

5.17 SAFETY AND SECURITY

5.17.1 Introduction

This section identifies safety considerations related to the design, construction, and operation of the new South Ferry Terminal Project. This element includes consideration of those safety procedures to be implemented during construction of the project, as well as those that would be in place once the terminal is in operation. The project would feature current safety and security systems and procedures used to protect passengers, workers, and the community at large.

The construction and operation of the South Ferry Terminal would be implemented in compliance with relevant Federal, State and City laws, regulations, codes, policies, and guidelines, including those of MTA/NYCT intended to protect safety and security for construction workers, patrons, and the general public. Key elements in these codes and policies are guidelines on safety in the event of a fire or other threat, security from crime, and safe construction practices. These codes, policies, and guidelines have not been altered due to the events of 9/11.

By its very nature and purpose, as well as its design, the Proposed Action will promote improved safety and security as it incorporates various amenities in the design to enhance and maximize use of the South Ferry Terminal. For example, the proposed project is being designed for ADA-compliance and to improve pedestrian circulation and safety. The increased terminal capacity would also improve emergency response and evacuation capabilities at the terminal. The South Ferry Terminal would be designed to place adequate space in and around corridors, public waiting and information areas, and around any areas of retail, and security measures would be included in the design and operation features consistent with the current security methods and practical procedures being employed and implemented by MTA/NYCT

5.17.2 Construction Safety

The FTA and MTA/NYCT have extensive experience in overseeing and managing safety and security in complex construction projects, as well as in operating the subway system. As part of the construction plan for the South Ferry Terminal Project, MTA/NYCT will develop a detailed overall Health and Safety Program (HASP) to be implemented throughout all aspects of the construction. The HASP, actually a compendium of several HASPs specific to areas of construction and activities, would be developed by each contractor prior to implementation and commencement of any construction activity. HASP plans would also require compliance with all applicable laws and regulations.

The HASP plans would identify all preventive and emergency response procedures to be implemented in managing and controlling hazards and safety issues. The HASP plans would also describe methods to protect construction workers, the public, and the environment, thereby ensuring overall safety in each task. Specific measures typically address equipment, materials, controls, crew size, and job responsibilities, and ensure that

operating procedures and maintenance practices are addressed, employed, and audited for safety. Preventive measures include inspections, self-assessments, and testing to identify problem areas. For oversight, MTA/NYCT would implement an audit program to ensure that all contractors are in conformance with their individual HASP, as well as the project-wide HASP. As a result of these measures, the South Ferry Terminal is not expected to result in adverse impacts to safety and security during the construction phase.

5.17.3 Operational Safety

The MTA/NYCT System Safety Program Plan addresses operational safety issues relating to train and station safety, and safety in other areas of the terminal (including corridors, mezzanines, surface accessways, concourses, etc.). MTA/NYCT routinely trains its staff and contractors on aspects of the plan that are pertinent to individual staff duties.

As with other MTA/NYCT projects, the South Ferry Terminal design reflects safety and security considerations as paramount issues. Visual surveillance, lighting and emergency communications, and public and emergency access are examples of measures that would be carefully considered in the final design. In conjunction with the physical design, MTA/NYCT would coordinate with public safety and law enforcement agencies such as the New York City Police and Fire Departments to develop detailed security plans for all areas of the proposed project.

The South Ferry Terminal will meet the safety requirements of the Building Code of New York State (BCNYS), the National Fire Protection Association Standard 130 for "Fixed Guideway Transit and Passenger Rail Systems" and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) A117.1 for Accessibility.

As such, the Proposed Action would result in no adverse impacts on safety and security during the operational period.