STATE OF NEW YORK

6235--B

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 10, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. GONZALEZ-ROJAS, GALLAGHER, JACKSON, EPSTEIN, SIMON, SEAWRIGHT, FERNANDEZ, CRUZ, DINOWITZ, GOTTFRIED, CARROLL, RICHARDSON, ANDERSON, QUART, HEVESI, SEPTIMO, RODRIGUEZ, JEAN-PIERRE, FALL, BARNWELL, FORREST, CUSICK, STECK, THIELE, OTIS -- read once and referred to the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- reported and referred to the Committee on Ways and Means -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to requiring the metropolitan transportation authority to develop a strategic action plan to improve bicycle and pedestrian access at its bridges and passenger stations

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

Section 1. The metropolitan transportation authority shall, in consultation with the Long Island Rail Road Commuter's Council, the Metro-North Rail Commuter Council and the New York City Transit Authority Advisory Council, develop a strategic action plan to improve bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the authority or its affiliates or subsidiaries. One component of the strategic action plan shall be to develop and monitor capital projects to allow for and/or expand bicycle access on all bridges operated by the authority or its affiliates or subsidiaries, provide for bicycle parking at all passenger stations operated by the authority or its affiliates or subsidiaries, and, where feasible, expand bicycle access on equipment as such term is defined in paragraph 5 of section 1261 of the public authorities law. The strategic action plan shall also include a review of the authority's and the Triborough bridge and tunnel authority's capital program plans in effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty, to determine the impact of such projects on bicycle and pedes-

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

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trian access and shall include any proposed amendments and modifications to such capital program plans that the authority deems necessary to accomplish the purposes of this section. Within one year of the effective date of this act, the chairperson of the metropolitan transportation authority shall submit a written report to the governor, temporary president of the senate, speaker of the assembly and mayor of the city of New York, detailing the strategic action plan conducted pursuant to this act. Such report shall be made available to the public on the metropolitan transportation authority's website.

§ 2. Section 1269-b of the public authorities law is amended by adding a new subdivision 11 to read as follows:

11. In formulating their capital program plans, the authority and its affiliates and subsidiaries shall consider the impact of any proposed plan, amendment or modification submitted pursuant to this section on bicycle and pedestrian accessibility. Such consideration shall be made in consultation with the Long Island rail road commuter's council, the Metro-North rail commuter council and the New York city transit authority advisory council.

§ 3. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 1266-e of the public authorities law, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 669 of the laws of 1986 and subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 396 of the laws of 1998, are amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby created the Metro-North rail commuter council to study, investigate, monitor and make recommendations with respect to the maintenance and operation of those portions of, if any, the Hudson, Harlem, New Haven, Pascack Valley and Port Jervis commuter railroad lines remaining within the metropolitan commuter transportation district. Such council shall study and investigate all aspects of the day to day operation of such railroad lines, monitor their performance and recommend changes to improve the efficiency of the operation thereof. **Such council shall study and make recommendations in regard to improving bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by such railroad lines.**

2. Such council shall consist of [~~eleven~~] **twelve** members and shall be commuters who regularly use the transportation services of such railroad lines. At least five of such members shall be residents of the county of Westchester. Of the other [~~six~~] **seven** members, at least one of such members shall be a resident of each of the counties of Rockland, Putnam, Dutchess, Orange and Bronx, provided that such county has not withdrawn from the metropolitan commuter transportation district pursuant to section twelve hundred seventy-nine-b of this [~~article~~] **title**; provided further, should only the county of Putnam remain in the metropolitan commuter transportation district then membership on such council shall consist of [~~seven~~] **eight** members, [~~five~~] **six** of whom reside in the county of Westchester and two of whom reside in the county of Putnam. Members shall be appointed by the governor. In making such appointments the governor shall consult with and solicit recommendations from local officials and to the extent possible appoint members who represent the ridership of the several commuter railroad lines. **Provided, however, that one member shall be appointed who has a demonstrated expertise or interest in the promotion and development of improved bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the authority and its affiliates and subsidiaries.** Vacancies occurring in the membership of the council shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments.

§ 4. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 1266-d of the public authorities law, subdivision 1 as added by chapter 482 of the laws of 1981, and subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 396 of the laws of 1998, are amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby created the Long Island rail road commuter's council, to study, investigate, monitor and make recommendations with respect to the maintenance and operation of the Long Island rail road. Such council shall study and investigate all aspects of the day to day operations of such railroad, monitor its performance and recommend changes to improve the efficiency of the operation thereof. **Such council shall study and make recommendations in regard to improving bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the Long Island Railroad.**

2. Such council shall consist of [~~twelve~~] **thirteen** members who shall be commuters who regularly use the transportation services of such railroad, and who shall be residents of Nassau, Suffolk, Queens or Brooklyn county. Members shall be appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the county executive of each such county, provided, however, that such members shall be chosen from a list of ten names submitted by each such county executive and provided further however that no more than six members of such council shall be residents of either such county. Provided, however, that one member shall be appointed on the recommendation of the borough president of Queens and one member shall be appointed on the recommendation of the borough president of Brooklyn. **Provided, however, that one member shall be appointed who has a demonstrated expertise or interest in the promotion and development of improved bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the authority and its affiliates and subsidiaries.** Vacancies occurring in the membership of the council shall be filled in the same manner as original appointments, provided, however, that such vacancy shall be filled from a list of three names submitted by each such county executive.

§ 5. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 1204-e of the public authorities law, as added by chapter 483 of the laws of 1981 and such section as renumbered by section 2 of part H of chapter 25 of the laws of 2009, are amended to read as follows:

1. There is hereby created the New York city transit authority advisory council, to study, investigate, monitor and make recommendations with respect to the maintenance and operation of the New York city transit authority, its subsidiaries and the Staten Island rapid transit operating authority. Such council shall study and investigate all aspects of the day to day operations of such authority, its subsidiaries and the Staten Island rapid transit operating authority, monitor their performance and recommend changes to improve the efficiency of the operation thereof. **Such council shall study and make recommendations in regard to improving bicycle and pedestrian access on trains and buses, and at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the authority, its affiliates and subsidiaries and the Staten Island rapid transit operating authority.**

2. Such council shall consist of [~~fifteen~~] **eighteen** members who shall be commuters who regularly use the transportation services of such authorities. [~~Five~~] **Eight** of such members shall be appointed by the governor upon the recommendation of the mayor of the city of New York; five upon the recommendation of the president of the city council of the city of New York; and five other members appointed upon the recommendation one by each of the borough presidents of the boroughs of the city

of New York. **Provided, however, that three members recommended by the mayor of New York shall have a demonstrated expertise or interest in the promotion and development of improved bicycle and pedestrian access at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the metropolitan transportation authority, as created by section twelve hundred sixty-three of this article, and such authority's affiliates and subsidiaries.** The chairman shall be a member selected by the membership of the committee. Each of the members shall serve for a term of two years, provided, however, that of the first appointments, two appointed upon the recommendation of the mayor and two appointed upon the recommendation of the president of the city council shall serve for a term of one year. Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointments for the balance of the unexpired term.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.