

Next meeting: February 10 at 8:00 PM

This Meeting is held at Living Hope Christian Church, Braddock Avenue at 241st Street



Creedmoor Civic News

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE CREEDMOOR CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Founded 1927, Incorporated 1938

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"UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN"



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POLS, RESIDENTS RALLY AGAINST PROPOSED BUS ROUTE CUTS

A rally was held at Queens Borough Hall to protest the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's proposed new bus map. They were joined by civic leaders and concerned bus riders from around Queens.



Queens electeds gather on the steps of Borough Hall. Creedmoor Civic had a delegation in attendance.

The rally was held at 10 AM on Friday, January 31st. Few people knew about the rally, so the attendance was light. However, an event in Corona days earlier regarding the bus changes was attended by 600 angry people.

Each elected official intoned the same theme: no issue in Queens has united the politicians the way this proposal has. Everyone is condemning it.

As we reported in the *Creedmoor Civic News* last month, Bellerose in particular is hard hit. We lose the Q1 Bellerose bus, and the Q36 will no longer serve Little Neck Parkway.

Further, the bus line that replaces the Q36 will not serve the

heart of Queens Village nor reach the F-train. Instead, it will continue on Jamaica Avenue to reach the E-train which is a longer ride. It will then continue to Ozone Park to reach the A-train. Also, bus stops will be spaced six blocks apart rather than the traditional two blocks. The Q27 will continue to serve Queensborough Community College, but will not continue to downtown Flushing.

The Joint Bellerose Business District, of which Creedmoor Civic is a member, has blasted the new plan which can threaten the viability of some businesses that have customers who either shop by bus, or who use the delis and candy stores as they wait for the bus. Your civic will fight for you, but to win this, you must get involved as well. Here are steps you can take to reverse this plan:

1. Visit <https://new.mta.info/queensbusredesign> You will find information on the plan and the workshops, plus a link to make comments.

2. Call your elected officials to voice your concerns. Let them know that you commented on the plan.

- City Council Member Barry Grodenchik: 718-468-0137

- State Senator John Liu: 718 765-6675

- State Assembly Member Clyde Vanel: 718-479-2333

3. Attend an MTA Bus Redesign Workshop. The schedule is on the MTA website. The most convenient locations for us:

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Creedmoor Civic is on Facebook! Check it out at

<http://www.facebook.com/creedmoor.civic>

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President's Message

As we have reported, the recently released draft of the MTA Queens Bus Redesign eliminates bus service on Braddock Ave. Our elected officials are working hard on our behalf, but we must do our part. Send a comment to the MTA, contact elected officials, and attend a planning workshop. We may also need volunteers to deliver flyers to the area south of Braddock Ave that doesn't have an active civic.

If you own a home, you probably received a Notice of Property Value from the City recently. The way NYC computes real estate taxes is complex and unfair. A commission appointed by the Mayor and City Council has just issued its report, but actual reform is far away and will require action by the NYS legislature. In the meantime, we can make sure that we receive any exemptions that we are entitled to. We will have exemption forms at our February 10 meeting. Or, attend one of the workshops listed in this newsletter. Information and forms are also available on the nyc.gov website. Deadlines are in early or mid March.

We bid farewell to Detective Jovoda Cooper, 105th Precinct Community Affairs Liaison. Det Cooper will be retiring soon after 31 years of service in the NYPD, 15 of them at the 105th. Many of you have met Detective Cooper at our meetings, Halloween Parade, and other events. We thank her for her hard work and wish her the best.

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

NCO CONTACT INFO

Police Officer Shawn Gallagher continues to serve as a Neighborhood Coordinating Officer for our sector, Sector Eddie. His email is SHAWN.GALLAGHER@nypd.org. Cell: 929-375-1056. We welcome his new partner, PO Christopher Spotts. Contact info for Officer Spotts: Christophe.Spotts@nypd.org. Cell: 917-769-2017.

ASSEMBLYMAN VANEL EVENTS

State Assembly Member Clyde Vanel will provide assistance on immigration issues on Tuesday, February 18 from 10 am to 2 pm, at his office located at 97-01 Springfield Blvd. On February 28, from 6 pm to 8 pm, income tax preparation help will be provided at the same location. For more information or to RSVP, call 718-479-2333.

PROPERTY TAX WORKSHOPS

The North Bellerose Civic Association will have representatives from the NYC Dept of Finance at their March 4 meeting, to assist homeowners who wish to apply for tax exemptions or to better understand their Notice of Property Value. They have graciously invited members of other civic associations. Location: MS 172, at 81-14 257 St. NBCA will conduct their own business starting at 7 pm. Plan to get there about 7:30 pm.

Council Member Barry Grodenchik is sponsoring an enrollment event for homeowners and tenants on March 13, from 11 am to 3 pm, at the SNAP Senior Center, located on the Creedmoor south campus at 80-45 Winchester Blvd. For more information, call his office at 718-468-0137.

We will have forms available at our February 10 meeting. For more information, visit nyc.gov/finance

BUS PROTEST STRATEGIES

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- Feb 13: IS 109 at 213-10 92 Avenue at 7 pm
- Feb 20: Korean Community Services, 203-05 32 Avenue, Bayside. 7 pm- 8:30 pm
- Feb 27: Cross Island Y, 238-10 Hillside Ave, 7 pm- 8:30 pm.

4. Volunteer to help Creedmoor Civic as needed (handing out flyers at bus stops, etc.).

We are hearing now that the MTA admits to "wrong assumptions" regarding the design of the new Queens map.

We will provide updates by email and at our February 10 meeting.

PLASTIC BAG BAN MARCH 1

As of March 1, plastic grocery bags will be outlawed in New York State. Consumers may purchase paper bags at grocery stores for 5 cents apiece although merchants are reporting a shortage of paper bags nationwide. Bring your own totes or bags.

CIVIC ELECTIONS COMING

The proposed Slate of Officers for the Creedmoor Civic Association will be published in March. We have a vacancy in the Recording Secretary position. Civic members may place their name in nomination for any position at the March 9 meeting. An election, if necessary, will be held at the April 13 meeting.