

Next meeting: March 9 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

March, 2020

★ "UNITED EFFORT REAPS UNITED GAIN" ★

Website: www.creedmoorcivic.org

★ VOL. 89, NO. 3

CREEDMOOR CIVIC AND COMMUNITY RISE UP AGAINST NEW BUS ROUTES

The Bellerose community is angry and has been turning out in full force to tell the Transit Authority: hands off our Q1 Braddock Avenue bus service.



Creedmoor Civic members turn out for bus meeting at I.S. 109 in Queens Village. Photo: Mike Gannon, Queens Chronicle.

All over Queens, people have been turning out by the hundreds at rallies and workshops on the draft plan to scrap the existing bus map and issue a new one that eliminates many lightly used bus routes, while increasing frequency of more popular routes. The problem is that there are usually no alternatives to the lightly used bus lines. In eastern Queens the Q36 is radically altered and the Q1 route, both the Springfield Boulevard and Braddock Avenue legs, are eliminated giving Bellerose and Queens Village no direct one-seat path to the F train in Jamaica.

Community Board 13 held a hearing on this issue on February 13 at I.S. 109 in Queens Village, a school currently served by the Q36 but which ironically would no longer be reachable by bus since the route through central Queens Village would be eliminated.

MARCH MEETING SPEAKER

We will have a speaker on the upcoming 2020 Census. Free refreshments served at every meeting. Come and bring a neighbor.

About 200 people turned out. Thirty people spoke with no one praising the new map. Creedmoor Civic was especially visible with several of our members speaking.

Creedmoor Civic has set up a special ad hoc committee to fight for the retention of Q1 service. Volunteers have been handing out flyers and posting notices on the kiosks at bus stops alerting people to proposed cessation of service. We know for a fact that many people turning up at these bus hearings came because of Creedmoor Civic's outreach.

Another event was held at the Cross Island YMCA on February 27. Turnout was over 300 for this "workshop" where the transit personnel tried to explain their reasons for making the changes. Their presentations were not convincing. Again Creedmoor Civic had a heavy presence at the evening event and lecturing bus brass that the Q1 route has to be retained.

Additional workshops you may want to attend:

Monday, March 16 from 7 to 8:30 PM Hillcrest Jewish Center
183-02 Union Tpke

Thursday, March 19 from 7 PM to 8:30 PM at North Shore
Towers, 272-48 Grand Central Parkway

Wednesday, April 1, from 7:00 to 8:30 PM at Hollis Hills
Bayside Jewish Center, 210-10 Union Tpke

Tuesday, April 7 at the Queens County Farm Museum.

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Published Since 1931

Published 10 times per year by the Creedmoor Civic Assn., Inc.

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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

The 2020 Census count is about to begin. The Census impacts congressional representation, federal funding and other important matters. Please come to our March 9 meeting to learn about the process.

We thank our elected officials and civic members for their hard work in fighting cuts to MTA bus service. We believe the MTA is hearing us, but we can't let up. If you haven't already done so, please attend a Bus Network Redesign workshop, or post a comment at mta.info/queensbusredesign

We thank Amanda Mulcahy for serving on our Board of Governors for the past several years. Amanda has stepped down due to other commitments.

Your neighbor,

Michael O'Keeffe

QUEENS BEEP SPECIAL ELECTION 3/24

The special election to fill the office of Queens Borough President will take place on March 24. Five candidates are running: Costa Constantinides, Elizabeth Crowley, Jim Quinn, Donovan Richards and Dao Yin. Special elections are non-partisan. You will not find standard party labels next to the candidates names. Early voting will take place from Saturday, March 14 through Sunday, March 22. The Cross Island Y is the nearest location for early voting. Early voting will not take place at your regular polling location. For Creedmoor Civic residents the regular polling place is P.S. 18 on 235th Court south of Hillside Avenue. The hours are 6 AM to 9 PM.

SLATE OF OFFICERS

As per our constitution, we hold elections every year for officer positions and for two board member positions (board terms are for three years and are staggered). The slate of candidates is as follows:

President.....Michael O'Keeffe
President Emeritus.....Rick Duszkiewicz
First Vice President.....Rosemary Parker
Second Vice President.....Paul Bellisario
Treasurer.....James A. Trent
Recording Secretary.....open
Financial Secretary.....Cathy Christy
Sergeant-at-Arms.....John Christy
Board Member Class of 2023...Devika Singh
Board Member Class of 2023...open

At the March 9 meeting, the floor will be open to nominations of members in good standing who wish to run for these positions. The Recording Secretary position is still open. If there are any contested positions, an election will be held at our April 13 meeting. As per our constitution, nominees for President must have attended a majority of the civic meetings for the 12 months preceding the election.

Around the Town

Condolences to the family of Freddy Benjumea of 242 Street, who passed away recently.

Condolences to the family of Judy Shad Mahoney of 237 Street, who passed away recently. Judy delivered our civic newsletters on her block for many years.

SPRING CLEANUP PLANNED

The civic is planning a cleanup along Braddock Avenue sometime in May. If you would like to help, please call civic Board Member Ann Terry at 718-347-1909.

SMOKE ALARM CAMPAIGN

The Red Cross plans to install over 1,000 smoke alarms in Southeast Queens from April 18 through May 3. If you sign up, a Red Cross volunteer will survey your home and install as many smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms as needed, free of charge. Sign up online at SoundtheAlarm.org/nyc or call 1-877-733-2767. If you would like to volunteer, visit the website or call 1-646-875-5051.

TIRES AND RIMS STOLEN

On the night of Feb 12, all four wheels and tires were stolen from a Honda parked on 88 Ave at 238 Street. Hondas are the most frequently hit, but other vehicles with fancy wheels are targeted as well. The NYPD recommends installing wheel locks, but don't leave the key in the glove compartment