



STATEMENT ON MAYOR de BLASIO'S FIRST 100 DAYS ON PUBLIC TRANSIT (April 9, 2014)

The Straphangers Campaign gives Mayor Bill de Blasio "high marks" on his transit work during his (nearly) first 100 days in office.

His good grades reflected such positive and concrete steps as:

- appointing as City Transportation Commissioner Polly Trottenberg, a veteran Washington hand with the knowledge and skills both to find funding and to manage progressive transportation initiatives;
- acting on campaign promises to build a total of 20 bus rapid transit routes around the City, which will enhance mobility to jobs, education and health care;
- proposing a wide ranging "Vision Zero" initiatives to make city streets safer and welcoming for a wide range of New Yorkers, including the millions of transit riders who are also pedestrians.

Among the challenging issues that Mayor de Blasio will face in the coming weeks are:

- Who will he chose for his four nominees to the MTA Board of Directors and will they bring more diversity and experience as city transit riders to the MTA?
- Will he act on his promise to jump start bus rapid transit by "allocating funding from the city's capital budget to accelerate [BRT] implementation—at a fraction of the cost of major subway projects."
- Will he speak up for riders in a city that's seen four subway and bus fare hikes in six years? As he said during last fall's campaign: "While City Hall doesn't control the MTA, it has a duty to help protect the affordability of our transit system on behalf of the millions of New Yorkers who use it every day."