

Legislator Richard Nicoletto
LD 9, Deputy Presiding Officer
(516)-571-6209



Legislator Laura Schaefer
LD 14 (516)-571-6214

Legislator Vincent T. Muscarella
LD 8 (516)-571-6208

Legislator Rose Marie Walker
LD 17 (516)-571-6217

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

THEODORE ROOSEVELT EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING
1550 FRANKLIN AVENUE, MINEOLA, NEW YORK 11501

Via Online Filing and Regular Mail

June 10, 2016

Edward M. Dumas, Vice President – Market Development & Public Affairs
Long Island Rail Road Expansion Project
MTA Long Island Rail Road, MC 1131
Jamaica Station Building
Jamaica, N.Y. 11435

Dear Mr. Dumas:

We represent the communities along LIRR Main Line which will be severely impacted by the proposed Third Track Expansion Project. We write in a unified voice urging you to reconsider the timeline and scope of your public outreach. We have received many calls, emails and letters from residents voicing concerns and confusion about this proposed project. We write today to ask that you expand the scoping outreach period and increase the number of meetings with the public.

The residents, and their elected officials, need time to review the proposal to be able to engage in an informed and useful dialogue with the MTA and to identify the potential impacts that must be addressed in the DEIS. Unfortunately, the public comment period is woefully short; a mere 30 days. In 2005, when the MTA last raised this proposal, the public comment period was three times longer. We ask that you enlarge the comment period to a minimum of 90 days to allow the public to digest the information available, request additional information as needed, and provide opportunity to identify all of the impacts that must be addressed.

The LIRR's Draft Scoping Document provides limited information about the Third Track Expansion Project. It is extremely difficult, if not impossible, to identify potential impacts when the rationale and details of the project have not been provided. While there has been much discussion of grade crossing elimination, which we support, there has been virtually nothing about the proposed third track itself.

Additionally, the public should have the opportunity to learn more about alternative measures, such as LIRR President Patrick Nowakowski's seven point plan. Residents and their elected officials are certainly entitled to know whether other, less intrusive alternatives exist and have been considered.

The scoping meetings held in May were patently insufficient. Cramming six meetings into two days in the week preceding the Memorial Day holiday weekend does not offer the Main Line

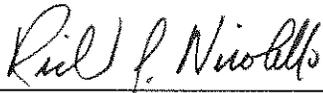
communities a sufficient opportunity to engage in the process. Moreover, scheduling meetings at locations far outside the affected communities benefits no one other than interest groups that have already aligned themselves behind the plan.

We urge you to go back to the drawing board on this project and provide full disclosure regarding the details and rationale for the proposed third track. We further urge that you schedule additional meetings in the communities, including meetings in the evenings to allow commuters time to get home and get to the meetings. We also urge you to enlarge the comment period to at least 90 days.

This project has far-reaching impacts in numerous communities in the heart of Nassau. The residents of these communities must be given an opportunity to fully participate in the scoping process.

Thank you for your consideration of the above.

Sincerely,



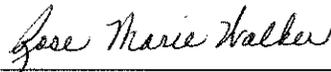
Richard J. Nicoletto
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Legislative District 9



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Legislative District 14



Legislator Vincent T. Muscarella
Legislative District 8



Rose Marie Walker
Legislative District 17

CC:

Village Officials Association
Mayor Scott Strauss, Village of Mineola
Mayor Robert LoFaro, Village of New Hyde Park
Mayor Nicholas Episcopia, Village of Garden City
Mayor Gerard Tangredi, Village of Stewart Manor
Mayor Thomas Tweedy, Village of Floral Park
Mayor Peter Cavallaro, Village of Westbury