

# Next meeting: January 13 at 8:00 PM

**This Meeting is held at Living Hope Christian Church, Braddock Avenue at 241<sup>st</sup> Street**



## Creedmoor Civic News

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

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### NEW BUS PLAN SCRAPS Q1 BRADDOCK AVENUE BUS SERVICE, OTHER CHANGES SPARK CONCERN

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority, citing the age of the current Queens bus map, has decided to wipe the slate clean and start over. The new plan presents a crisis situation for eastern Queens, and Bellerose in particular.

Arguing that Queens has changed a lot in the last 100 years, that population shifts, changing transportation patterns, etc, have necessitated a fresh look at where buses operate, the MTA has responded by preparing a draft report that literally starts over from scratch.

There is a fallacy to this thinking. People, 100 years later, still need to get to commercial hubs and subway connections. The most devastating change to Creedmoor Civic is the cessation of bus service on Braddock Avenue.

Under the new plan, the only access to F-train subway service at Hillside Avenue and 179<sup>th</sup> Street is to walk to Hillside Avenue. Our civic has no streets to Hillside Avenue between 235<sup>th</sup> Court and the Cross Island Parkway service road. The Jamaica Avenue/Jericho Turnpike bus, an alternative for our civic (the Q36 service) is rerouted to remain on Jamaica Avenue to take passengers to the E train, and continues to Ozone Park terminating at the A train. This change means the Q36 no longer serves central Queens Village via 212<sup>th</sup> Street and no longer services Glen Oaks Village since it will terminate at Little Neck Parkway and not turn north on Little Neck Parkway. The route to the E will take one hour!

The Q27, currently accessible by changing from the Q1 at Hillside Avenue and Springfield Boulevard, will no longer serve downtown Flushing where additional bus connections can be had. Instead, the Q27 will hug eastern Queens and terminate at Bay Terrace. At least it will still serve Queens Borough Community College.

These changes, if not reversed, can have serious negative consequences on property values. Essentially, the MTA is ending

#### JANUARY MEETING:

**An organization called The Center for Family Support (CFS) is in the process of renting a house on the 88 block of 238 Street to house four young adult women with developmental disabilities. Ms Alicia McGrath from CFS will make a presentation about the plan at our January 13 meeting. We will also discuss the MTA Draft Bus Redesign Plan for Queens and possible actions that the civic might take in response.**

useful public bus service in Eastern Queens. Reliance on Uber and Lyft will grow exponentially.

We urge all our members and residents to learn more about these changes. Every bus route in Queens is radically altered. Also, you need to learn the new designations for the bus routes. They have scrapped the old numbers.

There will be public hearings on these changes. However, consistent with the MTA's disdain for eastern Queens, there are no public hearings in our area. For a list of where the hearings are, see page 2 in this newsletter.

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## Creedmoor Civic News

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PO Box 260143, Bellerose Manor, NY 11426

Tel. 718- 464-3369

Member: Queens Civic Congress, Inc.

Website: [www.creedmoorcivic.org](http://www.creedmoorcivic.org)

E-mail: [creedmoorcivic@gmail.com](mailto:creedmoorcivic@gmail.com)

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## ORGAN DONATION FOLLOW UP

At our December meeting, we heard a presentation from Doran Katz, a 16-year-old Boy Scout who is raising awareness about organ donations as a project to become an Eagle Scout, the highest rank of the Boy Scouts. Doran and other Boy Scouts explained that New York State is far behind many other states in recruiting organ donors. He encouraged us to learn more about organ donation through an organization called LiveonNY ([www.liveonny.org](http://www.liveonny.org)). The Department of Motor Vehicles encourages people to indicate their willingness to become organ donors on their driver's license or NYS ID card. The New York Board of Elections allows you to sign up as an organ donor when you complete your voter registration. Thanks to Doran and his fellow scouts for this important information!

## NCO BUILD/BLOCK MEETING JAN 22

Neighborhood Coordinating Officers Shawn Gallagher and Christopher Spotts will hold the next quarterly Build The Block meeting on Wednesday, January 22 at PS 115, the James J Ambrose School, located at 80-51 261 St in Glen Oaks. The meeting will begin at 7 pm, doors open at 6:30.

## ST GREGORY THE GREAT ACADEMY OPEN HOUSE

The St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy will hold an open house on Sunday, January 26 from 10:30 am to 12:30 pm. The school is located at 244-44 87 Ave.

## President's Message

**As we report on page 1, The MTA has released a draft of its Queens Bus Network Redesign Plan. It seems that we may lose significant bus service on Braddock Ave and Little Neck Parkway if the draft plan is implemented as currently written. It is very important for us to pay attention to this process and make our voices heard.**

**On March 24, there will be a special election to fill the vacancy in the office of Queens Borough President, due to the election of Melinda Katz as Queens District Attorney. We thank the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association for hosting a candidates' forum on January 9. We will notify you if we learn of other opportunities to meet and question candidates for Borough President.**

**We still have two or three months of winter weather to deal with. Please remember to clear snow from fire hydrants on your block. If you use space heaters, use them safely. Do not use extension cords and keep space heaters away from combustible materials. Make sure smoke and carbon monoxide detectors are working properly.**

Your neighbor,

*Michael O'Keefe*

## DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE

The St Gregory Holy Name Society and Athletic Association are conducting a Defensive Driving course. It may be taken in one day on Saturday, January 25, or in a split class on Tuesday, January 21 and Thursday January 23. Cost is \$45 per person. Completion of the course would provide removal of up to 4 points on a license and up to a 10% discount on auto insurance. For more information, contact Bill Chuber at 516-855-3019.

## CENSUS WORKERS NEEDED

Temporary census workers are being hired at an hourly rate of \$28. If you are interested, visit [2020census.gov/jobs](http://2020census.gov/jobs) or call 1-855-JOB-2020.

## MTA PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

The MTA will hold several public workshops 6 pm to 8 pm on the dates listed. The most convenient locations for our members:

- Jan. 22, 2020 at the Queens Flushing Library, 41-17 Main St, Flushing, NY 11355
- Jan. 23, 2020 at the Queens Educational Opportunity Center, 158-29 Archer Ave, Jamaica, NY 11433
- Jan. 28, 2020 at Queens Borough Hall, 120-55 Queens Blvd, Kew Gardens, NY 11424

Visit [new.mta.info/queensbusredesign](http://new.mta.info/queensbusredesign) for a complete list of workshop locations. You may also make comments or ask questions on the website.