

April 14, 2017

The Honorable Patrick Foye
Executive Director
The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey
4 World Trade Center
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mr. Foye:

We hope this letter finds you well.

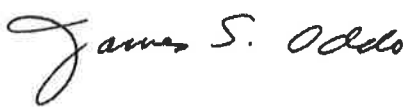
We write about an issue that might seem minor to some, but is a real quality-of-life issue for commuters. We were contacted earlier today by constituents who commute to work on the X22, which utilizes the New Jersey Turnpike and Lincoln Tunnel. They complained that the Lincoln Tunnel bus lane was closed this morning during the morning rush.

Today is Good Friday, which is one of those days that some people have work and some people do not have work. In the past, we have referred to these days as “working holidays.” In fact, several years ago we convinced the New York State DOT to keep the HOV lanes on the Gowanus open on “working holidays.” In that instance, our constituents were forced to endure heavy traffic on such “working holidays” when the lane was closed. Adding insult to injury is the fact that people expect lighter than usual traffic on such days.

We kindly ask for the Port Authority’s policy on closing the bus lane on “working holidays” and a list of days it is scheduled to be closed. There are some holidays where it makes sense to close it, such as the Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, and Christmas; but there are other government holidays that are not observed by many business, such as Veterans Day, Columbus Day, President’s Day, Good Friday, and others where folks have to get to work and should not be forced to sit in unnecessary traffic.

We thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours



James S. Oddo
Borough President



Steven Matteo
Council Member



Joe Borelli
Council Member

