

Sample 1: Well-executed advocacy letter assignment (student name removed)

[Note: Iona included several other samples of student work in her instructional portfolio]

May 1, 2006

President Lawrence G. Reuter
MTA New York City Transit
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

Dear President Reuter,

As a resident of New York City and a frequent subway commuter into Manhattan, I feel there is an urgent need to expedite the planning and construction of Manhattan's Second Avenue subway line.

One need only visit the Fulton street subway station during morning rush hour to see the scope of the problem. MTA workers have to literally push commuters onto the already packed trains just so the doors can be closed. It is also a common sight, to see lines of commuters stretching out onto the streets as they are trying to access the subway platform on Manhattan's IRT line.

This idea has been in development, in one form or another, for over 60 years. Two years ago, it appeared real action was being taken in the construction phase of this important project. Now, it seems the Second Avenue subway line has again been put on hold.

In a city as great as New York is sometimes required for our leaders to take bold action for its continued economic, social and cultural well being. I believe this is one of those times. Not only would this addition of subway line decrease the overcrowding below ground, but it would also ease the auto and bus traffic on the often grid locked streets above.

Please push forward with the proposed Second Avenue subway line. I believe you are capable of overcoming any obstacles and adding this project as the crowning achievement to an already exceptional career.

Sincerely,

Iona Thomas Connor