

**METRO-NORTH RAILROAD COMMUTER COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF Thursday, February 15, 2018**

A meeting of the Metro-North Railroad Commuter Council (MNRCC) was convened at 4:30 PM on Thursday, February 15, 2018.

The following members were on the phone:

Richard Cataggio  
Francis Corcoran  
Orrin Getz  
Randolph Glucksman  
Rhonda Herman

The following members were absent:

Francena Amparo

In addition, the following persons were present:

William Henderson	-PCAC Executive Director
Bradley Brashears	-PCAC Planning Manager

***Approval of Agenda and Minutes***

The agenda for the February 15, 2018 meeting was approved. The minutes of the January 11, 2018 meeting were approved.

***Chair's Report***

Randolph Glucksman presented the Chair's report. The written Chair's report is attached to these minutes.

***Board Report***

Mr. Glucksman said that he had been at Metro-North headquarters on the previous Monday and that there will be several service changes to allow for work on tracks and stations in the coming months. One example is that a section of the Harlem line will be single tracked between White Plains to Crestwood during midday periods. There will also be weekend bus shuttle services replacing train service on the Harlem and West of Hudson lines.

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### ***Old Business***

William Henderson said that there are no details yet on a congestion pricing plan that can be considered by the State Legislature. Reportedly there are some concerns among legislators about allowing the MTA to directly collect Payroll Mobility Taxes. The sticking point is that making this funding no longer subject to appropriation reduces the power of the legislature over the MTA. There are also questions being posed about how the Governor proposes to pay for all of the improvements to the MTA that he announced. The cost of the improvements that are in process numbers in the billions of dollars and there have been additional improvements promised.

Mr. Henderson updated the status of prospective MNRCC members. He said that three prospective members have been recommended and are being considered by the Governor's appointment office. Mr. Glucksman asked about the status of Wilhelm Ronda. Mr. Henderson responded that the Bronx Borough President is agreeable to recommending him for reappointment but that the Borough President's office has said that they need to complete the office's internal process before sending Mr. Ronda's name to the Governor. Mr. Glucksman noted that Walter Zullig has made contact with Westchester County Executive George Lattimer's office and that he will pursue having Mr. Lattimer recommend him to the MNRCC.

### ***New Business***

The group discussed federal infrastructure funding related to Metro-North services. Mr. Henderson said that the amount included in the proposed federal funding bill was not generous with regards to infrastructure and that the bill includes no funding earmarked for the Gateway project. He said that he hopes that the proposed legislation represents an initial negotiating position.

The members discussed topics to raise with Assembly Member Amy Paulin at the upcoming PCAC meeting. Mr. Glucksman asked whether it too early to talk about renewal of the terms of the PCAC's MTA Board members. Mr. Henderson said that he would double check the members' terms, but that typically they are confirmed for new terms in the legislative session following the expiration of their term. Francis Corcoran said that the issues raised with Ms. Paulin should focus on funding of the MTA. Orrin Getz said that the meeting could discuss the upcoming State budget and where these decisions could impact Metro-North. Mr. Glucksman questioned whether Assembly Member Paulin could help in this process.

Mr. Getz said that both the MTA and Metro-North need to push New Jersey Transit to provide satisfactory service for West of Hudson riders. Mr. Glucksman

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said he spoke to officials at Transport of Rockland and they indicated that they will remind their elected to do more to push for better service. The members also discussed the problems that NJ Transit is having in implementing Positive Train Control (PTC) and the probability that the agency will fail to meet federal deadlines for its installation.

### ***Adjournment***

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

William Henderson  
Executive Director