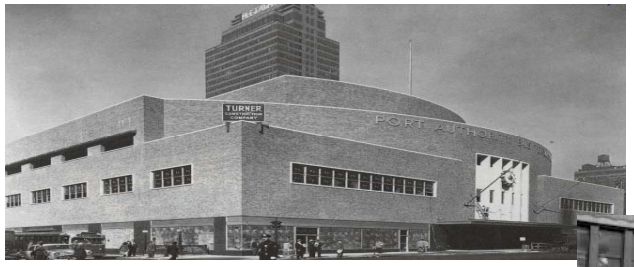
Port Authority Bus Terminal (PABT) Improvement Program

Committee on Capital Planning, Execution and Asset Management

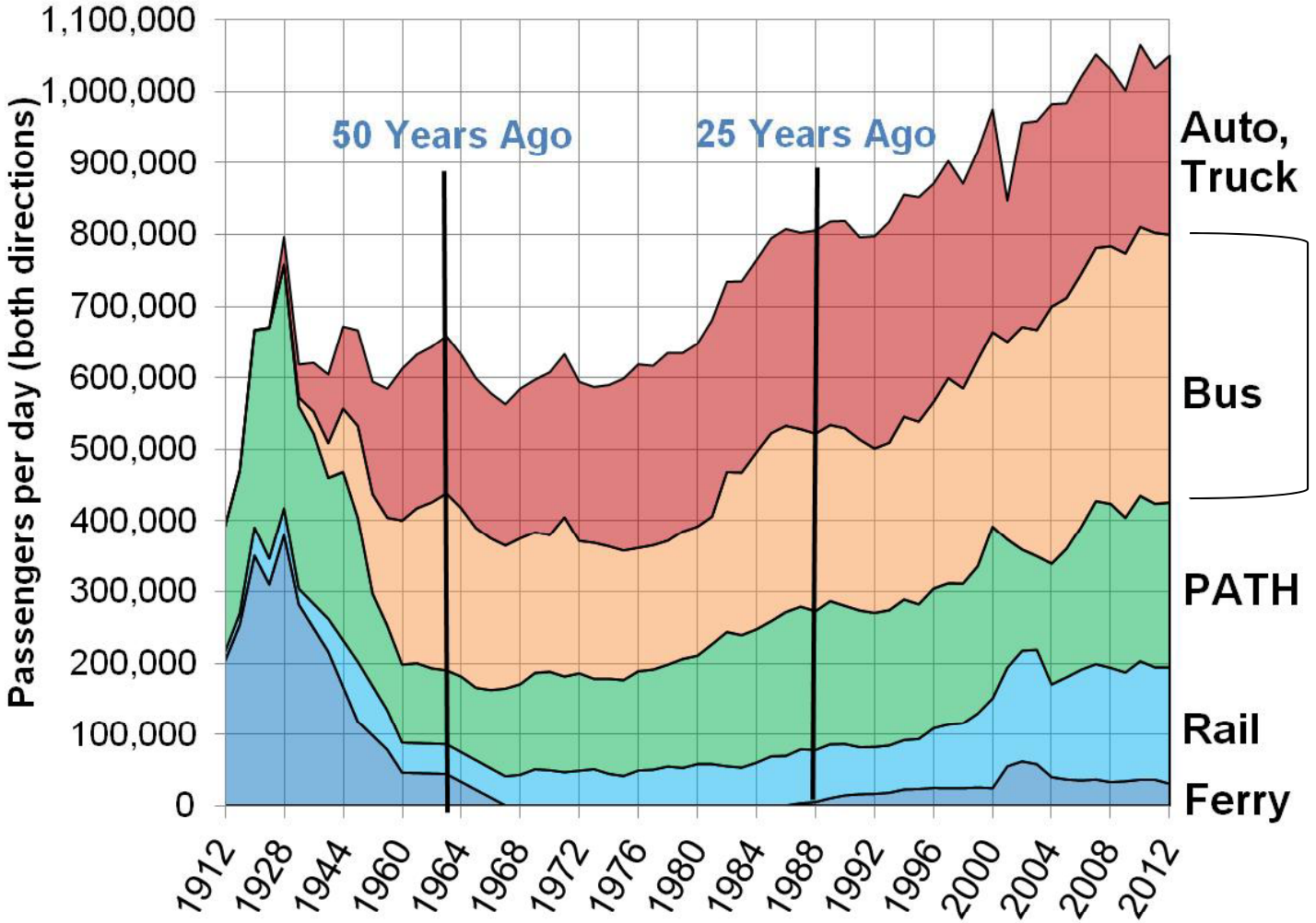
July 23, 2014

PABT Overview

- Opened for service: South Wing (1950) North Wing (1981)
- Largest bus terminal in the nation and one of the busiest terminals in the world serving **220,000 passengers trips** each weekday
- Physically and operationally obsolete, operates beyond its capacity, lacks adequate bus staging/storage capacity, and is nearing the end of its useful life
- Functions as part of a network - performance depends on the NJ Highway network to move traffic to/from the LT
- Significant annual operating deficit



Trans-Hudson Travel, Manhattan below 60th St.



Source: NYMTC Hub Bound Travel Report

Ongoing Capital Projects

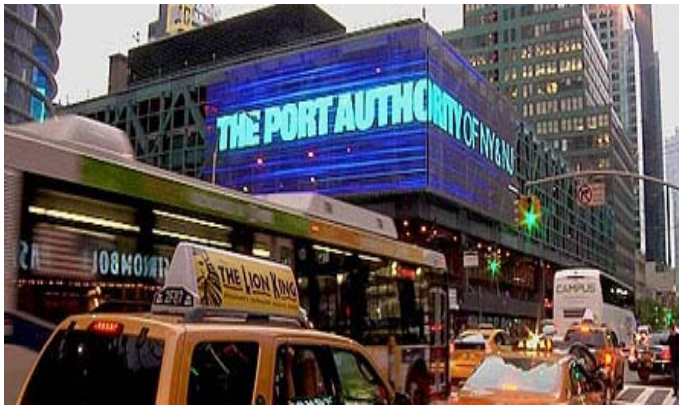
$173M in Capital Plan includes:

Critical Building and Life Safety Systems

- Replacement of HVAC Units and Electrical Distribution in South Wing
  - New Air Conditioning in 16 of 24 Pull through gates in 2015
- Building Automation/Control System
- Primary Electric Service
- Fire Pumps
- Access Control System
- Operations Control Center Relocation

Midtown Bus Terminal Master Plan

- Establish a vision and long-term framework to address aging infrastructure, functional obsolescence, capacity constraints, and substandard service levels
- Provide a coordinated approach for the future of the PABT, bus network and surrounding area
- Identify funding opportunities to implement the plan
- Preliminary findings have determined that the construction of a bus staging and storage facility is crucial to any major long term development (location: Galvin Plaza)

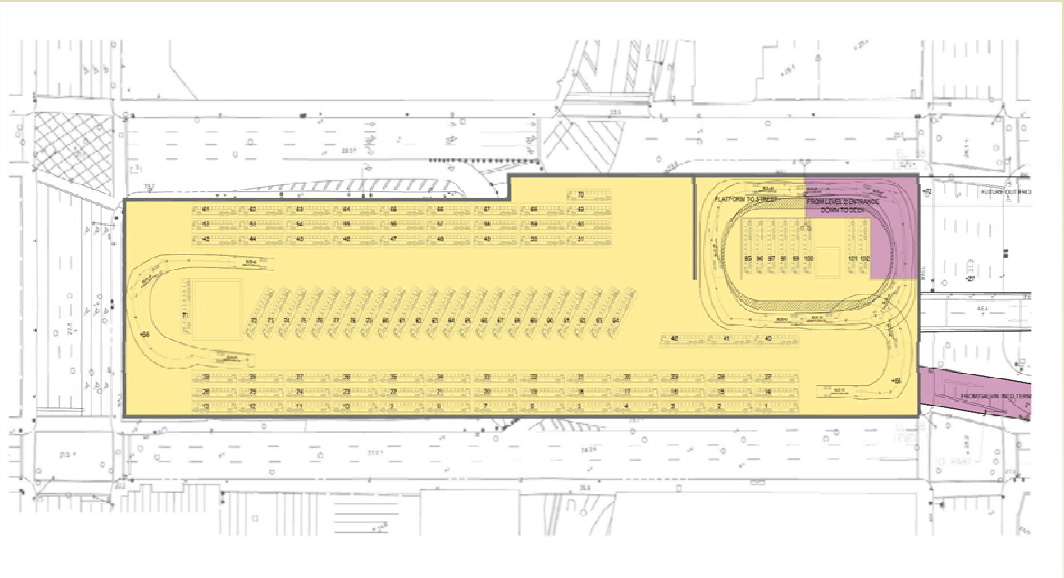


Galvin Plaza

FTA application requesting $230M has been submitted to partially finance for design and construction of approximately $400M Galvin Plaza.

Once constructed, Galvin Plaza will:

- improve on-time departures
- remove buses from the local street network
- reduce congestion
- provide staging
- enhance resiliency



Customer Feedback

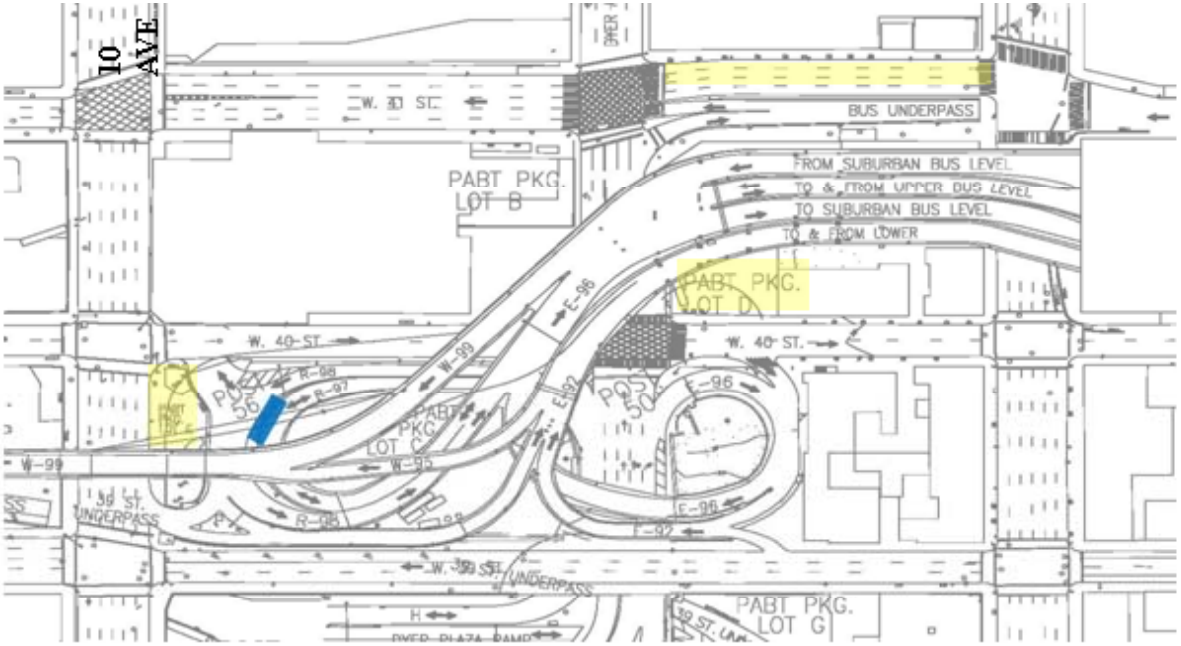
Desired areas of improvement:

- On-time service/less crowding
- Improve building conditions and environment
- Enhanced communication

Improving On-Time Performance : Operating Enhancements

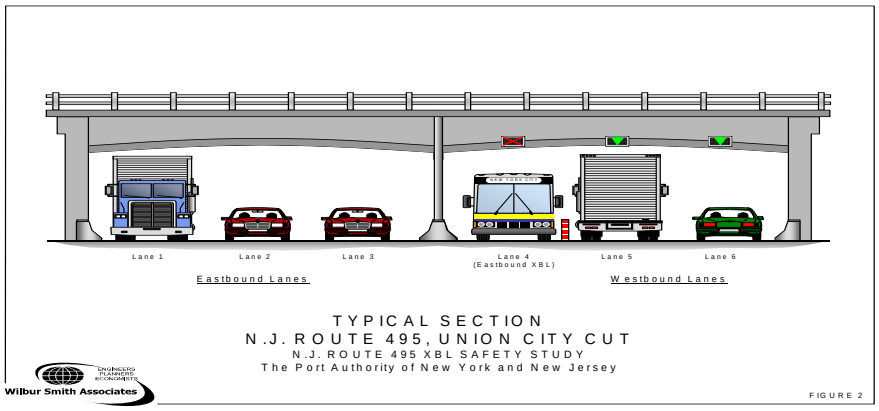
Short Term

- Gate reassignment and optimization
- Construct by-pass lane for buses from 10th Ave to the 4th floor
- Additional NY bus parking and staging areas



Improving On-Time Performance : Operating Enhancements

- Investigate the addition of street level bus gates
- XBL signal rehabilitation
- Install and develop a bus tracking system
- Conduct advanced bus training to expedite movement of disabled buses and restoration of operations



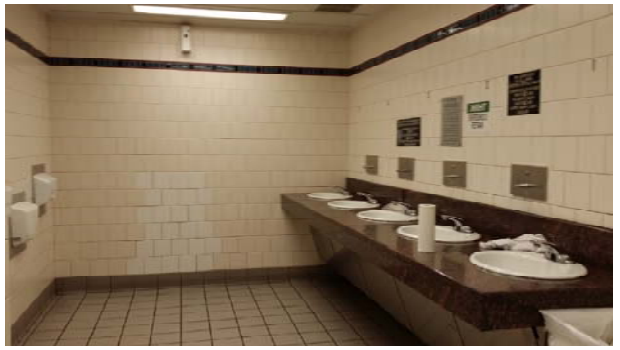
Customer Service Related Building Improvements

Short Term

- Install fans at loading pull-through platforms
- Establish HVAC response teams (repair all heating/air conditioning ductwork and balance equipment)
- Rehabilitate pull-through platform doors
- Install CCTV cameras on top of 4th floor pull through platforms

Customer Service Related Building Improvements

- Repair major ceiling leaks at targeted locations
- Replace South Wing 8th Avenue egress doors
- Renovate 2nd floor restrooms
- Enhance cleaning program
- Enhance South Wing pedestrian flow and sight lines on 1st floor
- Increase Homeless Outreach Services



Other Customer Service Related Improvements

- Host regular customer forums “Commuter Chats” (first chat scheduled: August 12th)
- Perform regular customer surveys
- Improve PABT cellular phone, Wi-Fi and radio service
- Install personal electronic device charging stations
- Upgrade passenger information systems/ kiosks
- Install additional wayfinding signs
- Add Information Agents and Baggage Handlers

Customer Service Related Building Improvements

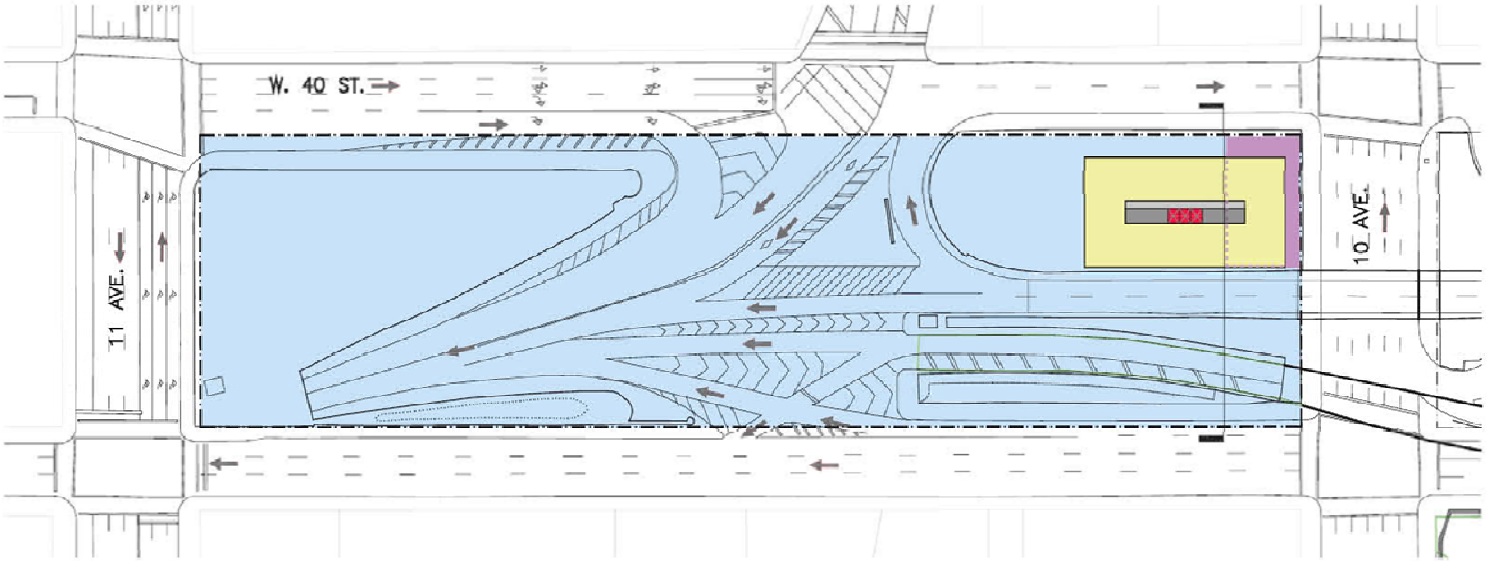
Long Term

- Continue leak mitigation efforts
- Replace additional egress doors
- Rehabilitate remaining restrooms
- Rehabilitate and replace elevators/escalators
- Enhance use of public address systems
- Architectural enhancements to the ceiling system, walls, and floors

Improving On-Time Performance: Proposed Capital Improvements

Short Term

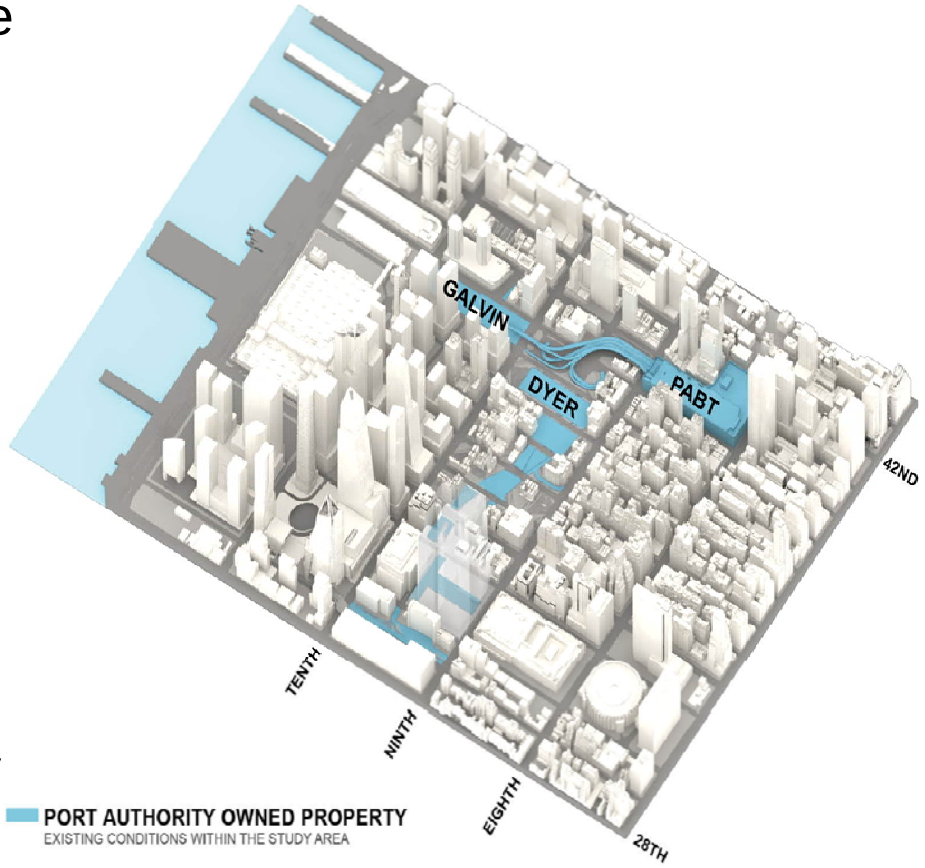
- Advance design for Galvin Plaza bus storage and staging facility
- Investigate with transportation partners using paved shoulders to prioritize bus movements during peak periods
- Explore ITS strategies to implement Active Traffic Management (ATM) along NJ Rt. 495 to optimize traffic flow



Improving On-Time Performance: Proposed Capital Improvements

Long Term

- Construct a bus staging and storage facility above Galvin Plaza – FTA Grant application pending
- LT Helix Replacement to improve safety and facilitate expedited emergency response
- Investigate with transportation partners the viability of adding an additional lane west of the Rt. 495 and Rt. 3 interchange
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) investments to promote safety and efficiency



Next Steps

- Continue working cooperatively with all carriers and stakeholders
- Follow-up on FTA funding application for Galvin Plaza
- Return to Board in September with a comprehensive “Quality of Commute” improvement program estimated at $90 million to be prioritized and identified through offsets in the Capital Plan.
  - Retention of professional/technical and project management services to provide timely resources on as-needed basis
  - Retention of a construction manager/general contractor to expedite the implementation of program elements
- Continue stakeholder outreach for the Midtown Bus Master Plan
- Complete Midtown Bus Master Plan in 2015