rebuilding the Eighth Avenue Station in Manhattan, which limits severely the number of trains running on the line: rebuild the L train terminal, creating space for train storage and turning trains

Such repairs and enhancements will eventually have to be done at much higher costs and will undoubtedly cause significant disruption. It would be fiscally prudent to implement them during the shutdown. We are anxious to hear your plans for transit improvements in our district, which is one of the fastest growing in population and jobs in Manhattan.

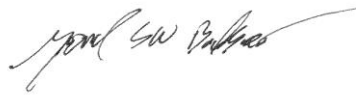
Sincerely,



Burt Lazarin
Chair
Manhattan Community
Board 4



Christine Berthet
Co Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee



Yoni Bokser
Co-Chair
Transportation Planning
Committee

CC: Hon. Jerry Nadler, U.S Congress
 Hon. Brad Hoylman, New York State Senator
 Hon. Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President
 Hon. Linda Rosenthal, New York State Assembly
 Hon. Richard Gottfried, New York State Assembly
 Hon. Helen Rosenthal, City Council
 Hon. Corey Johnson, City Council