

A meeting of the New York City Transit Riders Council (NYCTRC) was convened at 12:00 pm on Thursday, February 28, 2019 on the 16th floor, room 16.08 at 2 Broadway, New York, NY 10004.

Member Attendance

Andrew Albert (Chair)	Present
Burton M. Strauss Jr. (Vice Chair)	Present
Stuart Goldstein	Present
Christopher Greif	Present
William K. Guild	Present
Marisol Halpern	Present
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
Karyl Cafiero (Research Associate)	Present
Deborah Morrison (Administrative Assistant)	Present

Non-member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Deborah Hall-Moore	NYCT
Joel Ettinger	NYMTC
William Sanford, Jr.	Concerned citizen
Eric Wollman	Concerned citizen
Michael Howard	Concerned citizen
Ken Stewart	Concerned citizen
Michael Korschun	Concerned citizen

Approval of Agenda for February 28, 2019 meeting.

Approval of Minutes for January 31, 2019 meeting.

Chair's Report attached.

Board Report:

- Fare hikes were authorized for April 21st : MetroCard bonus was cut, which hurts everyday New Yorkers.
- A. Albert: recommends a 2 hour transfer period after the first swipe.
- Congesting pricing still has a lot of unknowns: discounts for residents are unknown; charge per truck or axle; For-hire-vehicle charge only one time or for every entry; emergency vehicles.
- L shutdown aversion: Still waiting for independent consultant; the plan is still moving forward; workers wearing masks will not go over well.
- Penn Station: New plan with Vornado to put in new entrances at 7th Avenue; retail spaces will be moved back and made smaller to improve passenger flow.
- Westbury tragedy: People were fleeing police; more calls for elimination of grade-crossings; cameras at crossings (legislation).
- Commissioner Schwartz's idea that you cannot have fare increases unless performance was upgraded – the Board approved new performance metrics to come out later.
- Four community L train info locations are scheduled, ending April 8th.
- Term limits for Board members has been suggested.

B. Brashears: Presentation on "100 Days and 100 Nights" report.

T. Mason: The Lexington Ave Line is the 4,5,6... you could have transferred to the 6 line.

B. Brashears: The 6 was not included in the scope because as a rider I would not do that. Transferring to local 6 service would require another transfer, slow down the trip, and riders would not do that.

B. Strauss: Why haven't they reconfigured the Astoria-Ditmars terminal tracks?

B. Brashears: Most likely money.

B. Strauss: Please explain table-top exercises.

E. Shannon: We have been to table-top exercises before in emergency scenarios with first responders. Train derailment example – what the different entities would do to respond to this particular situation (i.e. Fire Department, Transit police).

S. Nicolls: Executives do table-top exercise, but the people involved in doing it are not included.

E. Shannon: The report is designed to apply Fast Forward principles to this route – the stress of this route could be taken out by Fast Forward.

T. Mason: Transfers at Lex/59 St also include the 6 line – there is a need to distinguish between the 4/5 express line and local 6 service.

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S. King Hoge: They are closing the Astoria Blvd. station for repairs/elevators; will that work impact the report's recommendations.

B. Brashears: No, the work would not be happening at the same time. These recommendations are beyond that timeframe – next Capital Program.

D. Hall-Moore: The timing of this report is perfect – seeking funding for Fast Forward and being in conversations with Andy and Sarah Meyer.

E. Prentiss: Is this the worse situation in the system? A 35 minute gap is common on the A train.

B. Brashears: This is a unique trip and is a representation of what is going on in the rest of the system.

E. Shannon: The report shows the problem areas of the route, and you magnify this across the system – it is not the worse route.

E. Prentiss: This is also a problem for us shorter people – accessibility concerns regarding crowding with wheelchairs.

S. Goldstein: What about the 7 line? If you are going downtown you have other options.

B. Brashears: Yes, other travel options are included in the report.

S. Nicolls: All the executives participate in table-top exercises, but when a major incident happens they are not there – it's the sergeant and patrol officers – they are flying by the seat of their pants. The patrol sergeant/chief needs to be there.

E. Shannon: It is key to get all those that would actually be involved to participate in these exercises.

B. Strauss: Bus lane along Lexington – how close are they to that?

B. Brashears: It is not close – people take the subway instead due to slow bus speeds –

B. Strauss: They did this along 5th Avenue and the buses move much more easily.

E. Prentiss: Nothing is happening about clearing bus lanes.

A. Albert: The report press release will happen next week and you all will be notified.

Old Business

S. Goldstein: Stations Department – cleaning schedule. What is going on with Atlantic Ticket?

A. Albert: The brochures are there – Leroy Comrie is not supportive of Congestion Pricing and represents Southeast Queens. There is discussion about having Atlantic Ticket for the four new Bronx stations.

E. Prentiss: The 20 elevators that are being replaced in Washington Heights – Elevators are mezzanine to street only – no accessibility. 168th, 181st, 191st on the 1 train. On the A train it is 190th, north end of the 181st station at 184th St. The problem is traversing the hills and intersections to get to shopping centers, etc...

A. Albert: We can ask the people at Santac if these stations have been surveyed to get accessible elevators.

Action Item: Ask Santac if surveys were conducted at the following stations for accessible elevators: 168th, 181st, 191st on the 1 train; 190th and 181st on the A train.

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New Business

E. Prentiss: 207th – it would be nice to see them replace the backs of the benches.

L. Daglian: Somebody sent me a picture of fallen tiles at Fulton Street – probably the G – the tiles are not being replaced.

C. Greif: Can we get a speaker to talk about the new MetroCard – OMNY?

A. Albert: A company was hired and came up with this name – no input from the Board.

L. Daglian: We are supposed to be part of the testing phase for OMNY, and we haven't heard anything. It only includes a few stations.

E. Prentiss: New auto-gates are really cool! However, they are broken already. They are a great improvement with clear glass so you can see who is on the other side. The weight of those doors can be potentially dangerous if the door swings open. There needs to be signage on it if they will be opened automatically or if it has to be pulled – this has been a problem on the current doors.

Adjourned

Action Items

- **Ask Santac if surveys were conducted at the following stations for accessible elevators: 168th, 181st, 191st on the 1 train; 190th and 181st on the A train.**

Youtube Video links: [Part 1 of 4](#), [Part 2 of 4](#), [Part 3 of 4](#), [Part 4 of 4](#)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director