

Transportation News

Public Transportation Serving The Rockaways :

There are a number of ways to travel to and from the Rockaway peninsula. The Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) runs a number of buses and subway trains from the peninsula to Manhattan and other parts of the City. The Long Island Railroad (LIRR) also runs trains from its Far Rockaway station.

The basic subway service to and from the peninsula is provided by the A Train, although many who live in the west end of the peninsula must utilize the A Shuttle (S train) as well from Broad Channel. West end riders can travel by A train direct to Manhattan and return without transferring at Broad Channel on rush hours in the peak direction only. *The nearest train station to the Belle Shores Condominium is located at Rockaway Beach Boulevard and Beach 105th Street behind the Key Food supermarket.*

The bus lines are a mixture of private bus lines, which include Green, Triboro and Jamaica throughout the peninsula and MTA Long Island Bus lines that terminate in Far Rockaway. Rush hour express buses can take riders into Manhattan.

Free and Discounted Bridge Tolls

If you get E-Z Pass, the Cross Bay Bridge is free to Rockaway residents and the Marine Park Bridge is \$1.00.

Water Ferry Service to Manhattan



Ferries such as this may one day run from Rockaway to Manhattan.

Rockaway 'Attractive' For Ferry Service

The proposed Rockaway ferry service would be based at Riis Landing. That's great for those who live on the west end of the peninsula.

James A. Barker, of the Rhode Island based Newport Multihulls said he has an extra catamaran ferry that could be used to "open a new market." The cat, called the Ocean State, has airline seating, a full bar, and is handicap accessible.

"It's a very plush boat," Barker said, adding that it can reach Manhattan from Riis Landing in about 30 minutes. The cost of a one-way ticket would be around \$10 with a discount for round trips and for purchasing a book of 20 trips, Barker said.

Barker's Rockaway express run would dock at Pier 11, right off of Wall Street in Downtown Manhattan. Depending on ridership, he could run between four and eight roundtrips per day.

Long Island Railroad

Copies of the long overdue MTA study of the reopening of the Rockaway Beach line of the LIRR were finally made available. Special thanks to Assemblywoman Audrey Pheffer, who obtained the study from the MTA and shared them with us.

The LIRR could run on the 'A' line tracks that exist in Rockaway, Broad Channel and Howard Beach and link to the old tracks which begin at 99 street and Rockaway boulevard making stops through to Whitepot Junction on the main line of the LIRR in Forest Hills. This would be the only line from south Queens to central Queens and midtown Manhattan with a transfer to Long Island.

There would be major renovation on the abandoned tracks that have been closed since 1962. The mayor and governor constantly speak of a one-seat ride. This definitely is a win-win for all Queens residents, and Manhattan and Long Island residents who choose to enjoy the free, beautiful, pristine beaches in Rockaway. This railroad would bring real estate values even higher making south Queens a desirable area with direct transit service to midtown.

Approval for the project has yet to be given and the feasibility of the project continues to be studied.

Directions From Belle Shores Condominium to Manhattan:

Train:

The Rockaways have convenient access to the A Train which runs directly to Manhattan and Downtown Brooklyn.

The 105th Street Station of the A Train, located next to the Key Food Supermarket, is just a short four block walk from Belle Shores Condominium.

During morning peak commuting hours, the northbound A Train runs express to Manhattan and Downtown Brooklyn.

- During normal commuting hours, it takes as little as 51 minutes to downtown Manhattan and 64 minutes to 42nd Street in Manhattan.

During morning non-peak commuting hours, take the northbound A Train Shuttle to the Broad Channel Station and Transfer to the Northbound A Train towards Manhattan.

Express Bus:

The Green Bus Line runs express bus service from Rockaway Park to Manhattan. They can be reached at 718-995-4700.

QM16.

Fare: \$3 each way or \$120 unlimited monthly ride-pass.

The bus stop is just a few minute walk at Rockaway Beach Boulevard and Beach 105th Street.

The Bus runs over the Queensboro Bridge (59th Street) into Manhattan and then makes frequent stops:

- along 57th Street
- along 6th Avenue from 57th Street to 34th Street
- along 34th Street to 3rd Avenue.

The bus takes about 50 minutes to get into Manhattan.