

# ITS-NY TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING AND TECHNOLOGY EXHIBITION

## “Transportation Operations and Resiliency during Extreme Events”

### Resilience & Preparedness at the MTA

Porie Saikia-Eapen FAIA FCIOB RIBA

Sept 28, 2021



**The Metropolitan Transportation Authority NY**

# THE MTA at a Glance

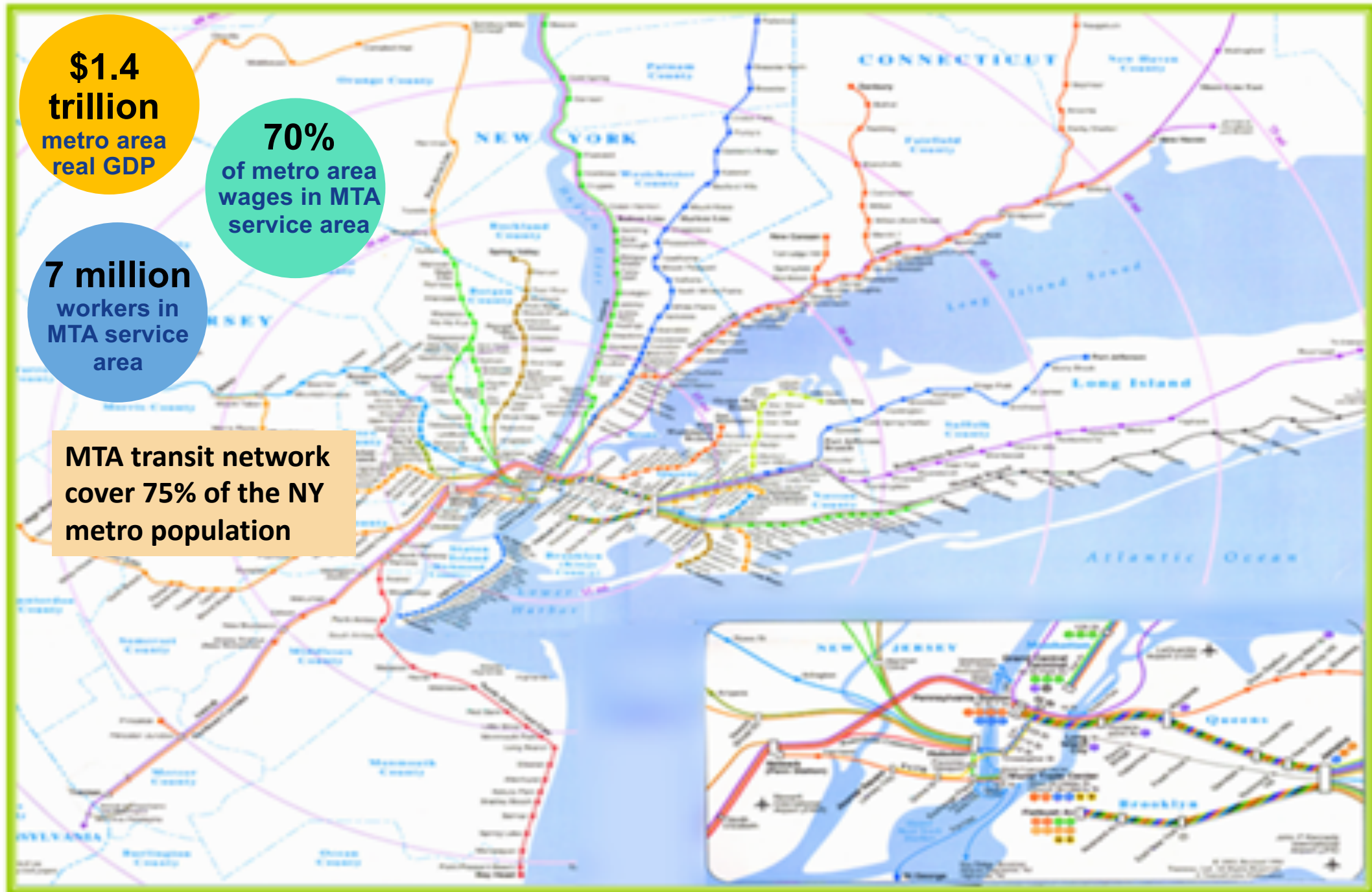


**\$1.4 trillion**  
metro area  
real GDP

**70%**  
of metro area  
wages in MTA  
service area

**7 million**  
workers in  
MTA service  
area

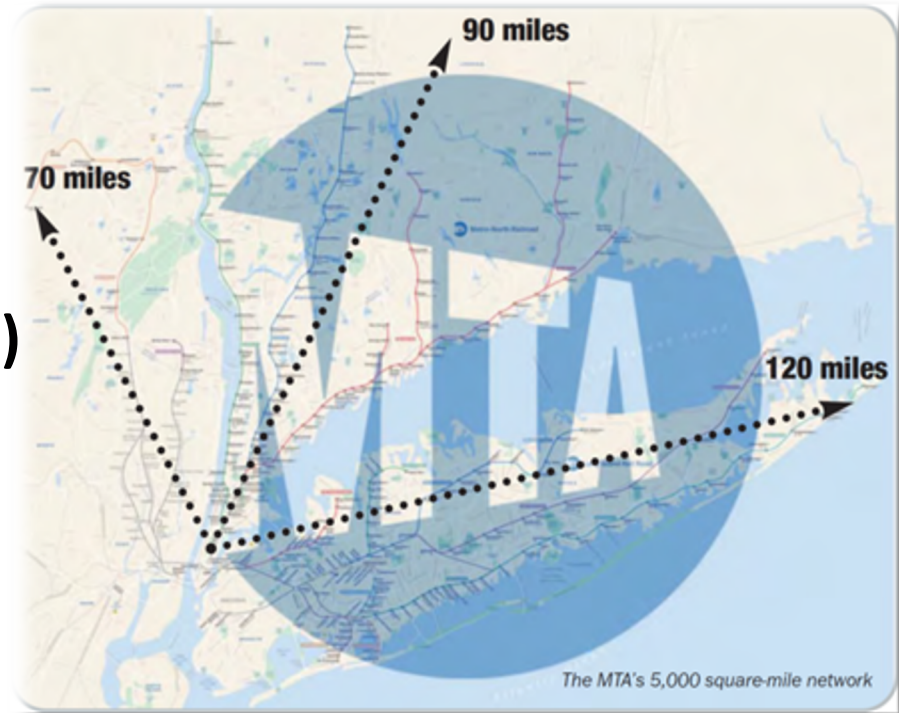
**MTA transit network  
cover 75% of the NY  
metro population**



# THE MTA at a Glance




- 8-9M Riders/weekday
- 5000 Sq. Mile Operating Territory
- **Assets & Infrastructure(Self Maintained)**
  - ✓ 2000 Miles of Track
  - ✓ 9000 Train Cars
  - ✓ 6000 Buses
  - ✓ 700 Stations
  - ✓ 7 Bridges
  - ✓ 2 Tunnels



- **With Five Operating Agencies**



<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<u>Buses</u>	<u>NYCT Subways</u>	<u>Long Island Rail Road</u>	<u>Metro-North Railroad</u>	<u>Bridges &amp; Tunnels</u>
				



# The MTA - Services



**Keep Employees Safe**  
**Keep Customer Safe**  
**Keep the System moving**



**MTA NYC Subway**



**MTA Metro North Railroad**



**MTA Long Island Rail Road**



**MTA NYC Bus Routes**



**MTA Long Island Bus Routes**



# The MTA - A Century old System



1904

Subway and Elevated Stations, Coney Island, N. Y.

1915

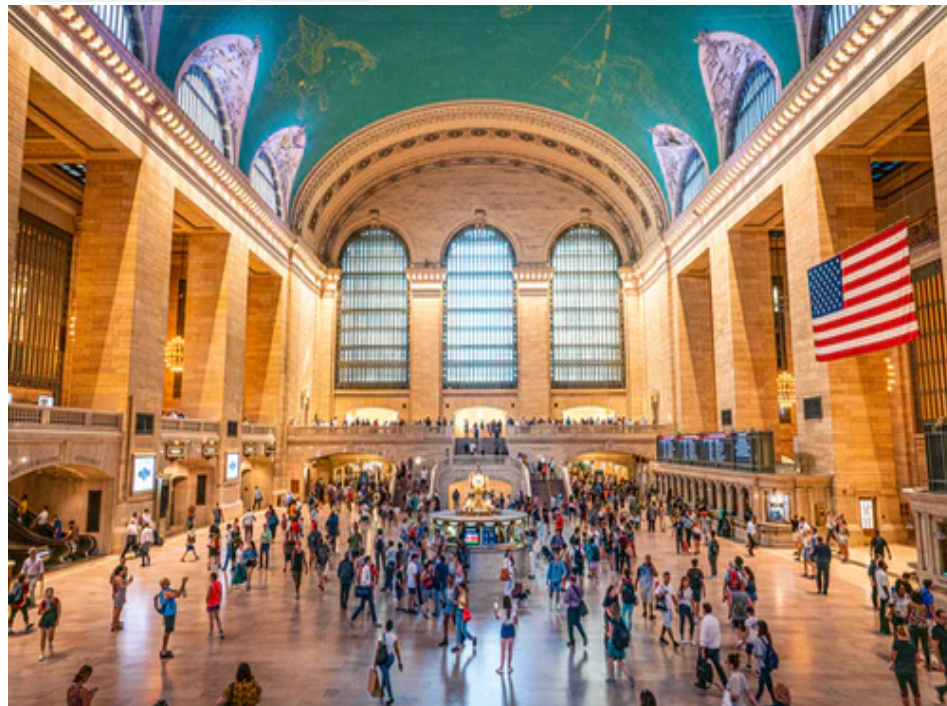




# The MTA - A Century of Progress



**2017  
Second Ave Subway**



**2020  
GCT**

**2003  
Stillwell  
Ave**

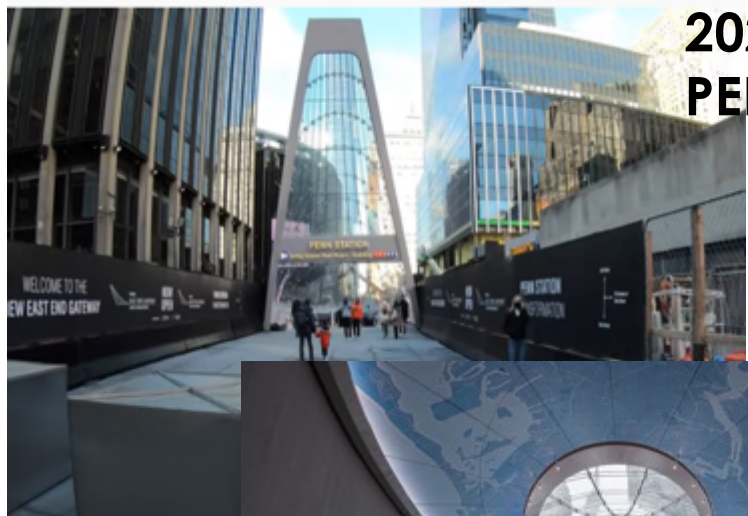




# The MTA - A Century of Progress



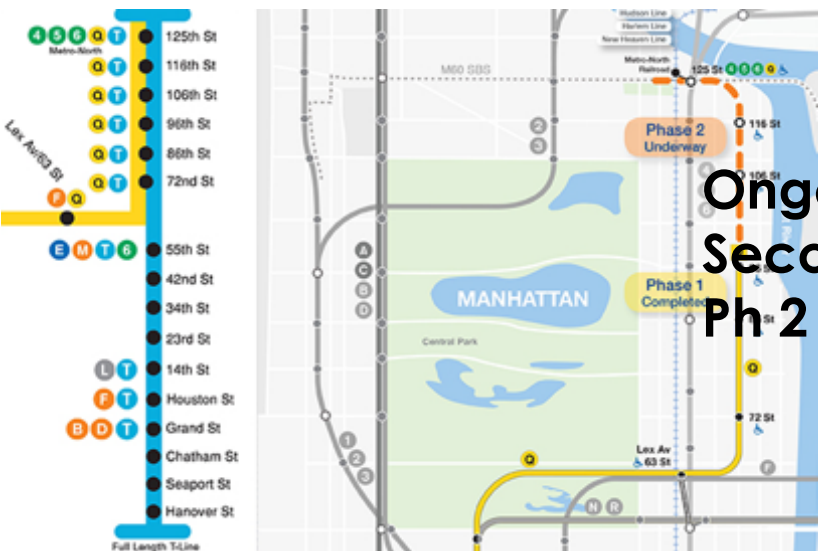
## 2021 PENN Station



## Ongoing MNR

LIRR Expansion project will construct a third track along a critical 9.8-mile section of LIRR's Main Line.

## Ongoing Second Ave Ph 2



## Ongoing LIRR



# Disaster - Recovery & Rebuild



**SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**





# Disaster & Recovery- 9-11 Rebuild +



2016



2009



2014





# Climate Vulnerability- Superstorm Sandy Oct 29, 2012



B&T Queens Midtown Tunnel



HCTunnel flooding

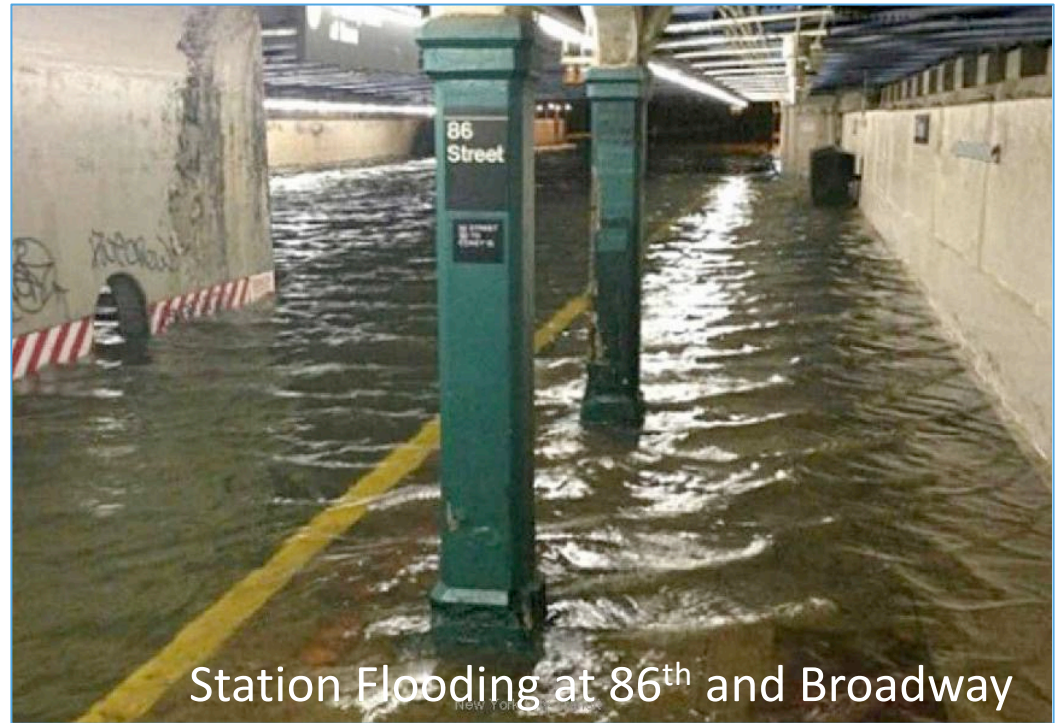


Coastal lines/subways





# Superstorm Sandy Oct 29, 2012





## Immediate Measures – **THEN...(2012)**





## Rapid Mitigation Measures

**-NOW**



Manhole Inserts



swing gate or side flex wall at strategic locations



Water filled Cofferdam





# Climate Vulnerability & Preparedness



## Rapid Mitigation Measures **NOW**



Sidewalk Vent Cover



NoFloods Barrier



Flex Gate @  
subway Ent



Flood panels for doors and windows



# Climate Vulnerability & Preparedness



## Long Term Measures



Flood Logs @ entrance/Bowling Green



Inflatable Marine Door @ Whitehall St



Entrance Mitigation at South Ferry / Lower Manhattan



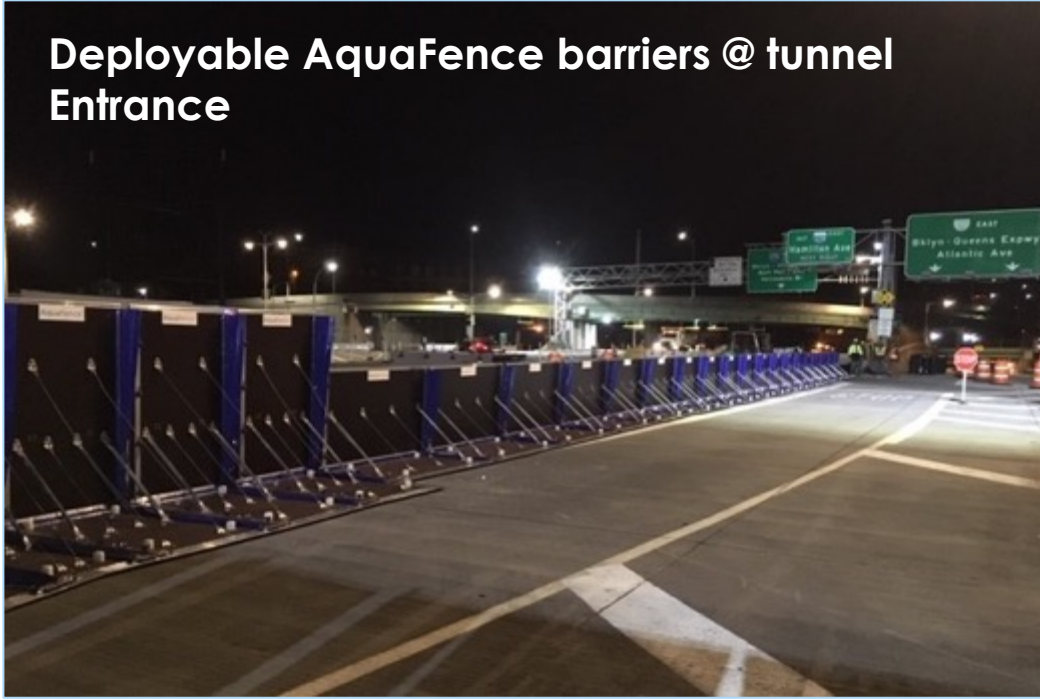
Marine Door @ South Ferry



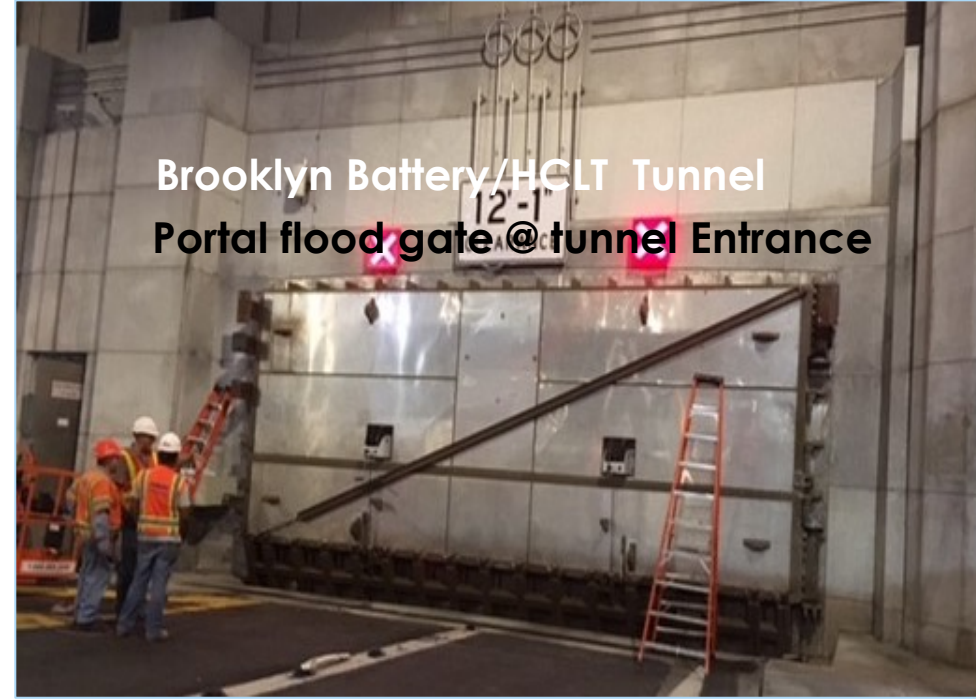
# Climate Vulnerability & Preparedness



Deployable AquaFence barriers @ tunnel Entrance



Brooklyn Battery/HCLT Tunnel Portal flood gate @ tunnel Entrance



Sea Wall along Coastal lines

**Long Term Measures**



## Long Term Measures

### Elevated Substations





## Long Term Measures



Sea Wall at Gov. Is Ventilation Bldg



Restored abutment  
at Cross Bay Bridge

## Bridges & Tunnels



## Post SANDY Lessons Learned

Steps	Opportunities to Integrate Climate Vulnerability and Risk
<b>Establish Vision, Goals &amp; Performance Measures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider resilience to climate change in each element of policy framework for statewide and regional long range plans, transportation improvement programs, risk-based transportation asset management plans, and mode-specific plans.</li> <li>Establish regional and statewide performance measures related to climate change, resilience, and sustainability.</li> </ul>
<b>Assess Tradeoffs Between Modes and Programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Include climate risks as one key element of an agency's broader risk management framework. Include climate-related risks in agency risk register.</li> <li>Test implications of various funding allocation decisions at the level of program areas and modes. How do investments in adaptation strategies vs. safety vs. pavement/bridge maintenance vs. mobility affect a state's or region's ability to meet short-term and long-term performance targets?</li> </ul>
<b>Formulate and Evaluate Policies, Strategies, and Investments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Propose specific adaptation strategies based on assessment of regional, subarea, and asset-level vulnerability and risk.</li> <li>Consider cost and feasibility of options. Some adaptations may be relatively expensive (perhaps requiring additional sources of revenue or outside financial support).</li> </ul>
<b>Apply Practical Design, Prioritize &amp; Implement</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make changes to assumptions about climate stressors, particularly for asset classes that have longer useful life and are in high-risk areas.</li> <li>Conduct "bottom up" prioritization of adaptation investments to complement "top down" program-level tradeoff analysis.</li> <li>Program adaptation strategies at appropriate time frames given understanding of pace of climate change (including timing of risks) and key milestones.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitor Performance Results &amp; Outcomes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitor changing climate conditions and keep abreast of latest climate projections and models to inform design and prioritization decisions.</li> <li>Amass database of weather events that cause damage or disruption to the transportation system. Archive operational data and damage reports, including costs and duration of closure.</li> <li>Conduct "plan vs. actual" analysis to measure effectiveness of adaptation investments in reducing or mitigating damage and disruption.</li> </ul>

Establish Vision/Goal/Measures

Assess Risks/Tradeoffs

Formulate & Evaluate Policy/Strategy/Investment

Apply Design/Implementation

Monitor Performance/Outcome



## MTA Climate Policy & Prioritization

- Internal MTA-wide **Climate Adaptation Task Force & Forums**
- Improved **enterprise asset management** which includes location data and vulnerability and criticality metrics
- Coordinated geospatial analyses and the use of **geographic information system (GIS)** and mapping technologies
- Access to **early detection warning systems** including weather sensors and tide gages
- Incorporation of future climate projections into **engineering design standards** (temperature, precipitation, sea-level rise)

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Design Flood Elevation</b>
<i>NYCT</i>	Category 2 + 3'
<i>MNR</i>	ABFE + 4'
<i>LIRR</i>	ABFE +4'
<i>B&amp;T</i>	500 year flood



## the first capital market cat bond focusing directly on storm surge risk



Capital market risk transfer enabled FMTAC to obtain fully secured property reinsurance protection against storm surge without requiring MTA or FMTAC to become a catastrophe bond issuer. FMTAC entered into a reinsurance agreement with MetroCat Re Ltd.

On June 5, 2013 MTA and FMTAC (First Mutual Transportation Assurance Company) staff received authorization from the Board to proceed with structuring and marketing of a capital markets-based reinsurance transaction providing storm surge coverage

### Goals:

- Access to additional reinsurance capacity for catastrophic perils
- Developing a stable, long term alternative reinsurance
- Creating competition with traditional reinsurance, thereby providing leverage
- Demonstrating reasonable efforts to obtain property coverage comparable to prior years' coverage levels



# The MTA Emergency Management Office



MTA Emergency Management

## All-Agency Winter Weather Operations

Executive Summary

Winter 2017–2018

MTA Emergency Management

## All-Agency Coastal Storm

Executive Summary

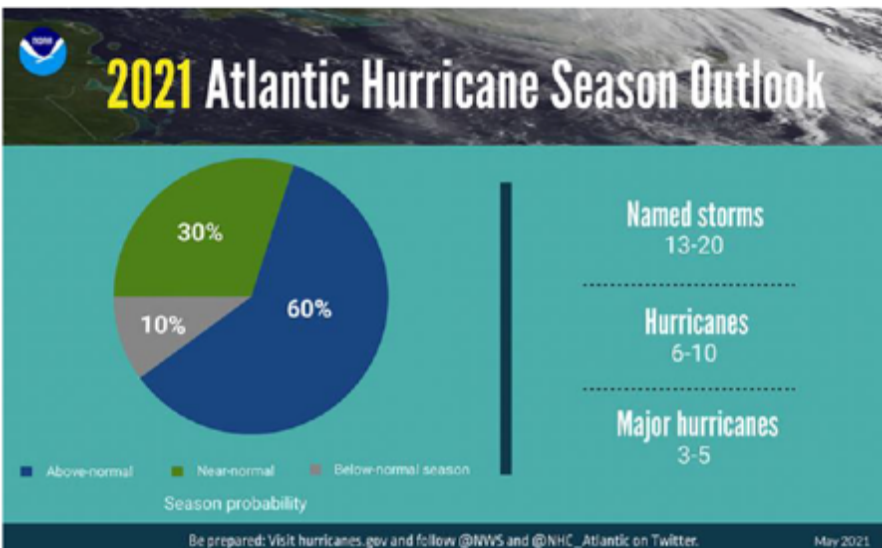
Summer/Fall 2018

### Natural Disasters/Storm Management

- ✓ Extreme Heat / Cold
- ✓ High Wind Storms
- ✓ Severe Thunderstorms
- ✓ Hurricanes (evacuations)
- ✓ Tropical Storms
- ✓ Coastal Floods
- ✓ Flash Floods
- ✓ Winter Storms
- ✓ Blizzards
- ✓ Ice Storms
- ✓ Freezing Rain
- ✓ Earthquakes

### 2020 Hurricane Season in Review

- 30 named storms, which is a single year record. It was also the fifth consecutive year with above-normal Atlantic season activity. 12 made landfall within U.S. territory, causing \$51.1 billion in damage.
- 14 hurricanes during the season (winds of 74 mph or greater). Of those, there were 7 major hurricanes (winds of 111 mph or greater).
- It was the 5th year in a row with a category 5 storm.



### OTHER Related Departments

**Man-Made Disasters & Counter Terrorism (MTA Police & Security)**

**Cyber Security (MTA IT)**

**Press, Liaisons, etc**



## March 2020

New York - the EPICENTER of COVID-19

- COVID-19 Complexities
- Lack of information around a novel virus
- Inconsistent messaging



**Employee Safety**  
**Customer Safety**  
**Service Maintenance**



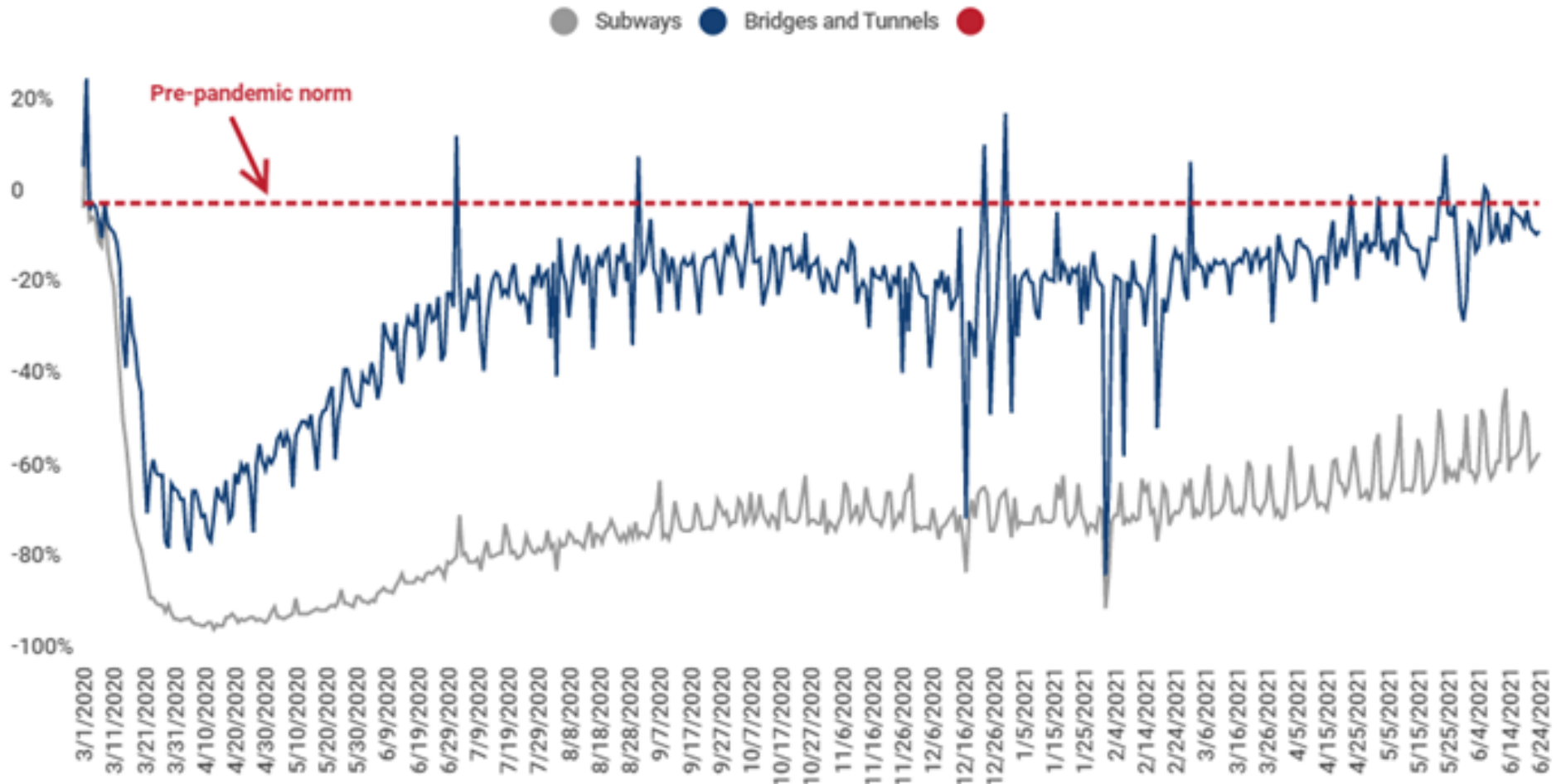
**We Scrambled – Initially**  
**We Learnt – Quickly**  
**We are Managing – Efficiently**  
**We Developed a**  
**Pandemic Plan**



## THE MTA and New York – Ridership in June 2021

Bridge and tunnel traffic approaches pre-pandemic levels, while subway traffic continues to lag

% change from pre-pandemic equivalent day





## Keeping Customers Safe:

- Enhanced Cleaning - 24 Hours: Rolling Stock
- Suspended Service from 1-5 AM for 1 year (5/2020-5/2021)
- No Fare Bus Service in NYC from March 2020 to March 2021
- Free Car Service in 2020 to all essential workers paid for by MTA

## SAFETY

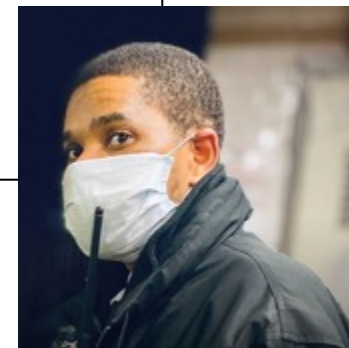


## Keeping Employees Safe:

- Leadership Engagement
- Telecommuting
- Communicating regularly via Internal Websites, FAQs Everbridge
- PPE

## Keep the System Moving for

- Essential Workers
- Health Care Workers
- Essential Suppliers
- Police Department
- Fire Department
- Other Essential Movements



### Safe Travels

### Essential worker

Yes

Okay to ride

No

Why are you even here reading this?  
Go home.

Stay home.  
Stop the spread.



- **Climate Adaptation & Resiliency**
- **Greenhouse Gas Reduction**
- **Energy Efficiency**
- **Renewable Energy**
- **Reuse & Recycle**

NY has the lowest per capita Carbon Footprint in the nation

MTA Keeps 700,000 cars off CBD-NYC Every Weekday

“An average MTA trip saves over 10 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions.”



“In 2019, the MTA effectively prevented the release of approximately 17 million tons of greenhouse gases.”



- **PARTICIPATING in the GOVERNOR'S CLIMATE AGENDA – CLCPA** (Climate leadership & community protection act)  
New York State is committed to the most aggressive clean energy and climate agenda in the country. Among its goals are:
  - 85% Reduction in GHG Emissions by 2050
  - 100% Zero-emission Electricity by 2040
  - 70% Renewable Energy by 2030<https://www.nysed.gov/All-Programs/Programs/CLCPA>
  
- **ACCEPTING THE FTA CHALLENGE OF SUSTAINABLE TRANSIT FOR A HEALTHY PLANET**  
In Oct 2021, MTA pledged to develop a Climate Action, Electrification and Sustainability plan that details GHG reduction strategies to achieve a 50% reduction by 2030. <http://www.transit.dot.gov/climate-challenge>
  
- **THE CLIMATE REGISTRY VERIFICATION**  
MTA earned Climate Registered™ GOLD Status and joined US Climate Leaders by publicly reporting a verified GHG emissions inventory.  
By reporting our emissions, we work to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and educate the public in the role that mass transit plays in avoiding carbon emissions.  
<http://www.theclimateregistry.org/>

## Participation in the Global Climate Agenda & COP21

### May 2015 Caring for Climate C4C

MTA becomes a Signatory Participant at UN's Caring for Climate Program.

MTA's C4C Commitment Goals:

- 20% Energy Reduction at all MTA Facilities
- Develop MTA wide Climate Adaptation Guidelines
- Continue to Develop and Implement Sustainable Strategies in Capital Projects

### November 2015

MTA is Featured by UNFCCC at COP21 in Paris for Post Sandy Strategies.

### December 2016

MTA Meets C4C Goal #1

### November 2019 SCIENCE BASED TARGET INITIATIVE (SBTI)

MTA Commits to Paris Agreement's Science Based Target Initiative, developing a defined set of emissions reduction targets aligned with Paris Climate Accord goals.

### April 2021

- MTA submits SBTi targets for Scope 1 , 2 & 3, to reduce GHG emissions from non-revenue activities by 38% and revenue activities 51% by 2030 using 2015 as a base year.



MTA is restarting its \$51.5 billion capital plan and the borrowing to finance it as federal aid rescues the city's bus and subway operator from the financial toll of the pandemic.

## **The 2020-24 Capital Plan's biggest priorities are:**

- Upgrading stations and improving accessibility
- Investing in new buses and train cars
- Modernizing signals on the busiest subway lines and commuter rail lines
- Building the region's megaprojects
- Keeping bridges & tunnels in good working condition
- Keeping the MTA's other infrastructure in good working condition

## Charging Infrastructure – Opportunities & Challenges

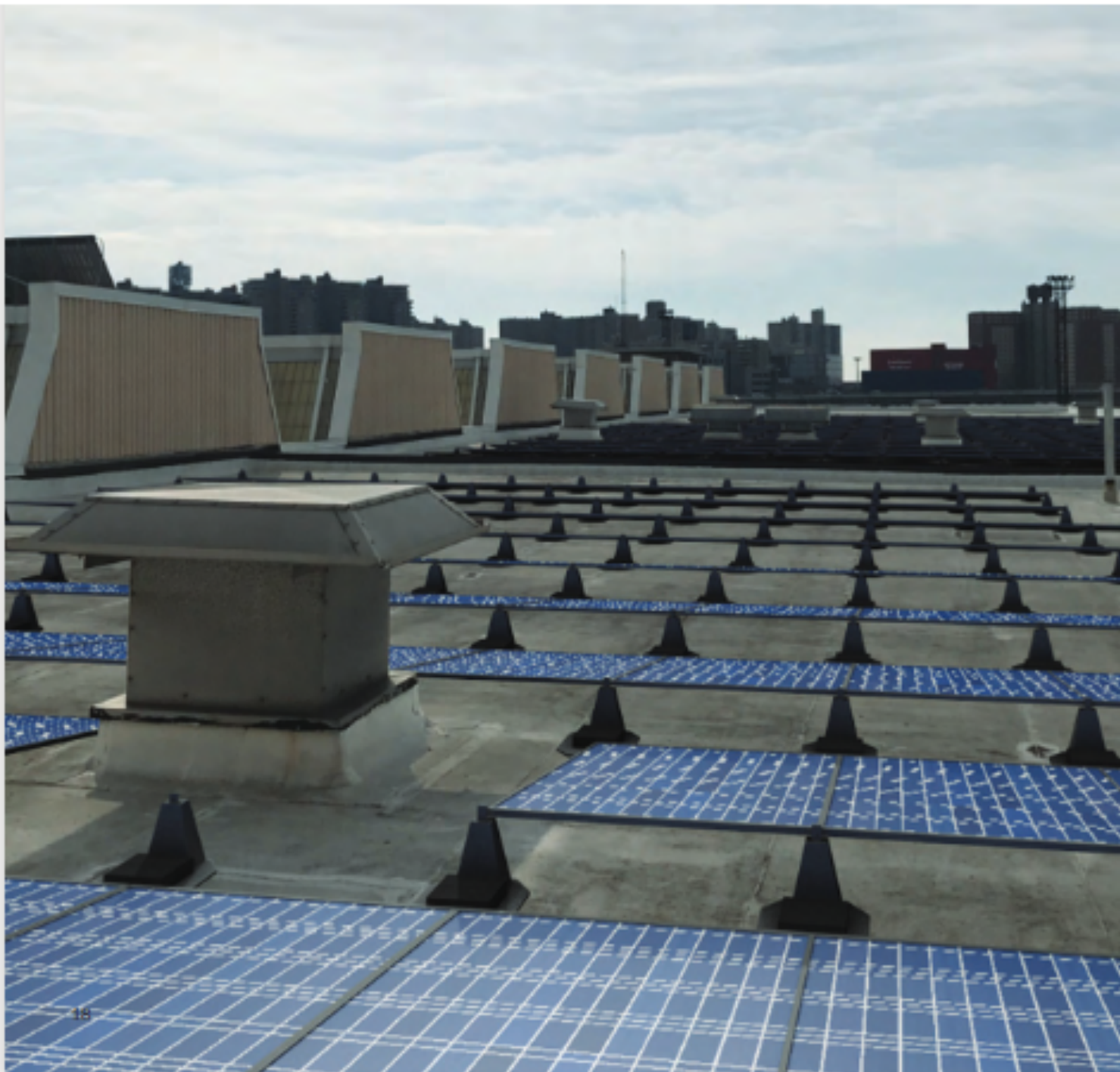


- MTA has 25 electric buses in operation (10 standard + 15 articulates)
- 60 on order.
- **Scale up to 500 buses** in the 2020-2024 Capital Program





On Earth Day 2019, MTA Launched MTA Solar Initiative identifying more than 100 million sf roof space suitable for solar development.



Digital representation of Solar Panel installation at Coney Island Yard Facility

MTA actively participates in national and international benchmarking and knowledge-share efforts.

- **ITS- NY** (Intelligent Transportation Society NY)
- **TRB** (Transportation Research Board)
- **UITP** (L'Union Internationale des Transports Publics)
- **APTA** (American Public Transit Association)
- **COMET** (Community of Metros) at Imperial College of London
- **IBBG** (International Bus Benchmarking Group)
- **ISBeRG** (International Suburban Rail Benchmarking Group)





THANK YOU

