

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, May 29, 2025. Members of the public and Council members unable to attend were present via Zoom.

## Member Attendance

Andrew Albert (Chair)	Present
Burton M. Strauss Jr. (Vice Chair)	Present – virtual
Dante Arnwine	Present
Andrew Bennett	Absent
Stuart Goldstein	Present
Christopher D. Greif	Present
Marisol Halpern	Present – virtual
Karen Hamilton	Absent
Cicely Harris	Present
Gene Haynes	Absent
Khalia Hayslett	Present – virtual
Sharon King Hoge	Present
Trudy L. Mason	Present
Scott R. Nicholls	Absent

## Staff Attendance

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

## Non-member Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Affiliation</u>
Sunil Nair	NYCT
Alberto Roldan	NYCT
Cate Contino	MTA GCR
Debra Greif	Concerned Citizen
Andrew Kurzweil	Concerned Citizen

## NYCTRC MINUTES

2

William Stanford Jr.  
Carl Perrera  
Jason Anthony  
Mike Howard

Concerned Citizen  
Concerned Citizen  
Concerned Citizen  
Concerned Citizen

### ***Approval of May 29, 2025 Agenda Approval of April 24, 2025 Minutes***

**Election and Nomination:** Chair- Andrew Albert / Vice Chair- Burton Strauss

### **Chair/ Board Report: by Andrew Albert**

1. Rockaway A and S shuttle service resumed after 17 weeks, with significant improvements to the South Channel Bridge and the Hammels Wye.
2. MTA infrastructure updates:
  - 224 substations, with 81 in poor or marginal condition
  - Broadway Junction becoming 100% ADA compliant
  - Emergency communication upgrades planned
3. Subway performance improvements:
  - Best subway performance in decades
  - Countdown clocks upgraded, especially on B division
  - On-time performance in high 80s and low 90s
  - Commuter rail on-time performance between 98-99%
4. State budget highlights:
  - The MTA's 2025-29 Capital Plan has been fully funded, including projects like:
    - IBX light rail from Bay Ridge to Jackson Heights
    - Thousands of new subway and commuter rail cars
    - More CBTC signal upgrades
    - 60+ more accessible subway stations
    - Zero emission buses
    - Platform barriers at 150 stations
5. Andy Byford returning to lead Penn Station redevelopment
6. Miscellaneous good news:
  - Three peregrine falcon chicks hatching on the Verrazzano Bridge

## NYCTRC MINUTES

### 3

**Presentation:** Automated Camera Enforcement Update (ACE) By: Sunil G. Nair, Vice President, Zero Emissions and Fleet Technologies and Alberto Roldan, Assistant Director, Government & Community Relations

View presentation and Q & A: [https://youtu.be/0t\\_DeJbgATo?t=754](https://youtu.be/0t_DeJbgATo?t=754)

Mr. Nair presented on the Automated Camera Enforcement (ACE) Program.  
Key points include:

- Total: 5,800 buses, 350 routes, and 53,000 daily trips
- Average bus speeds 7-8 mph (5 mph in Manhattan)

Camera Technology:

- Two camera types: wide-angle contextual camera (80-100 feet) and narrow-angle license plate camera (7-12 feet)
- Cameras document bus lane, bus stop, and double parking violations

Enforcement Details:

- First violation: \$50
- Subsequent violations increase to \$250
- No registration revocation
- 60-day warning period for new routes

Program Benefits:

- 5% average speed improvement
- 20% reduction in collisions
- 45% fewer blocked bus stops
- 9% recidivism rate (repeat offenders)

Expansion Plans:

- Adding 60 routes over next 2-3 years
  - 800 additional bus route miles of enforcement
  - 1,800 buses to be equipped
  - By program end: 50% of fleet and route mileage will have ACE technology
- Outreach:
- Multilingual brochures
  - Public website

- Ads in media
- Briefings with elected officials and community groups

Trudy Mason raised concerns about bus operators not curbing the bus at bus stops, especially for wheelchair users.

Chris Greif discussed issues with taxis blocking bus stops and the need for better enforcement.

Stuart asked who reviews the ACE footage. Sunil shared that it's DOT.

Dante raised questions about the recidivism rate and the impact of commercial violators on bus speeds.

Khalia asks about the enforcement of bus operators pulling into bus stops safely and the separation of accessibility violations into separate tickets.

## **Executive Director Report: Lisa Daglian**

Congestion Pricing Court Case:

- Detailed the court proceedings with Judge Liman
- Highlighted the temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction against federal government's attempts to halt congestion pricing
- Emphasized the strong likelihood of success for the plaintiffs (MTA, city, DOT)

Legislative Updates:

- Discussed ongoing efforts in Albany with Jack, including the Rider-First Fare Agenda
- Working on the Rider Representation Act
- Introduced a new bill to broaden the slate of elected officials who can recommend appointments to councils

Fair Fares:

- Brian provided an update on expanding Fair Fares program
- Currently at 145% of federal poverty level
- Pushing to expand to 200% and include railroads
- Only 27% of eligible people currently enrolled

OMNY:

- Kara discussed ongoing problems with the OMNY system
- Concerns about double charges and fare cap
- Planning to conduct a survey to gather more data on user experiences

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

None

**Public input Q &A:**

- Mr. X continued to raise concerns about bus service and the need for better communication with the MTA.
- Carl asked about the status of the Queens bus redesign pilot and the potential for a permanent solution.
- Trudy and Stuart discussed the need for better signage and communication about OMNY card costs at retailers detailing that the \$5 fee does not include the fare.
- Chris provided information on reduced fares and accessibility features for OMNY users.
- Dante reaffirmed the need for an accessible Franklin Ave/Medgar Evers College station, and for multilingual signage at Nostrand Ave.

**Adjourned**

Video link: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0t\\_DeJbgATo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0t_DeJbgATo)

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Daglian  
Executive Director