PATH Riders' Council Meeting Minutes – January 20, 2016 – 6:00 PM
Journal Square Transportation Center

Meeting Agenda

I.   PATH Welcome/Call to Order
II.   Update: World Trade Center Progress (Platform Construction/Oculus)
III.   Update: Wide Fare Gates
IV.   Communication Discussion: PATHAlerts
V.   Update: iBeacon Rollout/Functionality
VI.   PATH System Map Modification
VII.   PRC/PATH Private Communication Venue
VIII.   PRC Working Groups Discussion: Future Planning
IX.   Next Steps/Adjournment

ATTENDEES (PRC MEMBERS):

1. Lewis Battista
2. Philip Burford
3. Dave Ho
4. Ralph Jimenez
5. Anthony Lupena
6. Stewart Mader
7. Thomas Miller
8. Noreen Redden
9. Asif Sandhu
10. Rudolph Scott
11. Sridhar Shankar

ATTENDEES (STAFF):

1. Cheryl Ann Albiez – Senior Public Information Officer, Media Relations, PANYNJ
2. Keith Armonaitis – Senior IT Business Systems Analyst, PANYNJ
3. Radomir Bulayev – Superintendent, Power, Signals & Communications Division, PATH
4. John Burkhard – Superintendent, Way & Structures Division, PATH
5. Linda Doss – Special Services Asst., Operations Support Division, PATH
6. Glen Guzi – Ext. Affairs Log. Manager, World Trade Center Operations, PANYNJ
7. Adrienne Holmes – Superintendent, Transportation Division, PATH
8. Michael Lavery – Sr. External Relations Client Manager, PANYNJ
9. Kevin Lejda – Asst. Superintendent, Transportation Division, PATH
10. Jessica Mills – Coord. of Marketing and Customer Service Programs, Operations Support Division, PATH
11. Lorraine Orosz-Pollin – Station Supervisor, Transportation Division, PATH
12. Juan Carlos Rojas – Sr. External Relations Rep., Government & Community Relations, PANYNJ

I.   PATH Welcome/Call to Order

- Meeting convened at 6:05 PM.
- Adrienne Holmes, Superintendent of Transportation, gave opening remarks and welcomed the group on behalf of Michael P. Marino, Director/General Manager, PATH
- The meeting was called to order by Stewart Mader, PRC Chair. It was seconded by Thomas Miller.

II.   Update: World Trade Center Progress (Platform/Construction Oculus)

Glen Guzi gave an update on the Transportation Hub

- The Oculus is10% of total transportation hub project
- The following is status of the hub as of December 2015:

    o Flooring has been installed, storefront glass has been installed and the heating system is complete.
    o Platforms A & B are operational
    o Platforms C & D are currently still under construction
    o Platform D – An additional platform from what existed pre-9/11

- Questions

- Thomas Miller asked why the alignment was at an angle to the street grid.

    o Glen Guzi responded that the alignment is based on "Wedge of Light" design from Daniel Libeskind

- Sridhar Shankar asked when the Dey/Fulton Streets passage was to open.

    o Glen Guzi informed him that the Oculus is scheduled to open the first week of March 2016 and that the passages would open at a later date.

- Noreen Redden inquired as to whether or not there would be ADA accessibility at opening.

    o Glen Guzi explained that the Vesey Street entrance will stay open for elevators until new ones open in the weeks after.

- Stewart Mader asked if the Cortland Street "1" train and the Cortland Street "R" train will continue to be called Cortland Street or if the name will change to the World Trade Center.

o   Glen Guzi stated that the stations will most likely retain their existing names.

III. Update: Wide Fare Gates

- Once the Oculus opens and the north temporary access (Vesey Street) closes, John Burkhard's PATH Way & Structures team will be looking at assessing the feasibility of moving handicap gate to the 23rd Street station, since it fits the existing footprint at 23rd Street.

    a. Other options are that the gate can then be remotely operated by using the house phone to call the rail control center after entering at the standard fare gate, and the "push-bar" gate that can be operated from inside the fare control area.

    b. Additionally, PATH may also be looking to incorporate more widely when PATH moves to new fare collection technology and replaces current fare gates, which are currently at half-life of approximately ten years.

IV. Communication Discussion: PATH Alerts

- Lorraine Orosz is now managing the PATHAlert system.

- Adrienne Holmes noted that Lorraine will be working to create more custom messages within the PATH Alerts system that should enable quicker selection of prewritten custom messages during particular alert situations, and less reliance on manual selection from standard message components.

- Stewart Mader offered the PRC as a sounding board as Lorraine works on new messaging.

- Kevin Lejda asked the PRC if it would be helpful to have alerts note the station location of the problem, where possible, e.g.:

    o   "We have a car equipment problem at Grove Street" or "Trains are bypassing Grove Street"
    o   PRC members were supportive of this idea

V. Update: iBeacon Rollout/Functionality

o   iBeacon technology has been rolled out to PRC members and PATH staff for testing
o   There were some delays encountered with the vendor

- Keith Armonaitis and the Port Authority Technology Services team are now working on offering unified wayfinding apps for all Port Authority services, including the Bus Terminal, the PATH system, and the airports, which will also include:

  o Location and context awareness to deliver information based on facility
  o Indoor positioning to allow wayfinding in facilities, e.g., useful for Bus Terminal or Airport gate changes, as well as restroom or elevator locations, etc.
  o Based on location and preferences, the app will provide a customized response for delay notifications, alternate trains/routes, e.g., "There is a PATH service suspension at Exchange Place and Hudson-Bergen Light Rail is cross-honoring. Here's how to get to the HBLR station."
  o Will work with Apple and Google to provide transit routing
  o Improve customer service by providing guidance when it is most needed

- PATH Use Case
    i. With Preferences: Hoboken Train arriving at 5:01PM on Track 2. Travel time to Hoboken is 6 minutes. NJT Boonton train departs at 5:08PM.
    ii. Without Preferences: Hoboken Train arriving at 5:01PM. Newark Train arriving at 4:59PM. WTC service suspension.

- Airport Use Case
    iii. Option to remember where you parked or entered the airport, and provide that info when you return. Also offer option to prepay for parking to save you time when leaving the lot.

- Bus Terminal Use Case
    iv. Gate changes

    v. Demo: app displays carbon footprint statistics to help people see the environmental benefits of using public transit

VI. PATH System Map Modification

- Jessica Mills showed an updated version of the PATH service map with regional subway and rail connections added for each station
- The PRC members were strongly supportive of this idea.
- A motion was made to take a vote supporting and commending PATH for adding rail connections to the map by Stewart Mader and was seconded by Thomas Miller and Sridhar Shankar. The PRC supports and commends this change by unanimous vote.

VII. **PRC/PATH Private CommunicationVenue: On-Line Discussion Group**

- Online group accessibly only by PRC members and PATH staff
- Stewart will send details to members to test

VIII. **PRC Working Groups Discussion: Future Planning**

Meeting topics for March 2016 meeting:

a. Early AM train schedule update - Kevin
b. Scheduling – Ralph Jimenez
c. PATHVision - Stewart Mader - March/May
d. WiFi – Sridhar Shankar

IX. **Next Steps/Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn by Stewart Mader. Seconded by Thomas Miller - Meeting Adjourned at 7:54 PM.