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THE COUNCIL
 OF
 THE CITY OF NEW YORK
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 COUNCIL MEMBER, 37TH DISTRICT, BROOKLYN

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June 5, 2015

Mr. Carmen J. Bianco, President
 MTA New York City Transit
 2 Broadway
 New York, NY 10004

Re: B26 and Q58 Reroutes in Bushwick/Ridgewood

Dear President Bianco,

We are writing to express our concerns over the proposed rerouting of the B26 and Q58 lines in our district. The MTA informed us of the proposed change earlier this year, explaining that it was necessary to address safety concerns along Wyckoff Avenue. At that time, we indicated that we would support the proposal so long as the community board and the residents along the affected route were supportive of the proposed changes.

Recently, many of the residents along the proposed route contacted our offices and made it quite clear that they are united in their opposition to the MTA's plans. This past week they invited us to a community meeting where more than 100 residents expressed their concerns and presented us with hundreds of petitions signed by residents in the area who oppose the new routes. During the meeting, the residents also made us aware that they were not notified at all about the planned changes by the MTA, but rather read about the rerouting in an article recently published by the Ridgewood Times.

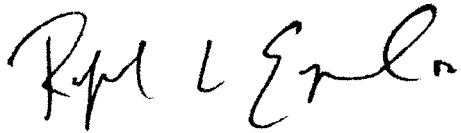
One of the concerns they expressed at the meeting, was the lack of a feasibility study for the proposed route changes to determine if in fact the changes would improve safety in the area. So far, neither of us, nor the residents, have received any information to believe that a thorough study was conducted or any evidence that the proposed route will be a safer alternative to the current one.

While we support the Mayor's Vision Zero initiative to increase pedestrian safety throughout the city, we also believe that communities should be properly notified when changes, such as these bus reroutes, are proposed. **For that reason, we are requesting that the MTA delay the June 28th implementation of the B26 and Q58 reroutes until a study can be conducted that properly analyzes the impact of the bus reroutes on the affected community.**



It is our hope that we can work together to address some of the concerns raised by the residents in this area before any changes take place. We look forward to your response and thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Council Member, 37th District, Brooklyn



Martin Malavé Dilan
State Senator, 18th District, Brooklyn

CC: Hon. Bill de Blasio, Mayor, City of New York
Polly Trottenberg, Commissioner of NYC Department of Transportation
Nadine Whitted, District Manager, Community Board #4, Brooklyn