



PCAC

PERMANENT CITIZENS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE MTA

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



PCAC

The PCAC's three Councils were established in 1981 with the PCAC serving as the umbrella organization. We advise the MTA on behalf of the ridership in the formulation and implementation of MTA policy and to hold the MTA accountable to riders.

Our advocacy entails a wide range of media to affect change on behalf of the MTA rider: public testimony, correspondence with elected officials and MTA management, press releases, research reports, website and Facebook articles, public events and forums, attendance at local, regional and national conferences, interviews with newspaper, TV, and radio, and 32 public PCAC and Council yearly meetings.

In 2015 the PCAC and its Councils continued to support our mission to give voice to the riders of the MTA.

MTA Capital Program

- PCAC collaborated with the Urban Land Institute (ULI-NY) producing the report *Keeping NY on Track: The Importance of the MTA Transit Network in a Changing World*. The project also included:
 - 7 round table discussion held throughout the MTA region with over 40 high level stakeholders.
 - A public launch event held at the NYU Kimmel Center with over 200 attendees.
 - An interactive website: www.keepingnyontrack.org

Testimony and Editorials

- Testified before the Senate Infrastructure and Capital Investment and Senate Transportation committees highlighting the need for the MTA's Capital Program.
- Wrote joint op-ed with ULI-NY for Crain's urging city and state leaders to work together to close MTA funding gap.

Social Media Expansion

- Welcomed intern Oliver Chemtob to boost social media presence.
- Created and launched the PCAC Blog.

Staff

PCAC added a Transportation Planner position to be filled by Bradley Brashears.

PCAC Executive Committee

Randolph Glucksman - Chair
Matthew Kessler - First Vice Chair
William K. Guild - Second Vice Chair
Andrew Albert
Mark J. Epstein
Michael Sinansky

PCAC Staff

William Henderson - Executive Director
Ellyn Shannon - Associate Director
Angela Bellisio - Transportation Planner
Bradley Brashears - Transportation Planner
Karyl Berger Cafiero - Research Associate
Deborah Morrison - Administrative Assistant

PCAC Guest Speakers

Alex Matthiessen and Charles Komanoff – MoveNY; Mark Young (LIRR), Delana Glenn (MNR), and Jesse McKinney (NYCT) - New Fare Payment; David Mayer – MTA Chief Safety Officer; Steve Berrang - MTA Capital Program Management; Charles Brecher and Jamison Dague - Citizens Budget Commission



Visit pcac.org for all Council testimonies, calendar of events, latest articles & reports

2015 LIRRCC Members

Mark Epstein - Chair
Larry Rubinstein - Vice Chair
Gerard P. Bringmann
Sheila Carpenter
Owen Costello
Michael Godino
Ira Greenberg*
Matthew Kessler
Maureen Michaels
Raymond Pagano
Bryan Peranzo

LIRRCC

Advised the LIRR to

- Publically post maintenance inspection records.
- Develop a mobile phone photo enabled app for riders to relay problems to LIRR.
- Insure LIRR conductors accept 10 trip tickets for destinations short of the ticket.
- Use the May 12th Amtrak derailment to inform the M9 car design for safety improvements.
- Make provisions to ensure parking availability for Wyandanch commuters with permits.
- Uphold their Pledge to Customers regarding effective communications.

- Advised the LIRR to test engineers for sleep apnea alongside Senator Schumer.

MTA Board Participation

- Urged LIRR to improve rider communications.

Highlights

- Opened the LIRRCC office in Mineola.
- Succeeded in the passing of pre-tax transit benefits approved by Congress.
- Provided public service announcements encouraging safe and courteous behavior.
- Chair Epstein joined the NYS Freight Transportation Working Group to keep informed of freight impacts on LIRR tracks.

2015 MNRCC Members

Randolph Glucksman - Chair
Neal Zuckerman* - Vice Chair
Francena Amparo
Richard Cataggio
Francis T. Corcoran
Rhonda Herman
Wilhelm Ronda

MNRCC

Advised the MNR to

- Conduct a grade crossing survey and install suitable warning signage for motorists.
- Oppose the elimination of Train #1601.
- Install safety fencing at the Nanuet station to prevent trespassing.
- Repair the Pascack Valley Line grade crossing at New Clarkstown Road.

- Repair lot #1 adjacent to the Nanuet rail station.

MTA Board Participation

- Advocated for MNR to improve reliability, efficiency, and safety conditions.

Highlights

- Wilhelm Ronda was appointed to the Council representing Bronx riders.

2015 NYCTRC Members

Executive Committee:

Andrew Albert* - Chair
Michael J. Sinansky - Vice Chair
Stuart Goldstein
William K. Guild
Marisol Halpern

Members:

Christopher Greif
Sharon King Hoge
Trudy L. Mason
Scott R. Nicholls
Edith M. Prentiss
Burton M. Strauss Jr.

*MTA Board Representative

NYCTRC

Advised the MTA and NYCT to

- Institute lower railroad fares within NYC to increase capacity, provide travel options for transit deserts, and improve economic development opportunities through its report *Freedom Ticket: Southeast Queens Proof of Concept*, which advises the MTA to:
 1. 2017: Establish a MTA-NYC financial partnership for project implementation.
 2. 2019: Expand to all MTA railroad stations that are at least .8 miles from a subway.
 3. 2021: Integrate Freedom Ticket into the East Side Access operational plan for an MTA-wide fare system.

MTA Board Participation

- Asked for the Second Avenue Subway service plans.
- Detailed the ramifications of the delay in R179 car procurement.
- Voiced concern with continuing seasonal bus adjustments.
- Called for the activation of the Help Point camera option.
- Advocated funding for the 2015-2019 Capital Program.

Highlights

- Viewed Second Avenue Subway construction.
- Attended opening ceremony of the 34th Street – Hudson Yards subway station.

