



**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 6**

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Bronx Community Board 6 would like to provide feedback as part of the Queens Bus Network Redesign on the Q44. Currently, the Q44 ends its route at East 180th Street, which forces many Queens riders to transfer to other bus lines to travel further into the Bronx, increasing their total travel time. The new draft plan for the Q44 bus redesign showed the route continuing to Fordham Plaza (Fordham Road and 3rd Avenue). The connection to Fordham Plaza is beneficial to commuters for several reasons – it connects the Long Island Railroad at Jamaica and Flushing-Main Street to the Fordham Road Metro North station. Numerous commuters from Queens rely on the Q44 to attend school in the Bronx, including Fordham University students and Bronx Science students.

Community Board 6 is disappointed to see the extension of the Q44 was removed from updated plans for the bus line and asks that the Bronx extension be restored. However, we have feedback on the route. The extension indicated by the MTA had the Q44 route go across East 180th and Bronx Park South, up Southern Boulevard to East 182nd, and then across to Third Avenue. This route is impractical, as East 182nd Street is not a straight or level street and not conducive to an SBS bus. Instead, we propose that the Q44 route extends from its current end point across East 180th Street, turning onto Third Avenue (at E 180 and 3rd) and then moving north on Third Avenue to the Fordham Plaza bus terminal. We recommend that the Q44 use this route as it has fewer turns and would provide wider streets for the bus to take. East 180th and Third Avenue already have bus lines, so MTA has likely already studied bus travel on these streets, and the Q44 could supplement service on the BX40 and BX15.

We look forward to seeing MTA's updated Q44 route and strongly encourage an extension to Fordham Plaza.

Regards,

Evonne Capers

Chair

Bronx Community Board 6