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Press Release

April 11, 2011

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IMMEDIATE

Darryl Irick Named Head of MTA's Bus Divisions

25-Year Bus Veteran Intent on Improving Service for 2.8 Million Daily Riders

Citing a depth of experience covering all areas of bus operations from maintenance to service planning, MTA Chairman and CEO Jay H. Walder today named Darryl Irick to the permanent posts of MTA New York City Transit Senior Vice President of Buses, President MTA Bus Company and President MTA Long Island Bus. Irick has been the acting head of the MTA's bus divisions since late last year when former bus head Joe Smith announced his retirement.

"That's a lot of titles but Darryl is a perfect fit for the job of providing safe, efficient and dependable transportation for New Yorkers," said Chairman Walder. "Darryl is taking this job at an extremely challenging time, but I know that he is strongly focused on the MTA's goals of providing faster bus service and more real-time information for the nearly three million customers who depend on buses every day."

Beginning his NYC Transit career in 1986 as a Bus Operator working out of the Kingsbridge Bus Depot in Manhattan's Inwood section, Irick moved up to earn progressively more senior positions in the areas of depot management, operations planning and road operations.

A New York City resident, he is coming into this leadership role at a particularly challenging time when bus services are expected to continue to improve even in the face of severe budget constraints. He views the delivery of services as a business model and will maintain a core commitment to offer safe, customer-focused and efficient service, while overseeing improvements such as Select Bus Service, camera-enforced bus lanes and the rollout of MTA Bus Time, which provides real-time bus location information. Irick will also manage the orderly transition of LI Bus services to Nassau County's selected operator by the end of 2011.

"The MTA's bus customers expect a lot from us each day and it is my job to deliver. Challenging times are no excuse for falling back and making do," said Irick. "We have done a lot, but I intend to make certain that customers see further, tangible improvements – improved communications with customers and a commitment to providing service that our customers can depend on."

He has already faced the challenge of one of the harshest winters in the City's history. Under his leadership, his team devised new approaches to winter storm response, resulting in a much improved response and more efficient delivery of customer information during disruptions.

In total, the MTA's bus operations transport 2.8 million daily bus customers throughout an operating area of more than 900 square miles. The total fleet includes nearly 6,000 buses and the three divisions are supported by 18,500 employees working out of 40 facilities stretching from Yonkers to Rockville Center.