

## **BOROUGH OF RINGWOOD**

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February 13, 2025

Kris Kolluri, Esq., President & CEO NJ TRANSIT Headquarters 1 Penn Plaza East Newark, NJ 07105

Dear Mr. Kolluri,

I am writing to advise you of a situation that occurred on February 12, 2025, in which NJ transit closed bus stops in both West Milford, New Jersey and Warwick, New York, due to inclement weather. Consequently, bus routes 196 and 197 were rerouted to originate and terminate at the Ringwood Park and Ride facility. The Borough of Ringwood was not notified in advance of this change to service which directly impacted our Borough. Our snowplowing crews were unable to gain access to the lot due to NJ transit buses being stacked eight deep and there was increased parking at the Ringwood Park and Ride, as well as the overflow parking lots. The Ringwood Police Department routinely patrols the Park and Ride, and as a result of this lack of communication, issued citations and warnings to address parking violations. Reports indicate that vehicles were parked in fire lanes and triple-parked, obstructing other vehicles.

Additionally, we have received information that an NJ Transit employee may have informed customers that parking at the Ringwood Park and Ride is free of charge because of a lease agreement with NJ Transit and the town. That information is incorrect. The Ringwood Park and Ride is owned by the Borough of Ringwood, and we have clear ordinances governing parking and other uses of this property.

I request that the Borough of Ringwood be notified in advance of any changes that would require diverting commuters to our facility so we can provide accommodation to ensure the safety and well-being of our residents and those being diverted to our community. I appreciate your consideration in this matter.

Warm Regards,

Jaime Landis, Mayor

Cc: Senator Joe Pennacchio Assemblyman Brian Bergen Assemblyman Jay Webber