



THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

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****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

AUGUST 8, 2017

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STATEMENT FROM CM CHIN ON THE COUNCIL HEARING ON THE SUBWAY CRISIS

CITY HALL – **Council Member Margaret S. Chin** issued the following statement regarding today’s Council hearing on the growing transit crisis.

"I join my fellow Council Members in urging the MTA to act now to make system-wide changes and consider a reliable funding stream of revenue to pay for the long-term solutions New Yorkers urgently need. While our City has always paid its due share of taxes and investment towards the MTA, the MTA continues to put taxpaying New Yorkers last. The MTA’s plan to increase the frequency of the station cleaning from every 6 weeks to 4 weeks is nowhere near sufficient to adequately address station cleanliness -- especially at heavily used transit hubs in lower Manhattan. In addition, the painstakingly slow, piecemeal approach towards accessibility will not catch up to the needs of a growing senior and disabled population. We demand that the MTA move beyond piecemeal solutions to make real, lasting impact that can transform how we use our subways."

Last week, Council Members hit the subways to hear directly from straphangers who are jaded with the way the MTA has managed our subway system. At the East Broadway (F) station, Council Member Chin joined Assemblywoman Yuh-Line Niou, Council Member Ydanis Rodriguez, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz, Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, and Commissioner Polly Trottenberg to highlight the need for major improvements to accommodate the 14,000 riders who use the station every day. Council Member Chin also led a letter to MTA Chairman Lhota to address certain issues that plague the station, and has yet to receive a response. The letter was co-signed by Manhattan Borough President Brewer, Assemblywoman Niou, and Senator Squadron.

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