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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Straphangers/Commuters Vote With Their Feet (and Metrocards)

Metropolitan Transportation Authority Chairman Peter S. Kalikow today offered statistical evidence to show that, over the past eleven years, the MTA's ridership increases have far outpaced the region's population growth. Chairman Kalikow attributed the impressive ridership growth to the improvements made at the authority as well as the introduction of MetroCard discounts.

"There's no question that people in the New York region respond to positive change, and commuters have overwhelmingly responded to MetroCard discounts, new trains and buses, cleaner stations, reduced crime, and better on-time performance," said Chairman Kalikow. "Instead of further clogging the area's roadways, New Yorkers have turned to the MTA for their transportation needs, and the MTA has come through for them."

	1995	2005	Increase
NY CITY			
Ridership	1,604,000	2,186,000	36%
Population Est.	7,665,000	8,209,000	7%
SUBURBS			
Commuter Rails	136,000	155,000	14%
Population Est.	7,460,000	7,929,000	6%
Total MTA	1,740,000	2,341,000	34.5%
Total Population	15,125,000	16,138,000	6.7%

	1980	2005	Increase
NY CITY			
Ridership	1,650,000	2,186,000	32%
Population Est.	7,072,000	8,209,000	16%
SUBURBS			
Commuter Rails	131,000	156,000	19%
Population Est.	7,208,000	7,929,000	10%
Total MTA	1,781,000	2,342,000	31.5%
Total Population	14,280,000	16,138,000	13%

