

STATE OF NEW YORK

4943

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

February 18, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BIAGGI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Transportation

AN ACT to amend the public authorities law, in relation to establishing a standing advisory committee within the metropolitan transportation authority 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:

1 Section 1. The public authorities law is amended by adding a new
2 section 1279-m to read as follows:

3 § 1279-m. Permanent advisory committee on bicycle and pedestrian
4 access. 1. There is hereby established a permanent advisory committee
5 within the authority to study, investigate, monitor and make recommenda-
6 tions with respect to the maintenance and improvement of bicycle and
7 pedestrian access at all bridges and passenger stations operated by the
8 authority.

9 2. Such committee shall consist of thirteen members appointed by the
10 governor, of whom two shall be appointed upon nomination by the tempo-
11 rary president of the senate, two upon nomination by the speaker of the
12 assembly, one upon nomination by the minority leader of the senate and
13 one upon nomination by the minority leader of the assembly. All members
14 shall serve for a term of three years, except that, of the two members
15 first appointed upon nomination by the temporary president of the
16 senate, one shall serve for a term of two years and one shall serve for
17 a term of one year; of the two members first appointed upon nomination
18 by the speaker of the assembly, one shall serve for a term of two years
19 and one shall serve for a term of one year; and, of two of the members
20 first appointed by the governor without nomination by any other person,
21 two shall each serve for a term of two years and two shall each serve
22 for a term of one year. One of the members appointed to the management
23 advisory board directly by the governor shall be designated by the

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

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1 governor to serve as its chairman. Vacancies occurring in the membership
2 of the committee shall be filled in the same manner as original appoint-
3 ments.

4 3. The advisory committee shall develop a strategic action plan in
5 consultation with the authority to improve bicycle and pedestrian access
6 at bridges, stations and other facilities operated by the authority. One
7 component of the strategic action plan shall be to develop and monitor
8 capital projects to allow for and/or expand bicycle access on all bridg-
9 es operated by the authority and provide for bicycle parking at all
10 passenger stations operated by the authority. The strategic action plan
11 shall also include a review of the authority's capital program plans in
12 effect on and after January first, two thousand twenty, to determine the
13 impact of such projects on bicycle and pedestrian access and shall
14 include any proposed amendments and modifications to such capital
15 program plans that the committee deems necessary to accomplish the
16 purposes of this section.

17 4. The committee shall hold its first meeting no later than ninety
18 days after the effective date of this section, and at such other times
19 as a majority of its members deem necessary, provided, however, that the
20 committee shall meet no fewer than six times annually.

21 5. The members of the committee shall receive no compensation for
22 their services but shall be reimbursed for their expenses actually and
23 necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties hereunder.

24 6. The committee may request and shall receive from any department,
25 division, board, bureau, commission, agency, public authority of the
26 state or any political subdivision thereof such assistance and data as
27 will enable it properly to carry out its activities hereunder and effec-
28 tuate the purposes set forth herein.

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

31 11. In formulating its capital program plans, the authority shall
32 consider the impact of any proposed plan, amendment or modification
33 submitted pursuant to this section on bicycle and pedestrian accessibil-
34 ity. Such consideration shall be made in consultation with the advisory
35 committee on bicycle and pedestrian access established pursuant to
36 section twelve hundred seventy-nine-m of this title.

37 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.