Statement on Main Street Busway
Opponents' Temporary Restraining Order

Today, opponents of the Main Street Busway in Flushing, Queens plan to seek a temporary restraining order (TRO) to stop the project. In response, transportation advocates released the following statement:

"Once again, the needs of more than a hundred thousand daily bus riders are being held up by spurious legal actions filed by a small group of well-resourced opponents.

"Today's temporary restraining order stands in the way of a 23% increase in bus speeds that would benefit 155,000 weekday bus riders on Main Street. This delay in basic and necessary transit improvements is hurting many low-income New Yorkers who rely on several bus routes running through downtown Flushing.

"The Main Street busway will connect riders with six hospitals and over 3,400 essential worksites like pharmacies, grocery stores, and delivery services. Delaying the busway means delaying the daily commutes of essential workers who risked their health to keep New York City running during the first shutdown. As New York City stares down a second wave of coronavirus infections and potential lockdowns, slowing down this project puts essential workers at risk.

"Sadly, despite increasing congestion on our roads and pollution in the air we breathe, riders face this well-funded opposition whenever we call for bus improvements on city streets. But as the Mayor recognized in accelerating bus priority in response to the pandemic, our buses and subways will play a critical role in ensuring essential workers can get to work safely and that New York City isn't paralyzed by gridlock. Now more than ever, we need to prepare our city for both the second wave of COVID-19 and the economic recovery after the pandemic ebbs."

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Tri-State Transportation Campaign, Riders Alliance, Transportation Alternatives, NYPIRG Straphangers Campaign, StreetsPAC, TransitCenter