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Queens Bus Service Transit Forum, Tues, Sept, 16, 8pm **ATUs 1056, 1179, 1181 Partner with Queens Civic Congress**

Queens residents can voice their concerns for public bus transit and share proposals to enhance service at a “[Queens Bus Transit Forum](#),” Tuesday, September 16, 8:00 p.m. at the Queens County Farm Museum, 73-50 Little Neck Parkway in Floral Park, announced Mark Henry and John Lyons, Presidents/ Business Agents respectively for Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local Nos. 1056 and 1179.

The ATU locals partnered with the Queens Civic Congress, the borough-wide coalition of civic, condo, co-op, tenant and other community organizations, their sister ATU Local 1181 and the Queens Public Transit Committee to host the forum; the MTA will also have representatives there.

Local 1056 represents drivers and mechanics who work for MTA New York City Transit's Queens Bus Division. Local ATU 1179 represents bus operators and mechanics who work from the Far Rockaway and JFK Depots of the MTA Bus division (former Green Bus lines). Local 1181 represents the paratransit drivers of MTA's access-a-ride and about 200 MTA Bus division drivers and mechanics of buses that operate along the routes of the former private Command Bus line in Brooklyn (and the school bus drivers and matrons).

“Queens, more than any other borough, is highly dependent on bus transit,” stated Queens Civic Congress President Rich Hellenbrecht. “Queens is very large and has many low density neighborhoods not served by subways. Many residents rely on bus transit to get downtown or to regional shopping, worship services, doctors, schools, etc. North/ south commuting is especially difficult in our borough. Unfortunately, many of our communities are underserved or inefficient. Commuter vans have infiltrated many areas. We look forward to hearing from the ATU Locals, MTA and QPTU for their plans and ideas to improve transit in Queens.”

Labor Press featured op-eds by ATU 1056's [Henry](#) and [1179 Lyons](#) based on their testimony to the State Assembly on MTA service and infrastructure needs last month (August 7).

