

PATH Riders' Council Meeting Minutes – May 24, 2017 – 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Journal Square Transportation Center

Meeting Agenda

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Update: Weekend Service Adjustments/NY Penn Station Summer Outages**
- III. Update: Uptown Lines 2016 16-Weekend Shutdown Recap**
- IV. Discussion: PATH Forward Campaign**
- V. Update: PATH's Bicycle Policy**
- VI. Update: PATH's Capital Work**
- VII. Update: PATH**
- VIII. Update: Grove Street – ADA Access Project**
- IX. Next Steps/Adjournment**

ATTENDEES (PRC MEMBERS):

1. Lewis Battista
2. Terry Karney
3. Anthony Lupena
4. Noreen Redden
5. Rudolph Scott

ATTENDEES (PA/PATH STAFF):

1. Radomir Bulayev, Assistant Director of Capital Project Management, Capital Programs – PATH
2. Rebecca Cassidy, Principal Marketing Analyst, Marketing & Customer Relations Programs – PATH
3. Linda Doss, Customer Service Rep., Marketing & Customer Relations Programs – PATH
4. Scott Ladd, Assistant Director, Media Relations – PANY/NJ
5. Kevin Lejda, Assistant Superintendent, Transportation Division – PATH
6. Jessica Mills, Manager, Marketing & Customer Relations Programs - PATH
7. Juan Carlos Rojas, Senior External Relations Rep., Government & Communication Relations – PANY/NJ

I. Call to Order

- Meeting was convened at 6:10 PM

II. Update: Weekend Service Adjustments/NY Penn Station Summer Outages

- **Kevin Lejda** briefed the group regarding the ongoing installation of the new signalization and PTC program. Kevin went on to say that this work will continue during most weekends, mostly on Sundays. He also provided an update on the ongoing conversations between PATH and NJ Transit regarding their planned service outages to allow for necessary maintenance work at NY Penn Station. This will be over a 10-week period during the months of July and August this summer.

Some additional points noted were:

- NJ Transit is considering diverting all mid-town direct trains to the Hoboken Station.
 - This diversion would add an additional 10,000 riders to PATH during the morning rush and 13,000 during the evening rush.
- PATH will respond by reducing headways from 7 minutes to 5 minutes, and adding additional service to Hoboken to help accommodate the increase in ridership.
- PATH will have also have cross-honoring for NJ Transit customers.
- NJ Transit is considering additional bus service and having conversations with NY Waterway to explore supplemental ferry service.

III. Update: Uptown Lines 2016 16-Weekend Shutdown Recap

- **Radomir Bulayev** welcomed the PRC members and thanked them for their continued dedication to making PATH an overall better service. Radomir continued briefing the group on the successes and work achieved during the 16-weekend shutdowns on the uptown lines during 2016. He added that this work continues during most weekends to allow for the continuation of the installation of the federally mandated PTC and new signalization program, which plans to be completed by the end of 2018.

IV. Discussion: PATH Forward Campaign

- **Jessica Mills** indicated the new PTC poster and spoke to the PRC members regarding the information highlighted in the poster. The poster serves as a continuation of marketing for the PATH Forward campaign, which provides updated information on the work completed thus far: 60% completion of the overall PTC project as of April 2017.

V. Update: PATH's Bicycle Policy

- **Rebecca Cassidy** provided an update to PRC members on PATH's internal conversations regarding its bicycle policy.

Some additional points were noted:

- PATH is balancing the appropriateness of allowing more or fewer bicycles on the PATH system.
- PATH's efforts to implement a bicycle tagging system to help identify bicycles that are abandoned or left overnight.
 - This new tagging system would utilize brightly colored tags, containing language which explains PATH's bicycle policy and would provide a number to call for additional information.
- In addition to this, PATH is seeking to install additional signage at both the Journal Square and Harrison PATH stations. This additional signage would help ensure the safe access and outlet of stations by riders to reduce the number of bicycles parked inappropriately.
- The PAPD recently captured and apprehended a suspect that they believe was responsible for many bicycle thefts at Journal Square.
- There will be an addition of 60 bicycle racks that will be made available to PATH riders at Journal Square when the new section of the Kiss N' Ride area is opened to the public.

VI. Update: PATH's Capital Work

- **Radomir Bulayev** went on to provide the PRC members with the following additional updates:
 - The Port Authority Board recently authorized the PATH Extension to Newark project.
 - PATH continues to rehabilitate and replace important infrastructure that was affected by Superstorm Sandy.
 - PATH is moving forward with projects to increase the resiliency of all PATH facilities.
 - PATH is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on multi-year projects, over the next 5 – 10 years. These projects involve critical capital work and are not always visible to the public eye, but this work is being done behind the scenes – in tunnels and other areas of the PATH system.

VII. Update: PATH

- **Rebecca Cassidy** provided the PRC members with the following general PATH updates:
 - Starbucks officially opened on the plaza at Journal Square and is planning an official grand opening ceremony for Tuesday, May 30th. Mayor Fulup and Mike Marino will be in attendance.
 - The entrance closure at the 33rd St. Station went into effect this weekend to allow for the installation of new floors and other state of good repair work. This work will continue during the remainder of the year while the other station entrance will remain open throughout this period.

- PATH staff has been communicating with Jersey City planners and traffic engineers to discuss on-going development plans and potential impacts on PATH ridership and its facilities.
- PATH is planning to host a new community event that is scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 10th, as a Multi-Cultural Festival celebrating the diverse Jersey City communities.

VIII. Update: Grove Street – ADA Access Project

- **Jessica Mills** provided the PRC members with an update on the Grove Street Interim ADA Access Project. The installation of a new elevator and vertical platform lift, otherwise referred to as VPL, will be opened to the public on July 3rd. Jessica explained that PATH is working with all applicable Port Authority departments, including Public Affairs, on messaging and signage for the public, in addition to instructions on how to operate the VPL in both English and Spanish.
- **Noreen Redden**, PRC member, suggested that PATH reach out and consult with a Jersey City-based ADA advocacy group that her niece had worked with. Noreen said she would find out the name and contact information of the group from her niece, and relay this information back to PATH, so they could reach out.
 - Noreen Redden officially informed PATH, and her fellow PRC members, that this meeting would be her final meeting and was resigning as a PRC member. She thanked PATH and all the members for the opportunity to serve. PATH and PA staff thanked Noreen for all her work, dedication, and valuable contributions to the PRC during her tenure as an active member.

IX. Next Steps/Adjournment

- Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM