



January 9th, 2025

SENT VIA E-MAIL

Honorable Eric Adams
Mayor of New York City
250 Broadway
New York, NY 10007

Dear Mayor Adams:

As elected officials representing the Southeast Queens community, we write to renew our call for further study of the proposed reactivation of the Rockaway Beach Branch (“RBB”), also known as QueensLink, and ensure that any planned construction on the vacant rail line not preclude the development of transit infrastructure. The Administration’s investment in greenway along the abandoned RBB line meets a need for more green space, vibrant parks, and outdoor amenities in neighborhoods across Queens. However, we urge the Administration to not initiate any construction that would impede the reactivation of the RBB line, as committed by then Chief of Staff Frank Carone, and potential future investment in the QueensLink project.

Southeast Queens residents have long been excluded from the City’s core transit network and deprived of their fair share of transportation infrastructure investment. In our communities, the city has underinvested in subway infrastructure, leaving residents to choose between unreliable bus service and unaffordable rail service for public transit. As a result, families in our districts cannot easily access jobs or schools across our city, and many face a two-fare commute, doubling their daily transit costs.

Given the city’s historic underinvestment in our community and our transportation infrastructure, it is our firm belief that Southeast Queens deserves a more robust, more accessible subway network. QueensLink is worthy of careful study to judge its feasibility and potential to serve community members, and **we urge the Administration to not commence any construction that would potentially endanger this project’s viability.**

We look forward to working together to build a safer, more connected Southeast Queens, and we thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have additional questions please reach out to Council Member Brooks-Powers' Legislative Director, Mr. Julian Martin, at jmartin@council.nyc.gov.

Sincerely,



James Sanders, Jr.
New York State Senator
Senatorial District 10



Leroy Comrie
New York State Senator
Senatorial District 14



Khaleel Anderson
New York State Assemblyman
Assembly District 31



Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
New York City Council Majority Whip
District 31, Queens

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