



August 25, 2014

Margaret Forgione
Manhattan Borough Commissioner
New York City Department of Transportation
55 Water Street
New York, NY 10041

Carmen Bianco
President
MTA NYC Transit Authority
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear Commissioner Forgione and President Bianco:

We write to express our support of the June 20, 2014 resolution by Manhattan Community Board 2 (CB2) which calls for the start of the M3 bus line's northbound route to be restored to University Place from 9th to 14th Streets, at which point it would turn right on 14th Street, then left on Union Square East to continue the current route.

The resolution by CB2 identifies the M3's previous northerly route as a "conveniently accessible one that the community needed and was able to use (and used), because it was well-situated within reach for all users." CB2 further noted that the rerouting caused great hardship for those who formerly got on the M3 at University Place by requiring them to go two long blocks east to the nearest northbound M3 stop on Fourth Avenue or two equally long blocks west to reach the closest northbound alternative route, the M5 on Sixth Avenue. This is a significant distance for the many senior citizens and disabled persons, as well as mothers and children, working people, and tourists, who require this access.

Further, the M3's modified route duplicates the starting place and route to 14th Street of the M1 and M2 buses, causing an unnecessary redundancy of service on Fourth Avenue. CB2 also cites recent census data indicating that University Place and its immediate vicinity have a growing senior citizen population for whom other forms of transportation may not be physically or economically feasible.

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Restoring the M3 bus line to its previous start along University Place will once again provide a transportation option favored by many residents and bus riders. We hope you will agree that this modest adjustment is justified and an important step toward serving those who need this service most. We also echo CB2's call for the accompanying restoration of the bus shelter previously located at University Place between 9th and 10th Streets.

Thank you for considering our request, and for your dedication to improving public transportation for all New Yorkers.

Sincerely,



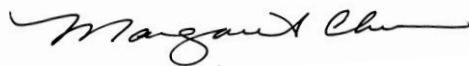
Gale A. Brewer
Manhattan Borough President



Brad Hoylman
New York State Senator



Daniel Squadron
New York State Senator



Margaret S. Chin
New York City Council Member



Rosie Mendez
New York City Council Member



Corey Johnson
New York City Council Member

cc: Manhattan Community Board 2