



# *Operational Issues*

*Committee on Operations*

*October 22, 2014*

# *Agenda*

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- PATH Background
- PATH Safety Practices
- Communication Protocols
- Recent PATH Incidents (no injuries)
  - PATH Tunnel B Fire
  - Derailment of Work Equipment in Hoboken
  - Derailment of Relay Train at Journal Square Yard
  - Police Activity at Exchange Place Station
- Summary/Way Forward

## ***PATH Background***

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- PATH is regulated by the FRA
- PATH runs a safe 24/7 operation
- On average, PATH runs 1,000 trains per day, providing service to 260,000 customers per day
- PATH has 13 stations and 4 service lines
- PATH has 4 tunnels:
  - A/B provides service to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street
  - E/F provides service to World Trade Center
- PATH has five yards to prep trains for maintenance and/or stage for service
- PATH uses a number of work trains to move materials and support maintenance and construction

## *Safety Practices and Record*

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- Safety and Security is PATH's #1 Priority
- PATH Police Command – Police Patrols
- Safety stand-downs are conducted
- Retained a firm to evaluate PATH's protocols and policies that may be impacted by the Federal Railroad Safety Act (FRSA)
- Dedicated Safety Compliance Officer

# ***PATH Communication Protocol for Delays/Incidents***

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- Notification to PATH Police
- Station and Train Announcements
- PATH Alerts (electronic notification)
- Notification to Media Relations, Government and Community Relations, Marketing  
(Advisories via media, social media and local community stakeholders, as appropriate)
- Notification to Regional Partners/Cross Honoring
- Notification to Executive Management

## ***Tunnel B Fire***

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On September 21, 2014 - electrical fire in Tunnel B at 19<sup>th</sup> Street, in Manhattan

No injuries reported; fire was quickly extinguished

### Communication Action Plan

- Followed Communication Protocol
- Suspended Service to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street
- Offloaded trains Uptown
- Continuous Announcements in Stations and on Trains
- Travel Advisories were released throughout the incident
- PATH Alert updates
- Announcements of restored PATH service

## ***Derailment of Work Equipment at Hoboken***

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On September 27, 2014 – Derailment Work Train at Hoboken

No injuries

### Communication Action Plan

- Followed Communication Protocol
- Minor delays
- Travel Advisories were released
- Opened Service from Hoboken to WTC – to avoid potential overcrowding

## ***Derailment of Relay Train at Journal Square Yard***

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On October 1, 2014 – Derail of Relay Train at Journal Square Yard

No injuries; no passengers on board the train, which was out of service

### Communication Action Plan

- Followed Communication Protocol
- Service delays between Newark to WTC Line and JSTC to 33<sup>rd</sup> Street Line
- Continuous Announcements in Stations and on Trains
- PATH Alert updates
- Announcements of restored PATH service

# *Police Activity at Exchange Place Station*

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On October 2, 2014 – Police Activity at Exchange Place Station

## Communication Action Plan

- Followed Communication Protocol (except for an incorrect PATH Alert)
- Incident lasted approximately 40 minutes with residual delays
- Continuous Announcements in Stations and on Trains
- PATH Alert updates

## *Summary/Way Forward*

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- The next 3-5 years will continue to be high intensity service and infrastructure renewal years, for Sandy work, our signal upgrade project, and other major PATH capital projects
- PATH will continue to focus on safe operations and continue to advise staff of the need for best in class safety practices
- Enhanced Internal and External Communications

## ***PATH Community Outreach***

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- PATH Riders Council
- PATH Education Series
- Ridership Surveys