

L Train Dust Testimony

Good Morning, I am Sheila Binesh, Transportation Planner for the New York City Transit Riders Council. The Council, and myself, as *an L line rider* are troubled by the continued presence of thick construction dust and seeing NYCT employees and NYPD officers wearing masks at the Bedford Ave. station. The workers are not just wearing masks on Mondays following the weekend work, but throughout the week. Riders, including me, are worried, wondering if we should be wearing masks as well. Is this what we can expect for the duration of the project? In addition, why aren't workers wearing masks at adjacent stations along the L line?

We've been told the silica dust levels are below the required limit, and that a **tunnel** dust mitigation plan is in place. But, what about a **station** dust mitigation plan protecting riders? It is disconcerting that upon entering the Bedford Av station, we get a daily dose of concrete in our mouths. There should be daily updates about station conditions displayed at the station and on the MTA website and App. We want to know that not only there are plans in place, but that there are accountability measures to go with them. We riders want to be assured that the MTA is using the highest air quality standards available to protect riders' health. Thank you very much