

**Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Minutes of the
Safety Committee Meeting
2 Broadway, 20th Floor
New York, NY 10004**

**Monday, November 29, 2023
9:00 AM**

The following Board Members were present:

**Hon. Janno Lieber, Chair
Hon. Andrew Albert
Hon. Norman Brown
Hon. Vincent Tessitore
Hon. Neal Zuckerman**

The following Board Members were absent:

**Hon. Gerard Bringmann
Hon. Samuel Chu
Hon. Blanca Lopez
Hon. John Samuelsen
Hon. Michael Fleischer
Hon. Haeda Mihaltses
Hon. Frankie Miranda
Hon. David Mack
Hon. Lisa Sorin**

The following agency safety & security officers were present in person or by video conference:

Patrick Warren, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Headquarters (“MTAHQ”)
Carl Hamann, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Headquarters (“MTAHQ”)
Robert Diehl, MTA New York City Transit (“NYCT”)
Ausberto Huertas, MTA Construction & Development (“MTA C&D”)
Loretta Ebbighausen, MTA Long Island Rail Road (“LIRR”)
Shelley Prettyman, Metro-North Railroad (“MNR”)
Eric Osnes, MTA Bridges and Tunnels (“B&T”)
Donald Look, MTA Bridges and Tunnels (“B&T”)
Mike Metz, Metro-North Railroad (“MNR”)
Bob Murphy, MTA Long Island Rail Road (“LIRR”)
John Mueller, MTA Police Department (“MTAPD”)
Daria Luisi, Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Headquarters (“MTAHQ”)

Chair Lieber chaired the November meeting and called the meeting to order.

Chair Lieber asked Patrick Warren if there were any public speakers.

PUBLIC SPEAKERS’S SESSION

The following public speakers commented:

Christopher Greif
Chris Drummond
Murray Bodin
Lisa Daglian
Michael Cohen
Jason Anthony
Matty Buchys Hyland*
Felix Castro*

*Indicates remote participation

Refer to the video recording of the meeting produced by the MTA and maintained in MTA records, for the content of speakers' statements. The Chair noted that we don't answer questions in response to public comment. However, when questions are raised in the public comment session, there will be follow-up by staff.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Lieber stated there was no quorum, so approval of the minutes from the July 2023 Safety Committee would be delayed until a time a quorum is present.

SAFETY COMMITTEE WORK PLAN

Chair Lieber asked if there are any changes to the Work Plan. Patrick Warren stated there was a change to the plan. Fare Evasion was originally going to be briefed but will be done next month in a different venue.

SAFETY POLICY:

Chair Lieber turned it over to Mr. Warren for the Safety & Security presentation.

Mr. Warren stated as part of the Work Plan that information related to closing out of NTSB recommendations is in the Committee Book, beginning on page 44.

Mr. Warren also stated as part of the Work Plan that updates on the MTA's Drug & Alcohol surveillance program can be found on pages 32 through 43.

Mr. Warren discussed some statistical safety trends and indicated that the Safety & Security statistics can be found in the Committee Book on pages 9 through 31.

Mr. Warren then discussed the activities across the MTA to help mitigate workplace violence.

Chair Lieber discussed his team's focus on the judicial process of assault offenders. Strong efforts are made to ban assault offenders from using the system.

Board Member Albert asked about the status of bus operator enclosures and whether a pilot program has begun on any routes. Mr. Warren stated that the enclosures have been designed and installed in several busses. However, they have not been out on the roads as they are still undergoing tests to ensure they meet all required standards. Chair Lieber added that significant

improvements have been made to the enclosures. Robert Diehl spoke briefly about the full enclosure that is still being evaluated but will be coming soon.

Board Member Zuckerman expressed his interest in the number of transit police currently in the system as well as the homeless population trends. Chair Lieber stated both of those topics are on the table and will be sure to provide a response.

Board Member Tessitore commented on the importance of employee safety and how important it is for perpetrators to be held accountable for any violence toward an MTA employee. Chair Lieber pointed out we are in control of policing with MTAPD on the commuter railroads and partner with NYPD in the subways, and work to deter employee assaults. Chair Lieber highlighted that emotionally disturbed individuals have a disproportionate impact regarding assaults within our system and we seek help from the city and Mayor in that area.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lieber asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made and seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.