STATE OF NEW YORK

S. 6150 A. 7753

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

SENATE - ASSEMBLY

May 20, 2019

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sens. GOUNARDES, RAMOS -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. DINOWITZ, L. ROSENTHAL, CARROLL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions

AN ACT to amend the transportation law and the public authorities law, in relation to full mass transit accessibility for facilities operated by the metropolitan transportation authority

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The transportation law is amended by adding a new section 15-d to read as follows:

§ 15-d. Accessible transportation. 1. The New York city accessible transportation system shall include access by individuals with disabilities to rapid transit services through the renovation of an additional fifty subway stations operated by the metropolitan transportation authority (the "authority"), beyond the number of stations currently accessible within five years as part of the authority's two thousand twenty - two thousand twenty-four capital program, and one hundred thirty new accessible stations as part of the two thousand twenty-five - two thousand twenty-nine capital program, as provided for in this section.

2. The authority shall develop criteria to determine how to best prioritize subway stations for accessibility improvements. The criteria shall include, but not be limited to: citywide geographic coverage; transit transfer options; annual ridership volume; census tract data for senior and disabled populations and percentage of those populations in poverty; residential density of surrounding neighborhoods; and proximity to medical centers, schools, parks, business districts, cultural hubs and senior centers. Such criteria shall be made publicly available as

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD10969-03-9

well as the methodology used to establish the criteria. Maximum possible accessibility shall be achieved by end of the two thousand thirty - two thousand thirty-four capital program.

3. By December thirty-first, two thousand nineteen, enhanced elevator outage and alternate station routing information for all elevators that permit entrance into or egress from subway stations, whether owned by the metropolitan transportation authority or privately owned, shall be made available in real time, updated as necessary to provide current, accurate information on the system's website and kiosks and distributed through email, mobile app, and text alerts and other electronic communication systems. In addition, the authority shall create an Application Programming Interface (API) to allow third party smartphone applications to access data on elevator performance and outages and station accessibility that is available in the data of the authority.

4. The two thousand twenty - two thousand twenty-four capital program plan shall accelerate installation of consistent accessibility features including, but not limited to, taking reasonable steps to eliminate any gaps between station platforms and vehicle floors that are in excess of the amount permitted by applicable regulations, maintaining audio and visual announcement equipment in audible and operable condition sufficient to enable passengers with visual or hearing impairments and other disabilities to be oriented to their location, and fare gates that are fully accessible to people with disabilities. Such accessibility features shall be installed at every subway station operated by the authority no later then December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-four.

5. All future station enhancement plans or long-term station closures or renovations of six months or longer shall include full accessibility as a key element of such plans.

6. The authority shall revise maintenance practices to improve reliability of elevators and wheelchair lifts at all rapid transit stations.

7. The authority shall design, fund and implement an elevator and wheelchair lift management plan to provide continuous, uninterrupted elevator service during all passenger service hours, subject only to temporary and isolated elevator outages for repairs, maintenance and inspections.

8. For stations undergoing renovation, elevators shall be designed and sited so that riders who need stair-free access have similar access/egress time and ease of use as those who do not need stair-free access.

§ 2. Section 1269-b of the public authorities law is amended by adding a new subdivision 10 to read as follows:

10. Capital program plans submitted in accordance with this section shall include specific, detailed steps to be taken to increase station accessibility in accordance with section fifteen-d of the transportation law until such time as one hundred percent accessibility of stations is achieved.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.