

**COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL, INTERIM MEETING
Thursday, June 21, 2007**

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Authorization to Enter into Agreement(s) to Effectuate a Project to Mitigate
Congestion on New Jersey Roadways in the Lincoln Tunnel Corridor

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**COMMITTEE ON OPERATIONS
MINUTES OF SPECIAL, INTERIM MEETING
225 Park Avenue South
New York, NY
Thursday, June 21, 2007**

PRESENT:

Hon. Henry R. Silverman
Hon. Christine A. Ferer
Hon. David S. Steiner
Committee Members

Darrell B. Buchbinder, General Counsel
Karen E. Eastman, Secretary
Ernesto L. Butcher, Deputy Executive Director, Operations

Arthur Cifelli, Deputy Chief of Staff
Steven J. Coleman, Public Information Officer, Public and Government Affairs
Michael G. Fabiano, Deputy Chief Financial Officer/Comptroller
Linda C. Handel, Assistant Secretary
Lawrence S. Hofrichter, Deputy General Counsel
Victoria C. Kelly, Director, Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals
Louis J. LaCapra, Chief Administrative Officer
Juanita Scarlett, Executive Advisor, Public and Government Affairs
Sheree R. Van Duyne, Manager of Policies and Protocol, Office of the Secretary

Guests:

Vincent Chin, Intern
Sonia Frontera, Authorities Unit, Office of the Governor of New Jersey

In view of the fact that there was an insufficient number of affirmative votes cast to constitute a quorum with respect to the matter included on pages 105-106 of the Minutes of The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey dated May 24, 2007, and the likelihood that the Board's ability to take action on this matter would be curtailed for the foreseeable future, the Secretary reported that, pursuant to the notice for the June 21, 2007 Board meeting sent to all Commissioners, and consistent with the Board's resolution of December 15, 1994, a special, interim meeting of the Committee on Operations was called to permit the Committee to act on this item for and on behalf of the Board.

The meeting was called to order in public session by Commissioner Silverman at 12:15 p.m. and ended at 12:20 p.m.

AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO AGREEMENT(S) TO EFFECTUATE A PROJECT TO MITIGATE CONGESTION ON NEW JERSEY ROADWAYS IN THE LINCOLN TUNNEL CORRIDOR

It was recommended that the Board authorize the Executive Director to enter into an agreement or agreements in connection with a project designated by the Governor of New Jersey that would mitigate traffic congestion on the New Jersey Turnpike (Turnpike) and New Jersey Route 3, two roadways providing access to the Lincoln Tunnel, and for the Port Authority to provide up to \$32 million to the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT), the New Jersey Turnpike Authority (NJTA) and/or other appropriate agency in consideration for the designation of certain roadways in New Jersey leading from the Lincoln Tunnel to the location of the project, in perpetuity, as an emergency evacuation corridor for the Port Authority in the event of a disaster or other significant incident. The agreement or agreements would be entered into with the NJTA, NJDOT and/or another appropriate entity or entities.

The Governor of New Jersey has designated a project to construct a series of improvements to Turnpike Interchange 16W, which connects with New Jersey Route 3 near the Lincoln Tunnel. The project would include the reconstruction and reconfiguration of the ramps leading to and from the Turnpike and Route 3 to provide improved traffic flow, thereby mitigating traffic congestion and improving safety, air quality and emergency access to and from the Lincoln Tunnel. The Turnpike and Route 3 are used by many vehicles traveling to and from the Lincoln Tunnel, including many buses also using the Port Authority Bus Terminal. The funds to be provided by the Port Authority in exchange for the designation of the emergency evacuation corridor would be made available to help cover the cost of the improvements to Interchange 16W.

Of the \$32 million to be provided by the Port Authority toward this project, \$9,963,495 would be drawn from the \$30 million authorized by the Board, at its meeting of February 24, 2005, for projects in the New Jersey portion of the Port District. An additional \$2,036,505 would be provided through the Bank for Regional Development, authorized by the Board in June 1983. The remainder of the funds would be drawn against existing regional commitments in the Port Authority's 2007-2016 Capital Plan.

Pursuant to the foregoing report, the Committee on Operations, acting for and on behalf of the Board pursuant to delegated authority, adopted the following resolution, with Commissioners Ferer, Silverman, and Steiner voting in favor; none against:

RESOLVED, that the Executive Director be and he hereby is authorized, for and on behalf of the Port Authority, to enter into an agreement or agreements with the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, the New Jersey Department of Transportation and/or another appropriate entity or entities pursuant to which the Port Authority would provide up to \$32 million in consideration of the designation of certain roadways in New Jersey leading from the Lincoln Tunnel, in perpetuity, as an emergency evacuation corridor for use by the Port Authority in the event of a disaster or other significant incident, with the funds provided by the Port Authority to be made available to help cover the cost of a project to construct a series of improvements to New Jersey Turnpike Interchange 16W at its intersection with New Jersey Route 3; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the form of the foregoing agreement or agreements shall be subject to the approval of General Counsel or his designated representative.

Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned.

Secretary