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Press Release

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[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

Statement by MTA Chairman Peter S. Kalikow

Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Chairman Peter S. Kalikow today announced his opposition to service reductions or fare increases for MTA subways, buses and commuter rails in 2007. Referring to incredible ridership gains on the MTA systems, Kalikow stated, "Ridership growth and service enhancements on MTA systems, particularly the subways and buses, has been nothing short of astounding. In the last decade alone, we have seen ridership on the subways and buses increase over 582 million, from 1.064 billion in 1995 to 2.186 billion in 2005. That's an over 36% increase, when population in the five boroughs has increased only about 12 % over a similar period. Now is simply not the time to reduce service to our commuters who have responded in such incredible numbers to the MTA's service program."

Kalikow also expressed his opposition to fare increases in 2007. "Certainly, our revenues from various sources have been better than anticipated. As I have always said, we view fare increases as a last resort, and if revenues keep pace, I just don't see a fare increase in 2007."