

A meeting of the New York City Transit Riders Council (NYCTRC) was convened at 12:00 pm on Thursday, February 27, 2020 in the 20th floor Board Room at 2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004.

Member Attendance

Andrew Albert (Chair)	Present
Burton M. Strauss Jr. (Vice Chair)	Absent
Stuart Goldstein	Present
Christopher D. Greif	Present
William K. Guild	Absent
Marisol Halpern	Absent
Sharon King Hoge	Present
Trudy L. Mason	Present
Scott R. Nicholls	Present
Edith Prentiss	Present

Staff Attendance

Lisa Daglian (Executive Director)	Present
Ellyn Shannon (Associate Director)	Present
Bradley Brashears (Planning Manager)	Present
Sheila Binesh (Transportation Planner)	Present
Deborah Morrison (Administrative Assistant)	Present

Non- member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Yaling Chen	MTA – Arts & Design
Deborah Hall-Moore	NYCT
Michael Howard	CIDNY/YAI
Andrew Kurzweil	RUN
Andrew Pollack	Passengers United
Eric Wollman	Concerned citizen

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Chair's - Board Report: (To see full discussion, visit PCAC's Youtube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YN9sv_xHUA)

- New interim NYC Transit president Sarah Feinberg was appointed – will continue Andy Byford's work and will help in the search for a permanent president.
- Extension of free transfers between Junius St. and L line Livonia stations will be made accessible – an all enclosed transfer between the two stations is coming.
- Congestion pricing: The federal government has not provided information as to what kind of environmental assessment should be conducted.
- Outer Borough Transportation Fund (OBTF): the toll rebates that the Board approved are counterproductive to the goals of congestion pricing; the commuter rail discounts did not include a capacity analysis; it is not as good as the Atlantic Ticket discounts, which we hope will be extended indefinitely.
- The Rutgers Tube (East River tunnels) will be repaired from Superstorm Sandy damage starting next year – it will be done the same way as the Canarsie tunnel (L Train) – this has to be prioritized to start CBTC installation on the 8th Avenue line so that F trains can be rerouted during construction.
- The MTA's website is now displaying capital program projects.
- CBTC testing on the Queens Boulevard line will hopefully happen soon.
- Large purchase of open gangway cars for the R262 fleet – test trains will be in service in time if they need to make adjustments to the order.
- Clark Street Station elevator replacements: Public hearing was held in Brooklyn with Assembly member Simon and others – with Andy Byford's help the community chose all elevators to be out at the same time to get the project finished quicker. Otherwise the elevators could be taken out one at a time resulting in a longer closure period.
- On-Time Performance (OTP): It keeps ratcheting up – higher than 83% - they haven't lost any ground and hopefully President Feinberg will keep this going. This can be largely attributed to the Save Safe Seconds program.
- MTA Transformation: More details have been given to the Board members – 2,700 operational positions are in jeopardy; Board member John Samuelson voiced concerns at the last Board meeting regarding union issues; and next week MTA Chief Transformation Officer (CTO) Anthony McCord will be presenting at the full PCAC meeting.
- NYCTRC Fare Evasion study is in progress – we will be meeting with the MTA's Inspector General's Office (IG) and other NYC Transit officials.

Approval of Agenda for February 27, 2020 meeting.

Approval of Minutes for January 30, 2020 meeting.

Introduction of Speaker: Yaling Chen Deputy Director Arts and Design – Brief History of the program.

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T. Mason: You have left out many things from the late 1970s and early 1980s.

Before Arts for Transit there was Adopt-A-Station and Culture Station – these programs brought in money from developers, etc... I will be happy to sit down with you and share that information.

Y. Chen: I appreciate your input and filling in this information. I am covering from when our program started.

E. Prentiss: There isn't much art in general for Washington Height's stations – very minimal. There isn't artwork at accessible stations – do I not deserve to have artwork as well?

Y. Chen: Yes, you do. Right now Astoria Boulevard station is getting new elevators and has new artwork – progress is being made.

L. Daglian: How are the stations chosen?

Y. Chen: We operate under the five-year capital program. We receive 1% of the capital program budget – project by project – to find opportunities to include station artwork.

C. Greif: I agree – accessible stations do not have enough artwork. Is there a way to see other artists' work – accessible artists?

T. Mason: I apologize for being rude. I just want to ask you that if you heard a presentation that wiped out four years of your work, how would it make you feel? I rarely apologize.

S. King-Hoge: Are there thematic considerations, so one line is similar – cohesive art consideration?

Y. Chen: We do not predetermine themes for artists – but we supply demographic information to the artists, then they may incorporate this into their work – it can be site specific and speak to the history and culture of the community.

E. Shannon: Years ago you had an app – subway system as an art gallery – you had the ability to see the history of your station – is that still available?

Y. Chen: The company that did that was a west coast start-up that was bought by a larger company, which we could not afford anymore. However, we are in the process of updating our website to display information.

S. Goldstein: Do you still have post cards?

Y. Chen: Yes, at the Transit Museum store – I can also bring some to the PCAC office.

S. Goldstein: Station art – is there a budget to address vandalism?

Y. Chen: Yes, we are facing an aging collection – we have an in-house conservation program where staff survey the artwork throughout the system to conduct cleanings, etc... We also work with the station cleaning crews and with necessary artisans and professional fabricators to do conservation work.

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A. Albert: Do Group Station Managers (GSMs) report damage to your department?

Y. Chen: Yes, we have our channel with them.

E. Prentiss: It's important to look at the artwork from the perspective of a wheelchair user and realize it's a different encounter. It often doesn't have the same impact for me – I wish there was an awareness that it is experienced differently when you can't walk up and down the stairs.

L. Daglian: We have been documenting our follow-ups as requested. We have them in a spreadsheet that we will send to the members.

Action Item: Send follow-up items (Action Items) to Council members.

E. Prentiss: Expresses concern and frustration that Council field trips are not accessible – Like at East Side Access and Fulton I was basically banned from attending.

A. Albert & L. Daglian: We always try for an accessible field trip – coordinating with Phil Eng, we had a private train to take us through Harold Interlocking, however we were told it would not be available at that time.

E. Prentiss: I need to know that we are trying to do this. I am asking for some accommodation – can someone at least take a video for me?

No Old Business was discussed.

No New Business was discussed.

Adjourned

Action Items

- **Send follow-up items (Action Items) to Council members.**

Youtube Video links: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YN9sv_xHUA

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director