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Press Release

July 3, 2007

MTA Headquarters

IMMEDIATE

MTA Issues Response to PTSB Report on Platform Gap

The MTA today issued its response to the Public Transportation Safety Board's (PTSB) report on "Best Practices on Managing the Gap". The MTA concurs with the PTSB's recommendations. The response outlines many of the recommended actions that are already being implemented by Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad, as well as additional gap mitigation measures that being planned or studied.

Specific actions taken by both railroads include aggressive public outreach, introduction of a uniform pictograph warning sign for customers, "Watch the Gap" messages installed on platforms, gap-related literature, specially targeted announcements on trains and at stations. Both railroads are reviewing crowd control strategies and improvements to data collection. Both railroads are working to make gaps as small as possible, through engineering and operating solutions, while ensuring that the space between the platform and the train allows for the safe passage of railcars.

The LIRR and Metro-North are open to and are exploring the use of special technologies (platform extenders, platform rubbing boards and retractable platforms) that, if feasible, can become part of a future design strategy.

In an effort to develop industry standards with regard to the gap, Metro-North and the LIRR are actively involved in the Federal Railroad Administration's Rail Safety Advisory Committee and the American Public Transportation Association's Gap Safety & Accessibility Management Working Group.

The MTA's response to the PTSB is available online at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info).

[MTA Response to PTSB](#)

[Appendix A and C](#)

[Appendix B](#)