

Per Open Meeting Law requirements, an in-person meeting of the New York City Transit Riders Council (NYCTRC) was convened at 2 Broadway at 12:00 pm on Thursday, January 25, 2024. Members of the public and Council members unable to attend were present via Zoom.

Member Attendance

Andrew Albert (Chair)	Present – in person
Burton M. Strauss Jr. (Vice Chair)	Present – in person
Stuart Goldstein	Present – in person
Christopher Greif	Present – in person
Marisol Halpern	Absent
Sharon King Hoge	Present – in person
Karen Hamilton	Present – in person
Cicely Harris	Present – virtual
Trudy L. Mason	Present – in person
Scott R. Nicholls	Absent

Staff Attendance

Lisa Daglian (Executive Director)	Present
Kara Gurl (Planning & Adv. Manager)	Present
Jack Connors (Research & Comm. Associate)	Present
Jessica Spezio (Administrative Assistant)	Present

Non-member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Grace Medico	Concerned Citizen
Stephen Bauman	Concerned Citizen
Eric Wollman	Concerned Citizen
Cate Contino	NYCT
Tori Winters	NYCT
Matthew Lazo	NYCT
Lola Vieira-Sullivan	NYCT
Andrey Prigov	NYCT
Ryan Wilkinson	Concerned Citizen
Jason Anthony	Concerned Citizen

NYCTRC MINUTES

2

William Stanford Jr.

Andrew Kurzweil

Khalia Hayslett

Andrew Magnus

Alan Flacks

Tia

Rosamond Gianutsos

Mike Howard

Jesse Figeroa

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Ms. Wheelchair NY

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Concerned Citizen

Approval of Agenda for January 25, 2024 meeting.

Approval of Minutes for November 30, 2023 meeting.

Chair/ Board Report:

Derailments/ Emergency brake pulls: There were two Subway derailments in one week earlier this month. The first one occurred on the number 1 train at 96th Street. There was an out-of-service train that collided with an in-service train. It is an ongoing investigation into the cause. The second derailment happened on the F train by Neptune Ave. They are still investigating why this train jumped the track while it was turning. They discovered missing bolts on the F train. They are also working on efforts to reduce emergency brake pulls, as the unpredicted stopping of the trains can cause parts to loosen up over time. The NTSB is investigating both incidents.

New turnstiles - Sutphin/Archer: The MTA is not going forward with the new turnstile pilot they recently implemented at Sutphin/Archer. As seen on social media, a rider discovered a motion sensor that would open the turnstile doors with a hand motion, causing the doors to open and avoid paying the fare. Other design options for new turnstiles are being considered.

New congestion pricing lawsuits: Along with Staten Island and the UFT, the Lower East Side has also joined in on a new lawsuit against Congestion Pricing.

Karen asked if Uber Health or Senior travel to medical appointments will be exempt. Lisa shared that there are programs for reimbursement for travel to medical appointments and the TMRB did consider this situation.

NYCTRC MINUTES

3

Stuart suggested that city vehicles and cars should be exempt when performing official duties. Lisa shared that city vehicles created for specialized purposes, like firetrucks and garbage trucks, will be exempt.

Upcoming (Summer) G train proposed changes: The CBTC installation will cause there to be no service and split service along the G Line this summer on various segments. Bus shuttle services will run to substitute for trains during those shutdowns.

Khalia asked whether there will be a public comment opportunity for riders to weigh in on the proposed G train outages as there were for the L train shutdown.

Lock changes— conductor cabs: The MTA is looking to change the locks and get new keys across the system. This comes after some kids were caught on board a train that was laid up while not in service. This has been an ongoing issue for many years.

Platform fencing-191 St #1 station: The installation of yellow fencing in segments along the platform was done at the 191st Station as an alternative to platform screen doors. This will prevent some pushes and falls. The riders have given mixed reviews on their thoughts about them.

2nd Ave Subway Phase 2: Phase two of the Second Avenue Subway extension is moving forward with three new stations up to 125th Street, thanks to Senator Schumer's work in Washington and the Governor's support.

Governor Hochul Executive Budget Update, Trudy Mason

Trudy discussed the Governor's recent Executive Budget announcements, including progress and plans for the Second Avenue subway expansion. She mentioned the initiation of a utility relocation contract to advance the project worth \$182 million, funded by the Governor's budget and federal aid secured by Senator Schumer. Phase two of the project will cover Second Avenue from 96th to 125th Street, including the construction of new stations. She also mentioned the potential extensions to the west side along 125th Street, connecting with other subway lines if funding and circumstances allow.

Trudy explained that the Interborough Express was also a priority in the Governor's budget.

NYCTRC MINUTES

4

Nomination and election for MTA Board Member: Andrew Albert

Nominate and (re)elect NYCTRC 's MTA Board Member:

Andrew Albert

Chris made a motion and Trudy seconded the motion to vote for Andrew as NYCTRC's MTA Board representative. The vote was unanimous.

Presentation: Queens Bus Network Redesign Proposed Final Plan, by Tori Winters, Acting Queens Bus Network Redesign Project Manager; Matt Lazo, Senior Transportation Planner; Lola Vieira-Sullivan, Transportation Planner; Cate Contino, Director, Special Projects, GCR

View the presentation along with the Q&A: <https://youtu.be/v-kWF2KyRiI?t=3267>

An overview of the Queens Bus Network Redesign was presented, offering a broad understanding of the redesign, focusing on citywide or borough-wide aspects. The content, including examples and presentations, is available on the [project website](#). The team encouraged NYCTRC members to review the routes they use and provide feedback through the interactive mapping tool called Remix or by calling 511 to leave a message for the project team.

Mr. X requested better bus connections from Queens to the Bronx. Andrew agreed with him and added that LGA needs connections to the Bronx. Many people are employed there and commute daily. Cate advised the Q50 bus route runs from LGA to the Bronx for connectivity.

Executive Director & Staff Updates:

Lisa shared that PCAC staff went to Albany to testify at the Joint Budget Hearing on Transportation. We discussed our three "Fare Budget" proposals, including expanding Fair Fares to the LIRR and Metro-North within NYC; creating a Weekly CityTicket with transfers to subways and buses; and expanding the Senior/Disability/Medicare discount on the commuter railroads to include the morning peak.

Our additional priorities are getting voting membership on the MTA Board for our three rider representatives.

Old Business:

None

NYCTRC MINUTES

5

New Business:

The new R211 trains (open gangway) will not run on the express tracks, but only on the local tracks.

Action Items:

None

Adjourned

Video link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v-kWF2KyRjI>

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian
Executive Director