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* **LIRR President at PFAC January 15** by Alan Borenstein

Helena Williams, President of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) will be our guest speaker at the next NYMTC Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) meeting on January 15 (see the Calendar of Events, below). Ms. Williams will be discussing the future of the Long Island Rail Road and will then answer questions. She follows a fantastic list of guest speakers who have recently spoken at NYMTC's bimonthly PFAC meetings, including Chris Ward of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and Janette Sadik-Khan of the New York City Department of Transportation. Please reserve your space.

Contact: Andrea Miles-Cole at 718.482.4551 or AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.



Helena Williams

* **UPWP at PFAC** by Alan Borenstein

NYMTC's Program, Finance and Administration Committee (PFAC) will vote to recommend the annual Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) at the January 15 meeting. The Council will then act on the program at its annual meeting in March. The draft program is available on the NYMTC website (www.NYMTC.org/aboutupwp.cfm) and comments can be provided at the meeting.

The UPWP contains \$25 million in new transportation planning funds for activities by NYMTC's staff and member agencies. These funds are used to develop NYMTC products: Regional Transportation Plan, Transportation Improvement Program, and Congestion Management Process as well as transportation planning studies and research, forecasting and needs assessment activities. The funds are also used to maintain and improve NYMTC's Best Practices Model and carry out air quality conformity analysis, as well as planning activities by NYMTC's member agencies. The planning program is drawn from the Regional Transportation Plan, the planning priorities of the member agencies and public requests, both individually and through NYMTC's Planning Prospectus.

Contact: Stephen Hausch at 212.383.7282 or SHausch@dot.state.ny.us.





*** Ferry Emissions Reductions at January Brown Bag** by Gerry Bogacz

One ferry operator's efforts to address vessel emissions will be the topic of the next NYMTC Brown Bag presentation on Thursday, January 20 at 12 noon (see the Calendar of Events for details). Cross Sound Ferry Services,

Inc. provides year-round passenger and vehicular service between New London, Connecticut and Orient Point, New York. Their fleet consists of eight vessels, seven of which accommodate passengers and vehicles (including commercial trucks). The eighth is a dedicated high-speed passenger-only ferry. Cross Sound recognized that repowering their vessels with state-of-the-art engines will result in significant emission reductions as well as improved fuel economy. They have an internal goal to repower their four largest vessels over the next few years. Cross Sound believes that their proposed repower effort represents one of the most cost effective emissions reduction strategies for ferry vessels available. Mr. Dana Lowell, who is working with Cross Sound on the vessel repowering, will present details about the project at the January 20 Brown Bag presentation. The Brown Bag presentation will be webcast live and then archived for future viewing.

Contact: Gerry Bogacz at 212.383.7260 or GBgacz@dot.state.ny.us.

*** JARC/New Freedom Grants** by Nancy O'Connell

The New York State Department of Transportation and NYMTC are currently soliciting project proposals for funding under the Federal Transit Administration Job Access Reverse Commute (JARC) and New Freedom Programs in the New York metropolitan area. Approximately \$11 million in funds will be available for the 2009 grant solicitation. The deadline for submitting applications is **March 27, 2009**.

These programs are intended to fund innovative and flexible programs and projects which identify and address the transportation needs of individuals with limited incomes and persons with disabilities. Eligible applicants include private not-for-profit organizations, state and local government authorities and operators of public transportation services. Applications and information on these grant programs are available through the NYMTC website at www.NYMTC.org/project/access/jarcindex.html.



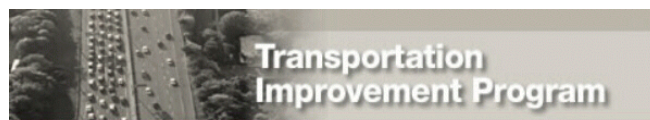
NYMTC will be hosting a series of workshops in January and February 2009 to provide guidance to agencies and organizations interested in applying for these funds. Please see the Calendar of Events below. For those who are unable to attend the workshops, the February 3 workshop will be webcast live and recorded for future viewing on the NYMTC website.

Contact: Nancy O'Connell at 212.383.2529 or NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us.

*** Where Did Your Federal Transportation Funds Go?** by Chris Hardej

Do you know how federal transportation funds are being spent in your area? Every two years, the NYMTC Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) is updated with projects programmed over a five year period. All federally funded projects are required to be on the TIP in order to be eligible for funding. Many locally-funded projects are shown as well for informational purposes. To give a better understanding of how the federal funds are being spent, a listing is published each year that shows which projects have had federal funding obligated. This federal approval is the final step before a project can receive federal reimbursement. The "Annual List of Obligated Projects" can be found on the bottom of the "TIP Downloadable Files" page of our website: www.NYMTC.org/abouttip-down.cfm.

Contact: Chris Hardej at 212.383.7253 or CHardej@dot.state.ny.us.



*** ARC at MCNY** by Alan Borenstein

The Museum of the City of New York (MCNY) will be hosting a panel discussion on the Access to the Region's Core (ARC) project on January 22 at 6:30pm. As the New York region's population grows, what role does infrastructure play in keeping commuters out of cars? One of the most important but unseen elements in building for the future is the plan for a new commuter train tunnel that will tie the current Penn Station/New Jersey transportation network to a new station under West



34th Street. The proposed tunnel will double commuter rail capacity, meeting projected demand for the next 20 years. Join Art Silber, Chief of the Access to the Region's Core Project, NJ Transit; Susan Bass Levin, Deputy Executive Director, PANYNJ; Daniel Biederman, President, 34th Street Partnership; and Jeff Zupan, Senior Fellow for Transportation, Regional Plan Association, for a discussion of the project moderated by Kate Slevin, Executive

Director of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign. Reservations are required and admission is \$5 for Museum members, seniors, and students and \$9 for general admission.

Contact: 212.534.1672, ext 3395 or www.mcny.org/public-programs/.

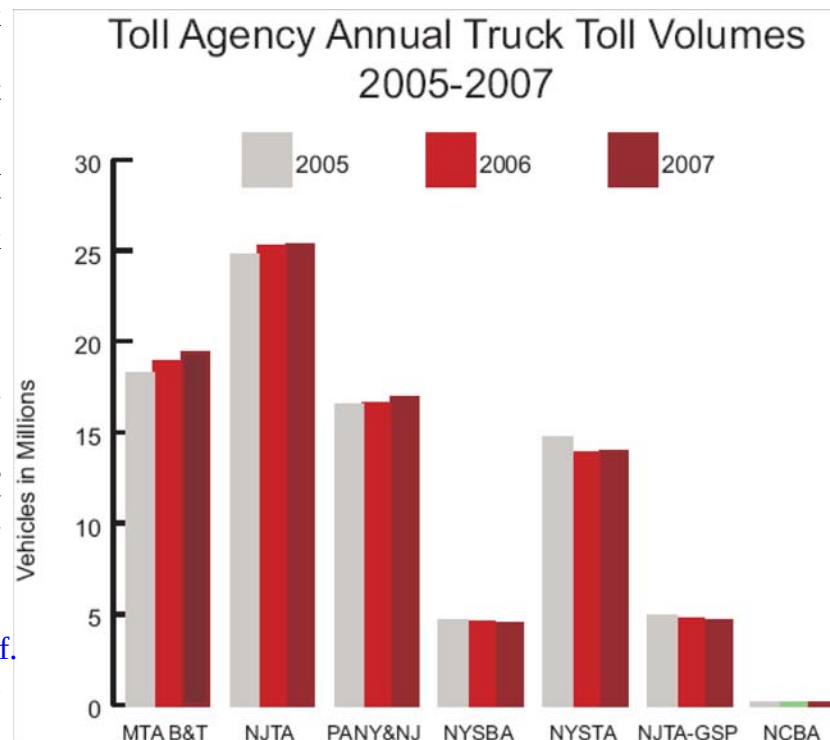
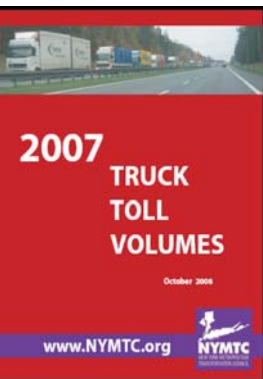
*** DATA CORNER: Truck Volumes Increased in 2007** by Adam Schildge

According to the *2007 Truck Toll*

Volumes Report, the New York metropolitan region's truck volume reached 84.4 million trips in 2007, about 1 percent more than in 2006. This increase was seen primarily at MTA Bridges & Tunnels and Port Authority of NY & NJ facilities. In terms of truck traffic, the New Jersey Turnpike had the highest truck counts at its toll barriers, followed by MTA Bridges & Tunnels facilities and Port Authority toll

facilities. The report includes detailed counts for each facility, and is organized by operating agency. This graphic illustrates the yearly changes in truck volumes from 2005 to 2007 for each operating agency.

The full report can be found at: www.NYMTC.org/files/TTV_Report2007.pdf. Contact: Leokadia Glogowski at 212.383.7223 or LGlogowski@dot.state.ny.us.



*** CALENDAR OF EVENTS ***

1/15/09, 1:15pm, NYMTC Program, Finance and Administration Committee Meeting- Presentation by MTA LIRR President Helena Williams (webcast).
199 Water Street, NYC. Andrea Miles-Cole, 718.482.4551, AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.

1/20/09, 12pm, NYMTC Brown Bag Presentation- Cross Sound Ferry Emissions Reduction Project (webcast). 199 Water St., NYC. Gerry Bogacz, 212.383.7260, GBogacz@dot.state.ny.us.

1/22/9, 6:30pm, Access to the Region's Core Panel Discussion. Museum of the City of New York, 1220 Fifth Avenue at 103rd Street. \$5 for Museum members, seniors, and students and \$9 for general admission. 212.534.1672, ext. 3395, www.mcny.org/public-programs/.

3/19/09, 11am, NYMTC Annual Council Meeting.
Andrea Miles-Cole, 718.482.4551, AMiles-Cole@dot.state.ny.us.

JARC/New Freedom Workshops- 3-5pm & 6-8pm,
Nancy O'Connell, 212.383.2529, NLOconnell@dot.state.ny.us

1/14/09, Long Island- H. Lee Dennison Bldg., 100 Veterans Hwy., Media Room, Hauppauge.

1/29/09, Hudson Valley- Westchester County Center, 198 Central Ave., White Plains.

2/3/09, New York City (webcast)- NYMTC, 199 Water Street, 22nd Floor, NYC.



NYMTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New York City and the counties of Nassau, Putnam, Rockland, Suffolk, and Westchester. NYMTC-Notes, issued every other Wednesday, contains articles and a calendar of events. Email: NYMTC-Notes@dot.state.ny.us for questions and comments or with **REMOVE** or **ADD** as the subject to unsubscribe or subscribe.

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