

JAMES T. PHILLIPS
MAYOR



MIDDLESEX COUNTY, N.J.

TOWNSHIP OF OLD BRIDGE

March 11, 2010

James Weinstein, Executive Director
NJ Transit Headquarters
1 Penn Plaza East
Newark, New Jersey 07105

**RE: TOWNSHIP OF OLD BRIDGE
CANCELLATION OF BUS ROUTES 68, 134 and 138**

Dear Director Weinstein:

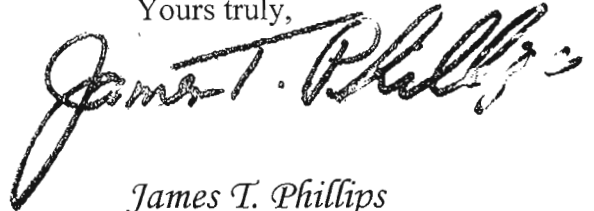
As Mayor of one of the largest municipalities in Middlesex County, I was astonished to read your Press Release of March 5, 2010 in reference to the proposed elimination of Bus Routes 68, 134 and 138 and the pending fare increases. I can fully appreciate your financial difficulties and your attempt to cut costs where possible. However, your proposed plans appear to unfairly impact the busier commuter routes than the less utilized routes in this state.

As you know, the 68 Route is a vital link through Old Bridge to Jersey City which is rapidly becoming the new financial capital of New Jersey with many corporations moving their operations to that city. I find it difficult to fathom why you would even consider the elimination of this route through so many communities heavily populated with commuters.

Since your plans most adversely affect my Township, I am equally dismayed that you have chosen to preclude this area from your public hearings on this topic. As the commuters who must make the most drastic changes to their commuting routines, it is unreasonable that you would exclude them from the process.

On behalf of the residents of Old Bridge, I must insist that NJ Transit immediately schedule a public hearing in our community so you may hear first-hand the devastating impact you will be having on the lives of so many people should these bus routes be eliminated. I will make my Council Chambers available to NJ Transit for such a public hearing. Further, I can also arrange to have this hearing televised to insure reaching all Old Bridge residents who are unable to attend.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James T. Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "J".

James T. Phillips
Mayor

cc: Governor Chris Christie