

March 27, 2019

Mr. Andy Byford
President, MTA New York City Transit
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

RE: ABLE Camera System

Dear President Byford:

I hope this letter finds you well.

I read with interest, then with a profound degree of disappointment, about the Automated Bus Lane Enforcement (ABLE) camera system that will be piloted on new buses in 2019-2020. According to reports, the ABLE system will be evaluated for its effects on travel times and bus speeds - but only on routes in Manhattan and Brooklyn.

The purpose of this letter is to ask you to strongly consider expanding the pilot program to include Staten Island.

I cannot think of a more necessary location for a pilot program than on buses that travel from and to Staten Island. Of the five boroughs, only we have no comprehensive subway system, or indeed any rail connection at all, to any other boroughs. With the exception of the Staten Island Ferry, our commuters have no choice but to use buses or automobiles for their daily commute to and from off-island jobs.

I do not believe I am exaggerating when I say that the ABLE system will have more of a potentially positive impact on the commute of Staten Islanders than commuters in any other borough.

Therefore, on behalf of incredibly beleaguered Staten Island commuters, I strongly urge you to consider adding Staten Island buses to this pilot program.

Thank you for your kind attention.

Sincerely,



James S. Oddo
President, Borough of Staten Island

