

Congressman Jerrold Nadler Funds Handicapped Vans for Community

EZRA FRIEDLANDER

Elected officials, including State Senator Simcha Felder and Councilman Brad Lander, joined with community leaders and organizational heads to mark the delivery of special handicapped-accessible transport vans to benefit the community. This was a joint project of the Boro Park Jewish Community Council, a major provider of social services for the Boro Park community and Hamaspik of Kings County, a provider for children and adults with special needs.

As community residents looked on, dignitaries gathered to cut the ribbon inaugurating specialty handicapped-accessible transit vans. These vehicles, funded through a grant from Congressman Jerrold Nadler, are specially outfitted, handicapped and wheelchair accessible, and their purpose is to transport seniors and people with disabilities to everyday tasks such as doctor visits, shopping, and so on.

"Today is a proud day for our community as we inaugurate this much-needed transportation service," declared Rabbi Yeruchim Silber, executive director, BPJCC.



L-R: Mr. Naftali Tessler; Rabbi Berish Freilach; Rabbi Yeruchim Silber; Representative Jerrold Nadler speaking; Mr. Joel Freund; NYC Councilmember Brad Lander, and Mr. Ezra Friedlander.



At the ribbon-cutting.

TSA Recognizes Agudath Israel's D.C. Director

Continued from page 64

efforts to "enhance the traveler experience and ensure the traveling public is treated in a fair and lawful manner by educating the workforce." A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Rabbi Cohen by Ms. Kimberly Walton, TSA's Assistant Administrator for Civil Rights and Liberties, Ombudsman and Traveler Engagement.

Acting as an unofficial consultant, Agudath Israel's Washington Office has worked closely and cooperatively with the agency on numerous issues, including efforts to end explicit x-ray imaging of passengers, curb unnecessary or intrusive pat-downs, provide private rooms for searches and issue notices, web-postings and field briefings during Jewish holiday travel seasons. These holiday communica-

tions alert both TSA and the traveling public as to what is allowed and not allowed, and what each may expect, at security checkpoints.

"We are both pleased and honored to be called upon by TSA to advise and educate," observed Rabbi Cohen. "Security is of utmost concern to the Jewish community and we have worked diligently to develop 'reasonable accommodations' that satisfy both government regulations and Jewish religious needs."

The most recent Agudath Israel contribution to this effort is a webinar that Rabbi Cohen conducted covering what TSA referred to as "Judaism 101." It includes a PowerPoint presentation, beautifully produced by Rabbi Ariel Sadwin, Agudath Israel's Maryland/Mid-Atlantic director, on general Jewish concepts and observances. Its particular focus is on familiarizing TSA personnel around the country with the Jewish calendar, as

well as with the ritual practices and items that TSA personnel should be aware of at security checkpoints, airports, and other places.

There is a thorough discussion of both year-round issues (e.g., *tefillin*, religious garb, modesty requirements) and holiday-related issues (e.g. *arbaah minim* and matzah requirements). Most importantly, the Agudath Israel presentation — which TSA plans to show several times a year to security personnel nationwide — provides "best practices" suggestions as to how these items should be handled and how to effectively address problems should they arise.

"Years ago, we would regularly receive calls from members of the community who were distraught over unfortunate incidents," Rabbi Cohen asserted. "The result of greater education has been greater sensitivity on both sides and a dramatic drop in airport mishaps."

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בן זלאטא

BORO PARK - MANHATTAN

זרע יצחק באטעם

NEW SCHEDULE

FROM BORO PARK

Monday - Friday

7:58 Exp. to B&H Only
8:00 Local
8:05 Exp. to B&H Only
8:50 Exp. [not on Fri] **A**

Sunday

9:05

Bus Route

Starting at 49th St Corner 18th Ave
Down to Ft. Hamilton Pkwy

Stops in Manhattan
From Wall St. up to 47th St

A Goes on West Side until 34th St. to 8th Ave to 38th St. To 6th Ave

B Goes on West Side until 24th St. to 6th Ave

FROM MANHATTAN

Monday - Thursday

6:00 Express **D**
6:05
6:10 From 9th Ave &
6:15 34th St. Only
7:20

Friday Express

E.S Time 12:55 PM
D.L.S. Time 1:55 PM

Sunday

6:15 from B&H only

Bus Route

Starting at 47th St Cor 5th Ave.
C Goes Downtown on 5th Ave till 8th St. then down Broadway

D Goes on 5th Ave till 34th St then to 9th Ave then to West Side

E 2nd stop 33rd St & 9th Ave then to West Side



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