

NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT RIDERS COUNCIL
MINUTES OF APRIL 26, 2018

A meeting of the New York City Transit Riders Council (NYCTRC) was convened at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 26, 2018 in Conference Room 4 on the 20th Floor at 2 Broadway, New York.

The following members were present:

Andrew Albert	Marisol Halpern
Stuart Goldstein	William Guild
Christopher Greif	Trudy Mason
Scott Nicholls	

The following members were absent:

Edith Prentiss	Sharon King Hoge
Burton M. Strauss, Jr.	

In addition, the following persons were present:

William Henderson	-PCAC Executive Director
Ellyn Shannon	-PCAC Associate Director
Bradley Brashears	-PCAC Planning Manager
Sheila Binesh	-PCAC Transportation Planner
Karyl Cafiero	-PCAC Research Associate
Deborah Morrison	-PCAC Administrative Assistant
Deborah Hall-Moore	-NYCT
Zoe Davidson	-MTA
David Zahorsky	-MTA
William Stanford, Jr.	-Concerned citizen
Matt Shotkin	-Concerned citizen
Yvonne Morrow	-Concerned citizen
Michael Howard	-Concerned citizen
Eric Wollman	-Concerned citizen
Vincent Jenkins	-Concerned citizen
Kenneth Stewart	-Concerned citizen
Y. Jennings	-Concerned citizen

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Video Part 1	
00:54	Approval of Agenda for April 26, 2018 & Minutes for March 22, 2018.
1:07	Chair's Report (attached)
7:59	A. Albert: Bus Action Plan discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staten Island Express Bus Redesign• New bus command center and monitoring• New fare payment by 2020• All door boarding• Electric buses• Double-decker buses• More camera placement on buses, and enforcement is key• Priority bus signaling
17:13	T. Mason: The Bus Action Plan doesn't address everyday issues. Buses are still not pulling into bus stops. Requests a bus meeting within the next month.
19:40	V. Jenkins: Where is the voice for deaf people in relation to the Bus Action Plan? E. Shannon: Explains President Byford's Four Initiative Plan which includes accessibility.
21:33	K. Cafiero: This is all part of his corporate plan that will be announced next month and accessibility is absolutely included.
25:38	D. Hall-Moore: President Byford has made a concerted effort to reach out to the disability community, and has had several meetings. And plans to meet with the disability community four times a year and is bringing on an Accessibility Coordinator.
30:15	T. Mason: No clearing of street bus lanes for three SBS routes: M15, M86, M79. There is no enforcement at all.
31:00	E. Shannon: Reads live-feed from President Byford's Townhall Twitter meeting regarding the need for the NYPD and DOT to work together on clearing bus lanes.

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31:39	A. Albert: MTA and NYCT are seeking bus lane cameras approval in Albany.
Video Part 2	Chair's Report continued...
11:27	Board Report
11:50	Subway Action Plan is moving ahead at full force.
15:01	Freedom Ticket: It will be moving forward in May, there has been FTA approval for a longer pilot period.
16:20	December 2018 is the deadline for PTC. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing on LIRR-Port Washington Branch has not been satisfactory and there is concern that MNR will not meet the deadline. • Amtrak says it will not operate trains on lines that do not have PTC by December 2018.
17:20	Our 473 station will return – The Cortlandt Street station serving the 1 line is the last one.
17:20	A. Albert: President Byford has commented that repairing our signal system cannot take forty years – contributions from both the State and City – and some interesting ideas have come out of the Genius Challenge.
18:17	E. Shannon: The Board voting on congestion pricing – there is no clear plan. It is useful for the MTA to access the cost of congestion on buses – The harm done to the MTA budget.
20:48	Old Business
21:12	K. Stewart: We need to go back to straphangers on the trains. A. Albert: The newly designed subway cars will have better handles. T. Mason: It is especially challenging for short people to hold on when the train jerks back and forth.
25:28	E. Wollman: Yesterday's dog incident – the new NYCT Police Chief should come talk to us. There is a lack of dog enforcement and lack of police presence on subways. A. Albert: We will follow through on this.
30:03	New Business (none)

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31:19	<i>Introduction of Speaker: Zoe Davidson, Chief of Staff MTA Capital Construction.</i>
<i>Video Part 3</i>	Z. Davidson: Presentation and video slides.
14:14	A. Albert: Riders will not like the skip-stop option – It will not be very popular. You will have to wonder if the car you are in will let you off at the right stop. Z. Davidson: With new door technology only certain doors will open and we will have the ability to add more cars for a 10% capacity increase. This is a stop-gap measure until CBTC is in place.
16:38	Z. Davidson: Ultra-Wideband discussion: Combine this with other technology you could get rid of the signaling system all together.
17:42	A. Albert: Where is the wideband being tested? Z. Davidson: We have to develop proof of concepts before bringing it into the system.
21:21	C. Greif: If a person who gets on the train on the B position, but wants to get off at the A position, how would someone in a wheelchair do this? Z. Davidson: Every signal stop will have maps and marked platforms. They will be color-coded with letters to identify where to board and get off.
23:05	E. Shannon: Is there a timeline for the review? Is it a two year proof of concept? Z. Davidson: Not sure of the timeline.
24:59	A. Albert: The ultra-wideband – does that require every subway car to be retrofitted with something to receive those? Can this technology be expanded to the B Division countdown clocks because they are inaccurate? D. Zahorsky: Yes, it could be. Right now it is under prototype phase and being tested. It has been used for buses and people, but not for this application yet.
26:30	E. Shannon: Has there been any effort to gather any thoughts internally – to include the people at Transit? Z. Davidson: We have seen a culture shift within Transit to embrace the new technology. The Genius Challenge has helped to bring this out within the agency.

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28:25	V. Jenkins: There needs to be something more in depth for communications regarding deaf people. There needs to be something more. Z. Davidson: Communications platform will be available on-board with digital screens that will give needed information. Hopefully this will address some of your concerns.
32:12	C. Greif: I've been hearing rumors about fare hikes? A. Albert: In 2019 is the next scheduled fare hike. Should congestion pricing happen sometime there are a few Board members who would like to see the fare hike delayed or mitigated.
Video Part 4	
2:19	A. Albert: There is a movement in the City to move deliveries to night time. They have been testing it in various places.
3:30	A. Albert: What is the typical running time for the B82 now? C. Greif: It is supposed to be an hour fifteen, but with traffic it gets much worse.
9:23	V. Jenkins: On the old trains it's hard because there is no visual information, it is easier on the newer trains. There should be something on the older trains. A. Albert: The MTA will not spend money on the R32, R42, and on the R46's because they are the next ones to get replaced by the R179 and R211's. All the new trains will come with strip maps, and it has colored lighting to let you know what side to get out on.
16:29	Adjournment

Youtube Meeting Video links:

[Video Part 1](#)

[Video Part 2](#)

[Video Part 3](#)

[Video Part 4](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
William Henderson