

PATH Riders' Council Meeting Minutes – January 18, 2017 – 6:00 PM to 8:00 P.M
Journal Square Transportation Center

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Welcome**
- III. Newark to World Trade Center Weekend Service**
- IV. Bike Parking at PATH**
- V. Wi-Fi in PATH Stations**
- VI. Signage/System Maps on Platforms**
- VII. PATH Fast Facts Short Video Series**
- VIII. New PRC Members – Briefing Book**
- IX. “Stay Right” Campaign**
- X. Next Steps/Adjournment**

ATTENDEES (PRC MEMBERS):

1. Dave Ho
2. Ralph Jimenez
3. Terry Karney
4. Anthony Lupena
5. Thomas Miller
6. Noreen Redden
7. Rudolph Scott

ATTENDEES (PA/PATH STAFF):

1. Rebecca Cassidy, Interim Manager, Marketing & Customer Relations – PATH
2. Joy Chiu, Senior Program Manager, Logistics & Rail Division - PATH
3. Linda Doss, Customer Service Rep., Marketing & Customer Relations – PATH
4. Scott Ladd, Assistant Director, Media Relations – PANYNJ
5. Kevin Lejda, Asst. Superintendent, Transportation Division – PATH
6. Jessica Mills, Manager, Marketing & Customer Relations Division - PATH
7. Juan Carlos Rojas, Senior External Relations Rep., Gov. & Comm. Relations – PANYNJ
8. Thomas Rowbottom, Assistant Director/General Superintendent - PATH

I. Call to Order

- Meeting convened at 6:10 PM

II. Welcome

- **Thomas Rowbottom** welcomed the group and provided opening remarks on the Positive Train Control (PTC) new signalization work that was completed during the planned 17 weekend outages in 2016.

In terms of the work that was completed, Tom described the following:

- PATH staff completed 100,000 man hours of labor
- The focus was on installation of infrastructure for PTC program
- Two hundred miles of cable (38,000 feet) was installed
- The 52-hour shutdowns afforded the ability to get a lot of work completed
- There were 17,000 tie plates installed with approximately another 10,000 additional plates to be installed
- Tie plates are designed to keep the rails "clean", reducing the signal noise on the rails and to keep the new signals functional
- PATH forces were able to complete much of the work for a fraction of what the outside contractors were looking to charge for the same work
- For the first time in the history of PATH, the uptown tunnels were completely shut down; there was no other way to complete the work and meet the end of 2018 deadline mandate from the Federal government
- The closures allowed for work to be completed in other areas outside of PTC, such as station painting, replacing of tactile strips and lighting repairs
- PATH staff was able to complete the equivalent of 3-5 years' worth of work in 17 weekends by completely shutting down service, which cost money but also saved a significant amount of money
- PATH also ran a shuttle bus service for the first time in its history, which was very successful, and required 14,000 hours of managerial volunteer time to manage and oversee

- **Ralph Jimenez**, PRC member, asked if PATH plans to inform the public as to what work was completed and what work still needs to be completed.
- **Rebecca Cassidy** responded that PATH is in the process of finalizing its presentation to the Port Authority's Executive Office, and that once that is completed, PATH will share more information on the work that was completed publicly.
- **Stewart Mader**, PRC Chairman, suggested that PATH consider taking Media back in to the tunnels to show them firsthand the work that has been completed and the work that has yet to be completed.
- **Rebecca Cassidy** responded that PATH and Media are working with Security to see how best that can be done.

III. Newark to World Trade Center Weekend Service

- **Kevin Lejda** presented on the types of service adjustments to be expected throughout 2017 and part of 2018 and used the upcoming weekend as an example. He went on to explain the schematic aspects of the rail system, and how scheduling is limited by the ways in which the track has to be blocked off for work and testing.

IV. Bike Parking at PATH

- **Joy Chiu** listened to recommendations made by the group regarding ideas on how to better visually convey the current PATH Bicycle policy with platform and in-car signage, as well as decal stickers, indicating a designated area for PATH riders with bicycles to wait to board trains and situate their bicycles once on the train. It was also suggested that a campaign could be designed to help educate both bicycle riders and non-bicycle riders on proper bicycle etiquette while riding PATH.

It was suggested that general lack of awareness of the PATH bicycle policy is a contributing factor to current circumstances of riders not comporting themselves properly when traveling with their bicycles.

V. Wi-Fi in PATH Stations

- **Rebeca Cassidy** provided the group with updates on the following:
 - In regards to in-station WIFI, she informed the group that PATH is working with Boingo on plans similar to the service available at airports with a 30-minute digital service via improved cell service on platforms.

VI. Signage/System Maps on Platforms

- **Rebecca** explained that PATH is moving forward with the installation of system maps through a pilot program in the Grove Street, Newport and Exchange Place stations and that PATH is still working to obtain the right materials. In addition, PATH is waiting for all of the platform levels to be completed to review areas where system maps can be installed at the track levels.

VII. PATH Fast Facts Short Video Series

- **Rebecca** mentioned that PATH is working with Marketing on developing 30-second captioned video segments on such topics as “What is a Signal Problem?” and “What Does a Car Equipment Problem Mean?” These short video segments will be screened on PATHVision.

VIII. New PRC Members – Briefing Book

- **Stewart Mader**, PRC Chairman, and the other Council members went on to discuss the elements and components of the PRC Briefing Book for current and future new members. The group discussed the following points:
 - The Briefing Book, once complete, will be comprised of a brief overview of the PATH organization with a brief history of presentations made by PATH management staff to the PRC, issues that were discussed and addressed, as well as the responses delivered by PATH.
 - The purpose of the Briefing Book is to “brief” or give an overview to incoming PRC members of the general history of the PRC and the topics/issues covered between the PRC and PATH.
 - The PRC presentations need to be reduced to fundamental issues. If possible, a graph on what was addressed/resolved would be helpful.

IX. “Stay Right” Campaign

- This item was tabled until the next meeting in March 2017 due to absence of presenter.

X. Next Steps/Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM