



NYPIRG's

Straphangers Campaign

TIPS FOR TESTIMONY: 2010 MTA TRANSIT CUTS

the facts

During the first week in March 2010, the MTA is will hold eight hearings on its proposals to drastically cut transit service. If adopted, these cuts would hurt hundreds of thousands of riders, whether on subways, buses or commuter rail or for people with disabilities who use paratransit.

In addition, the MTA says it can no longer provide free- or half-fare MetroCards to about 585,000 middle and high school students in New York. The agency says this is because the City and State do not give the MTA enough funding to provide student transportation.

The hearings are the best chance to speak out against these proposals. We urge you to testify, either in person or to submit written testimony through our website.

Registering to Speak

The Straphangers Campaign strongly urges you to sign up to testify in person, if possible. You can do that by: 1) registering online (information coming soon) or 2) by calling (212) 878-7483. The list of hearing sites and dates are on the back of this flyer or can be gotten at <http://bit.ly/hearingschedule>. Signing up in advance will help shorten your wait to speak. Even if you are not sure you can testify, sign up in advance. There's no penalty if you can't make it.

If you cannot come to the hearings, you can submit written testimony through the Straphangers Campaign website at www.straphangers.org/testify. We will present your comments to the MTA. Whether testifying in person or over the web, you can learn more about the service cuts at <http://bit.ly/2010servicecuts> (this is large file and may take a few moments to load).

Getting Ready to Speak

The hearing will take place in a large auditorium; starting at 6pm. Security is heavy, so leave time to get in.

It's helpful to stop by the tables that the MTA will set up outside the auditorium. The MTA will have detailed information on the cuts, as well as transit officials who can answer questions and take comments. The Straphangers Campaign also hopes to have a table set up outside the auditorium to provide information and assist riders.

Suggestions for Testimony

- Everyone has their own voice and message. The best testimony is to describe how the cuts will directly affect you, your family or your community. Specific examples — such as long walks to relocated buses, more crowding, extra transfers or increased costs — can be the most powerful.
- You will have three minutes to speak. In preparing testimony, we'd urge you to keep within the allotted time frame.
- Many of us are angry about these proposed cuts. In our view, there are effective ways to convey upset about these reductions. But there are also ways that may undercut your testimony.
- Suggest possible solutions to avoid the cuts, if you can. Here are two thoughts:
 - The Straphangers Campaign and the New York City Council have proposed stopping the cuts by using federal stimulus funds and another \$50 million in operating funds that is being diverted away from paying for service.
 - The MTA should run more efficiently. Even the new MTA Chairman vowed recently to "take this place apart" to find savings.

See reverse for schedule of public hearings

Schedule of Public Hearings

All hearings start at 6pm

Mon, 3/1/10

White Plains Performing Arts Center

3rd Floor, City Center
11 City Place, White Plains

Directions:

MNR to White Plains, walk south on Main Street to City Center; Bee-Line Routes 1, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 20, 21, 40, 41, 60, 62, 66, 77, A, B, C, D, E, H, TZx, I-Bus, OWL; I-287 to Exit 6 (Route22)

Mon, 3/1/10

Chateau Briand

440 Old Country Road, Carle Place, Long Island

Directions: :

LIRR to Carle Place; N22, 79

Tues, 3/2/10

Sheraton LaGuardia East Hotel

Phoenix Ballroom
135-20 39th Avenue, Flushing, Queens

Directions:

7 train to Flushing-Main Street; Q12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20A/B, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, 44, 48, 58, 65, 66, QBx1, N20, 21; LIRR to Flushing-Main Street

Tues, 3/2/10

College of Staten Island

Springer Concert Hall
1P Building
2800 Victory Boulevard, Staten Island

Directions:

S62/92; from Manhattan: X10, X11; from Brooklyn: S53 to S62/92, S93
NYCT shuttle bus will operate from CSI bus stop to concert Hall

Wed, 3/3/10

The Paradise Theater

2403 Grand Concourse at 187th Street, Bronx

Directions:

B, D, trains to Fordham Road; Bx1, Bx2, Bx12 SBS, BxM4A, BxM4B to Fordham Road; MNR to Fordham Road

Wed, 3/3/10

Brooklyn Museum

Cantor Auditorium, 200 Eastern Parkway, Brooklyn

Directions:

2, 3 trains to Eastern Parkway-Brooklyn Museum; 4,5 trains to Franklin Avenue, Franklin Ave Shuttle S to Botanic Garden; B, Q trains to Grand Army Plaza; B41, 45, 48, 69, 71

Thurs, 3/4/10

Fashion Institute of Technology

Haft Auditorium, Seventh Avenue at 27th Street, Manhattan

Directions:

1 train to 28th Street; 1, 2, 3, A, C, E trains to 34th Street-Penn Station; B, D, F, V, N, R, Q, W trains to 34th Street-Herald Sq; M4, 6, 7, 10, 16, 20, 34, Q32

Thurs, 3/4/10

Holiday Inn-Suffern

Empire Ballroom
3 Executive Boulevard, Suffern

Directions:

MNR Port Jervis Line to Suffern; NYS Thruway (I87/287) to Exit 14B (Airmont Road). Turn north at exit, then immediate left onto Executive Boulevard

Monday, 3/8/10

Suffolk County Legislature in Riverhead

Auditorium
300 County Center Drive
Riverhead, Long Island

Directions:

From the east: LIE to Exit 71, south on 24 to City Center Drive (4 miles); Legislature and parking on right side of road LIRR to Riverhead; Taxi to Legislature in Riverhead
Suffolk Transit: 8A, S58, 62, 66, 92 (check schedules for hours of operation)

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