

I write as a resident of Bay Ridge who lives on 77 Street right off 3rd Avenue and I write in strong opposition to 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue being made a truck route.

I commute to downtown Brooklyn both by driving as well as cycling. I also walk my young kids home from school along 3rd Avenue every day. I provide this context because it's necessary to establish that I am not biased in favor of any mode of transportation, and to also demonstrate that I am also sufficiently familiar with the various aspects of 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue traffic flow.

Making 3rd Avenue in Bay Ridge an authorized truck route is a monumentally bad idea. Firstly, 3rd Ave in Bay Ridge is only one lane in each direction and is heavily trafficked by vehicles. There are always large amounts of double parked vehicles at all times of the day. 3rd Ave is also already an MTA bus route. An extensive survey of the street shows that the avenue becomes impassable multiple times daily. Deliberately funneling trucks onto this corridor would compound the problem exponentially. While stricter enforcement of parking rules (specifically, against double parking) on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue may serve to alleviate some congestion, I would also argue that a substantial amount of customers frequent the businesses on 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and making quick stops in a necessary part of local business. I submit that a significant step up in enforcement approaching the zero tolerance necessary, coupled with added truck loaded zones (as noted on your presentation) would actually harm local businesses substantially.

Secondly, 3rd Avenue is heavily trafficked by pedestrians. In particular there are numerous schools that feed directly onto 3rd Ave such as PS 102, IS 30, Our Lady of Angels School, and PS 413. Increasing truck traffic on a school corridor is dangerous and highly irresponsible and detrimental to pedestrian safety, particularly to children who are notoriously and potentially fatally difficult for truck drivers to see.

Thirdly, 3rd Ave is a busy business corridor. Trucks already frequently make deliveries to local businesses. These deliveries are necessary for local businesses so these limited number of trucks are necessarily tolerated and their presence is justified. However, intentionally adding trucks that aren't making deliveries to 3rd Avenue isn't justified.

Additionally, there is a portion of 3rd Avenue starting from 65th and going under the Gowanus Expressway that would actually be impossible for a tractor trailer to circumnavigate when driving north bound. It is a tight and narrow curve which is followed by a full 90 degree left turn in order to continue onto 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue. The congestion this would create would cause spillback and obstruct the entrance ramp to the Gowanus Expressway and more importantly, the NYPD's 68<sup>th</sup> Precinct and Emergency Services Unit, both of which are located on 65<sup>th</sup> Street. (See Exhibit A)

In light of the critical points I bring up, I respectfully ask that you reconsider making 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue a truck route. Thank you.

Exhibit A

