

MEETING MINUTES

To: PAC Alternatives Development/Alternate Routes
 Subcommittee

Date: 10/2/98

From: George Haikalis

Meeting Location: Saint Margaret's
 House Library
 49 Fulton St.

Re: MTA Contract No. 1-01-97054-0-0
 LSTS Project # 4351

Meeting Title: Subcommittee Meeting #2

Attendees:

Name	Organization
David Graves	Interested Citizen
Florence Daniels	Public Member, Man. C. B. #1
Jonathon Williams	Sam Schwartz Co.
Coco Gordon	Coalition for Better Transit
William K. Guild	Coalition for Better Transit
Jeff Zupan	RPA
George Haikalis	IRUM
Robert A. Olmsted	New Urban Trans. Systems

Name	Organization
Michael Doyle	PCAC
John Rozankowski	FBCC
Albert L. Papp, Jr.	NJ Association of Railroad Passengers
Louis Sepersky	MetroEast
Jack Dean	MTA
Nicole Bucich	LSTS
Alexandra Zetlin	ZSC
Andrea Weiss	ZSC

Highlights:

- Chairman Lou Sepersky suggested that the discussion of alternatives be based on the summary of the long list of alternatives prepared by John Rozankowski (Attached).
- A variety of Second Avenue subway alternatives were discussed in great detail. It was agreed that the theme and variations of the Second Avenue subway, including extension to Flatbush Terminal and on to Jamaica as a subway would be treated as one alternative. Options would be grouped together under the banner of Metro-East. There was substantial agreement among attendees that a Second Ave. subway would be a good idea. The Second Ave. subway would relieve over-crowding on the Lexington Ave. line making it easier for Metro North to use the subway. However there were some concerns about its affordability.
- The purpose of the *Lower Manhattan Access Alternatives Study* was reiterated. Jack Dean stated that the focus of the study is on transportation access from the suburbs to lower Manhattan, however the study also includes better access within the five boroughs.
- The issue of short-term bus service improvements was raised again. Bill Guild was appointed chairman of the working group to deal with short term options, including subway possibilities.
- Two short-term subway improvements were discussed. 1) Adding some Lexington Express lines using the shuttle platform and connections, and 2) running Sixth Ave. trains directly to lower Manhattan using the flex at West 4th St., as well as several variations including squeezing the Times Square shuttle to two tracks, and building a moving walkway (perhaps accelerating) from Vanderbilt to 6th Ave./42nd Street station. One possibility was linking this subway to BMT south of World Trade Center Terminal.
- Options for direct commuter rail service to lower Manhattan were grouped into a single theme: through route connecting Metro North and the Long Island Rail Road, and Grand Central Terminal to the Flatbush Ave. Terminal.
- The relative advantages of a “good” transfer vs. a one seat were debated.
- A commuter rail alternate was to use BMT express tracks for through-routed Metro North-LIRR service using special commuter rail cars sized to fit into the BMT, a connection at 63rd St. and Park Ave., into Metro North local tracks, south of City Hall, a new tunnel under Broadway to Flatbush Terminal in Brooklyn.
- The issue of New Jersey alternatives was raised again. The Lower Manhattan Access Alternatives Study does not include a connection between lower Manhattan and New Jersey. Initiative must come from New Jersey interests, perhaps an ARC II study. There was some discussion of high cost of ARC alternative AA.
- Most new non-stop shuttle options were dismissed. Grand-Central to Wall St., a subway shuttle via second Ave. (using a 43rd St. stub) and via Sixth Ave. (short-term) were to be considered.

II. Goals for the Next Meeting

The next PAC Alternatives Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 9, 1998 at 1:30PM, location to be determined.

The joint PAC and TAC Alternatives Subcommittee meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 22, 1998 at 2:30 PM at NYMTC's conference room, One World Trade Center.

The meeting ended at 5 p.m.