

Cedrick T. Fulton
Director
Tunnels, Bridges & Terminals

February 26, 2015

Ms. Christine Berthet
Chair
Manhattan Community Board Four
330 West 42nd Street, 26th Floor
New York, New York 10036

Dear Ms Berthet:

Your January 14, 2015 letter to Port Authority Executive Director Pat Foye has been referred to me for a response. As Director of the Tunnels, Bridges and Terminals Department for the Port Authority, I am responsible for the operation and investment program for the six interstate vehicular crossings and two interstate bus terminals, including the Lincoln Tunnel and the Port Authority Bus Terminal in midtown Manhattan. I welcome the opportunity to respond.

First, I would like to thank you for your recognition of the operating improvements that been made at the Port Authority Bus Terminal (PABT) during the evening peak hours. I believe it goes to show that our current facilities are operating so close to the margin, that attention paid to the details of the operation can make a big difference in overall performance. We will continue to prioritize our actions to ensure the best return of our investments and endeavors. Rest assured the Port Authority is committed to continue to work with NJ Transit and the other bus carriers to sustain the improvements we have made and extend them where possible.

I understand that you have had the opportunity to meet with Lincoln Tunnel operations management regarding each of the suggestions in your January 14 letter. I trust that you found this engagement to be forthcoming and responsive. In terms of a traffic control post at 41st Street and 9th Avenue, this is a post that the Port Authority has covered in past, and we agree that this post should be covered in the future. Police staffing resource issues have left the post uncovered at times, but our intent is to ensure coverage in the future. Regarding wayfinding signs for westbound Lincoln Tunnel traffic, we have requested our traffic engineers to look at the current signing and routing alternatives and assess the opportunities to affect some of the changes you have recommended. After we have a chance to assess the situation, we will be happy to let you know where we think the opportunities lie. In terms of the additional traffic cameras you have recommended, we simply do not have the resources programmed in the current capital program to add cameras at this time. That being said, we continue to look at every opportunity we have to add traffic management and surveillance devices as a part of our ongoing construction projects, and will continue to look aggressively at the means to incrementally add to our technology

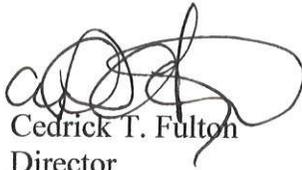
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resources over time. At this time, Port Authority cameras are used for traffic management and security, but not for enforcement, and we do not have plans to change the functional scope of our cameras at this time. I suggest that the camera-based enforcement is a question that might be posed to the City of New York, given their responsibility for most traffic enforcement on the City streets.

As we continue to develop our long-term plans, the Port Authority's Board of Commissioners and executive leadership are also focused on improving the current conditions at the PABT. As such, the Board has committed \$90 million for improvements at the PABT, designed to begin immediate and short-term actions to address current issues, including building improvements, new communications capabilities, and improvements to bus operations and facility access that will improve service quality and reliability. As you have noted, some of these short-term initiatives have already paid dividends for both the community and our passengers. We are continuing to explore operational remedies to reduce travel times, traffic congestion, and bus parking and idling on city streets, which benefits the bus carriers and all people who use the streets in the West Midtown area to walk, bike, ride transit, or drive.

Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts. I appreciate your interest and ongoing commitment for engagement on these issues. We value your continued input in improving the conditions and services at the Port Authority Bus Terminal and Lincoln Tunnel, as well as in the community that hosts these facilities. We look forward to continued engagement with you in establishing both short-term and long-term improvement plans.

Sincerely,



Cedrick T. Fulton
Director

Tunnels, Bridges & Terminals

cc: Patrick Foye, Executive Director, PANYNJ
Jay Marcus, Co-Chair, Transportation Planning Committee
Ernest Modarelli, Co-Chair, Transportation Planning Committee
New Jersey Transit, Veronika Hakim
Department of Transportation, Commissioner Polly Trottenberg
Department of Transportation, Borough Commissioner Margaret Forgione
U.S. Congressman Jerry Nadler
NYC Councilmember Corey Johnson
NYS Assemblymember Richard Gottfried
NYS Senator Brad Hoylman
NYC Councilmember Helen Rosenthal
NYS Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer