



**Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

# **Safety Committee Meeting**

## **July 2015**

### **Committee Members**

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T. Prendergast, Chair

F. Ferrer

A. Albert\*

J. Ballan

R. Bickford

N. Brown\*

A. Cappelli

C. Moerdler

M. Pally

J. Sedore, Jr.

V. Tessitore\*

E. Watt\*

N. Zuckerman\*

**Safety Committee Meeting**  
2 Broadway, 20th Floor Board Room  
New York, NY 10004  
Wednesday, 7/22/2015  
8:30 - 9:30 AM ET

**1. Public Comments**

**2. Approval of Minutes - May 20, 2014**

*Safety Committee Minutes - Page 3*

**3. 2015 Safety Committee Work Plan**

*Safety Committee Work Plan - Page 6*

**4. Enhanced Safety Action Updates**

*LIRR Enhanced Safety Action Update - Page 10*

*MNR Enhanced Safety Action Update - Page 11*

**5. Communication Plan (Presentation)**

**6. Update on Grade Crossing Improvements (Presentation)**

**7. Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations Update (Presentation)**

Date of next meeting: October 28, 2015 @ 8:30 AM

**Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
Minutes of  
Safety Committee Meeting  
347 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10017**

**Wednesday, May 20, 2015  
8:30 AM**

**The following members were present:**

**Hon. Thomas F. Prendergast, Chairman & CEO  
Hon. Fernando Ferrer, Vice Chairman  
Hon. Mitchell Pally  
Hon. Allen Cappelli  
Hon. Charles Moerdler  
Hon. Andrew Albert  
Hon. Robert C. Bickford  
Hon. James L. Sedore, Jr.  
Hon. Neil Zuckerman  
Hon. Carl Wortendyke  
Hon. Johnathan Ballan  
Hon. Vincent Tessitore  
Hon. Ira Greenberg  
Hon. John Molloy**

The following Chief Safety Officers were present:

David Mayer  
Anne Kirsch  
Loretta Ebbighausen  
Stephen Vidal  
James Foley  
Peter Kohner

Carmen Bianco, President, New York City Transit (“NYCT”), Joseph J. Giulietti, President, Metro-North Railroad (“MNR”), Patrick Nowakowski, President, Long Island Rail Road (“LIRR”), James Ferrara, President, Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (“TBTA”), and Michael Horodniceanu, President, MTA Capital Construction (“MTA-CC”), Darryl Irick, President MTA Bus/LI BUS also attended the meeting.

**Chairman Thomas F. Prendergast called the meeting to order.**

**1. PUBLIC SPEAKERS**

There were three (3) public speakers. Refer to the video recording of the meeting produced by the MTA and maintained in MTA records for the content of speakers’ remarks.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the March 2015 Safety Committee were approved.

## **2. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING COMMENTS**

Chairman Prendergast asked Mr. Mayer if there were any changes to the work plan. Mr. Mayer stated that per Mr. Zuckerman's request, a communications plan was added to the work plan.

## **3. CHIEF SAFETY OFFICER'S COMMENTS**

Mr. Mayer gave a brief presentation on OSHA's "National Fall Prevention Stand-Down". Please refer to the video recording of the meeting produced by the MTA and maintained in MTA records for the content of the presentation.

Mr. Mayer stated MTA hosted two safety researchers who are studying platform safety as part of a Transit Cooperative Research Program project. They came to our region for a week and many people from across the MTA agencies worked together to provide a very useful series of briefings and site visits.

Mr. Mayer then stated that Anne Kirsch, Chief Safety Officer of Metro-North Railroad would be joining MTA Headquarters to help further Safety Initiatives.

Mr. Mayer stated the Safety Council Charter had been modified to reflect a request made to keep the Committee updated on the activities of the Safety Council.

Mr. Mayer went on to discuss "Safety Goals", a list of projects the Safety Council has chosen for particular focus including Fatigue and Sleep Apnea, Pedestrian Safety, Grade Crossing Safety, etc.

Mr. Albert asked if "edge treatments" on subways and commuter rails would be covered under "Slips, Trips and Falls". Mr. Mayer answered that any measures that can be taken to mitigate accidents would be looked into.

Mr. Ballan asked if the Sleep and Fatigue Apnea scheduling has begun and if it is necessary to negotiate with Collective Bargaining Units. Ms. Kirsch answered that there have been no impediments and that 320 engineers of 406 have already been screened. Mr. Ballan then asked if this program was system-wide. Chairman Prendergast answered that intention is to review the results of the pilot and roll the program out across the agencies.

Mr. Moerdler asked if MTA has met with the Safety Committees of the Unions involved to create and maintain relationships regarding Safety issues. Mr. Bianco answered that there is a structured process in place at NYCT and Buses that allows MTA to engage with Labor Unions on a daily basis.

Mr. Mayer then opened the floor to Steve Vidal on Pedestrian Safety around Buses. Please refer to the video recording of the meeting produced by the MTA and maintained in MTA records for the content of the presentation.

Mr. Albert asked if all buses have the same peripheral visibility. Mr. Vidal answered that each model bus has a set of structural challenges. However, when new buses are introduced operators are trained to be aware of structural obstructions and how to see around them.

Mr. Irick added that over the last 25 years bus incidents have been reduced 46% partially due to a shift in strategy and reviewing operators randomly.

Mr. Moerdler asked what could be done by MTA regarding pedestrians that are crossing streets distracted by cell phones and putting drivers and passengers at risk. Mr. Vidal answered that he will touch on that topic when he addresses public outreach.

Mr. Moerdler asked if the idea of moving crosswalks at busy intersections has been explored. Mr. Vidal answered that the Vision Zero action plan being generated for each of the boroughs has discussed the possibility of moving crosswalks but that decision is ultimately up to the DOT.

Mr. Albert asked about having cameras in the front and rear of the buses. Mr. Vidal answered that the thought is adding cameras to buses will cause additional distraction to the operator.

Mr. Brown asked if there is any data to show safety performance on left and right turns. Mr. Vidal answered that the statistics on left and right turn collisions are relatively evenly distributed. Mr. Brown went on to ask if there were any statistics on the time of day that accidents are most frequent. Mr. Vidal answered that all factors such as weather, time of day, etc. are taken into consideration.

Mr. Mayer then opened the floor to Mark Bienstock, Program Officer, Systems and Security for a presentation on Track Intrusion Detection Systems. Please refer to the video recording of the meeting produced by the MTA and maintained in MTA records for the content of the presentation.

Mr. Ballan asked how MTA ensures that it is installing cutting edge rather than outdated technology. Mr. Bienstock answered that the technology being evaluated is close to cutting edge and deployment will be at a limited number of stations based on safety data and metrics.

Mr. Greenberg asked how much of the Capital Program budget is allotted to this program and how many stations would that dollar amount cover. Mr. Bienstock stated \$20-\$25 million dollars for the first phase role out but how many stations that would cover depends on the technology implemented.

Mr. Pally asked for before and after pictures of the Roaring Brook Road grade crossing to be provided to the Committee. Ms. Kirsch assured Mr. Pally that pictures would be provided at the next Safety Committee meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 am.

# 2015 Safety Committee Work Plan - Updated Draft

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## I. RECURRING AGENDA ITEMS

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
Public Comments	Committee Chair & Members
Approval of Minutes	Committee Chair & Members
Committee Work Plan	Committee Chair & Members
Enhanced Safety Actions Update	LIRR and MNR Chief Safety Officers

## II. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

	<u>Responsibility</u>
<b><u>January 2015</u></b>	
Review of Committee Charter	Committee Chair & Members
Draft 2015 Committee Work Plan	MTA Chief Safety Officer
Key Safety Metrics	MTA Chief Safety Officer
NTSB Special Investigation (November 2014)	MTA Chief Safety Officer
<b><u>March 2015</u></b>	
Approval of 2015 Committee Work Plan	Committee Chair & Members
Traffic Incident Management Training	MTA Bridges and Tunnels Staff
<b><u>May 2015</u></b>	
Safety Goals for 2015	MTA Chief Safety Officer
Pedestrian / Trespasser Safety Efforts	Safety Staff
Platform Safety	Safety Staff
<b><u>July 2015</u></b>	
Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations Update	MTA Chief Safety Officer
Communication Plan	Mark Heavey
<b><u>October 2015</u></b>	
Labor / Management Safety Activities	Safety Staff
Contractor Safety	Safety Staff
<b><u>November 2015</u></b>	
Safety Goals for 2015: Progress report	MTA Chief Safety Officer
Fatigue and Alertness Management	Safety Staff - 1 <sup>st</sup> Qtr 2016
Safety and Maintenance and Repair Facilities	Safety Staff
Evaluation of Safety Committee Charter	Committee Chair & Members
<b><u>January 2016</u></b>	
Approval of 2016 Work Plan	Committee Chair & Members
Tunnel Safety	Safety Staff

## **Detailed Summary**

### **I. RECURRING AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The Committee Chair will request a motion to approve the minutes of the prior meeting of the Safety Committee.

#### **Committee Work Plan**

The Work Plan will list, by meeting, the topics scheduled for review. The Committee will be advised if any changes have been made to the plan.

### **II. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

#### **January 2015**

##### **Review of Committee Charter**

The MTA Chief Safety Officer will discuss key components of the Safety Committee charter and invite the Committee Chair and Members to consider crafting a work plan that will fulfil the charter.

##### **Key Safety Metrics**

The Committee will discuss the value and selection of Key Safety Metrics.

##### **NTSB Special Investigation (November 2014)**

The MTA Chief Safety Officer will provide an overview this recent NTSB report and associated safety recommendations.

#### **February 2015**

##### **Special meeting on Grade Crossing Safety**

The entire meeting was devoted to grade crossing safety topics. The Chairman briefed the Committee on the collision that occurred at the Commerce Street crossing in Valhalla, New York, and the MTA Chief Safety Officer provided general information about MTA grade crossings and efforts to prevent accidents.

#### **March 2015**

##### **Traffic Incident Management Training**

MTA Bridges and Tunnels Staff will provide an overview of this important safety training by describing the goals and objective of the training as well as scope of the initiative.

#### **May 2015**

##### **Safety Goals for 2015**

The MTA Chief Safety Officer will describe the key safety projects and activities underway at MTA agencies that the Safety Council has selected for particular focus and attention.

##### **Pedestrian / Trespasser Safety Efforts**

Staff will describe efforts and projects underway to improve pedestrian safety and reduce the number of collisions with trespassers.

#### Platform Safety

Staff will describe the risks that customers and employees face on station platforms and the efforts and strategies underway to improve safety on our platforms.

#### **July 2015**

##### Blue Ribbon Panel Recommendations Update

The MTA Chief Safety Officer will review objectives of the Study and Staff will highlight recommendations and progress on initiatives.

##### Communication Plan

Mark Heavey will review the recently released Advertising Campaign and the program goals highlighting future efforts within the campaign.

#### **October 2015**

##### Labor / Management Safety Activities

Staff will brief the committee on various ways in which labor representatives and managers work cooperatively to assure and improve safety throughout the MTA.

##### Contractor Safety

MTA agencies extensively rely on contractors for construction and other important work. Staff will describe the requirements we place on our vendors to ensure workplace safety and the assurance activities conducted by MTA agencies to ensure contractors are safe.

#### **November 2015**

##### Safety Goals for 2015: Progress Report

The MTA Chief Safety Officer will describe progress underway on the key safety projects and activities at MTA agencies that the Safety Council has selected for particular focus and attention.

##### Fatigue and Alertness Management

Staff will highlight efforts that will be presented in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2016 reviewing differences and similarities across the MTA with respect to employee fatigue and alertness management.

##### Safety at Maintenance and Repair Facilities

MTA agencies operate a variety of maintenance shops and repair facilities, and the hazards at these facilities are different from those that exist in our revenue operating environments. Staff will describe some of these facilities, the work conducted, along with safety protocols and measures.

##### Self-Evaluation of Safety Committee Performance

The Safety Committee Charter specifies that the Committee Chair & Members will conduct an annual self-evaluation of the performance of the Committee.

##### Review of Safety Committee Charter

The Safety Committee Charter specifies that the Committee Chair & Members will review the charter annually.



## **January 2016**

### **Approval of 2016 Work Plan**

The committee will present and discuss the 2016 work plan seeking approval from the Committee.

### **Tunnel Safety**

Many of the MTA agencies have safety responsibilities and operational activities that include tunnels. Staff will describe the variety of safety assurance and safety preparedness activities designed to keep tunnels safe.

# Memorandum



**Date:** July 2015

**To:** Members of the LIRR Operating Committee

**From:** Patrick A. Nowakowski, President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick A. Nowakowski", written over the printed name.

**Re:** Enhanced Safety Action Update

This is to update you on the LIRR's comprehensive efforts to enhance safety throughout our system:

- Our second quarter Corporate Quarterly Safety Stand-Down was held on June 10<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with Safety, Health and Wellness Fairs. Events took place at Babylon Yard, Hillside Support Facility, and Penn Station Trainmen's Room. Over 4,000 employees participated in the Stand-Downs and over 500 employees attended the Safety, Health and Wellness Fairs.
- The Confidential Close Call Reporting System program expanded into the next territory as scheduled on June 29th.
- The following progress was made on speed compliance enhancements and Positive Train Control (PTC):

Action Item	Status
<b>Speed Compliance</b>	For the period 6/1/15 through 6/30/15, there were 124 Radar Observations. 88 different LIRR Engineers were observed. Thirty-nine event recorder downloads were analyzed. All results indicate compliance. <i>Please note:</i> There is a seven day window for radar observations to be entered into our Efficiency Testing System. Numbers are subject to change.
<b>PTC</b>	The Systems Integrator (SI) has completed Preliminary Design Review and is progressing PTC Final Design elements. Wayside interface hardware First Article Inspection (FAI) and first field installation is completed. M7 Under Car equipment FAI is also completed. Preparing for FAI for additional onboard equipment.
<b>Cameras</b>	4D Security Solutions has completed the initial surveys of M7, C3, DE/DM30 and work locomotives and submitted their survey reports. Camera placement is being finalized.



# Memorandum

**Date:** July, 2015  
**To:** Metro-North Committee  
**From:** Joe Giulietti  
**Re:** **Enhanced Safety Action Update**

This is to update you on Metro-North's comprehensive efforts to enhance safety throughout our system:

- Our May 2<sup>nd</sup> safety stand down included over 1,000 participants. The focus of this safety stand down was fall protection/ladder safety, dual employment/fatigue and seasonal safety.
- Our C3RS program kicked off on April 13<sup>th</sup> with our Transportation employees and we have met with the other labor organizations to work on their IMOUs. We hope to progress quickly with the other organizations.

The following progress was made on cameras, NTSB recommendations, speed compliance enhancements, obstructive sleep apnea and Positive Train Control (PTC):

ACTION ITEM	STATUS
<b>Cameras</b>	Contract awarded on March 3 <sup>rd</sup> 2015, to provide audio and image recorders that meet or exceed the NTSB recommendations. Preliminary Design Review was completed June 12 <sup>th</sup> 2015. Final design development is under way.
<b>NTSB Recommendations</b>	We continue to implement NTSB recommendations, and will work with the NTSB to close out each of their recommendations while coordinating with the other MTA agencies to ensure best practices are shared.
<b>Speed Compliance</b>	For the month of June, 25 compliant radar observations were performed and 82 event recorder Download Reviews with no failures. Through June there have been 637 downloads reviewed with no failures.
<b>Obstructive Sleep Apnea</b>	400 out of 420 Locomotive Engineers have been screened for OSA. The remaining 20 will be completed in two weeks. Approximately 25% of those screened have been sent for additional more comprehensive testing. That testing is currently in progress.
<b>PTC</b>	The Systems Integrator (SI) is progressing PTC Final Design with anticipated Final Design Review (FDR) starting in August. Transponder brackets continue to be installed on New Haven line. First delivery of Transponders was received with installations being scheduled. Wayside interlocking location CP 271 installation is also being scheduled. Early installation of P32 Locomotives and Cab Cars is continuing with 16 locomotives and 3 cab cars completed to date.