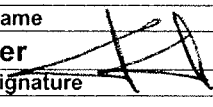





Staff Summary

Subject 2010 Service Actions- Env. Assessment						Date March 24, 2010			
Department Planning						Vendor Name			
Department Head Name William Wheeler						Contract Number			
Department Head Signature 						Contract Manager Name			
Project Manager Name Lawrence Fleischer						Table of Contents Ref #			
Board Action						Internal Approvals			
Order	To	Date	Approval	Info	Other	Order	Approval	Order	Approval
1	Finance	3/22/10					Executive Director	2	Chief Financial Officer 
2	Board	3/24/10				3	Chief of Staff 	1	Legal 
							Director of B&FM		
							Dep. Exec Dir of Admin		

Narrative

PURPOSE:

To obtain the Board's adoption and approval of a Resolution, based on the Environmental Assessment that has been completed and distributed to Board members (i) finding and determining that the proposed service changes for implementation in 2010 are exempt from further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act ("SEQRA") and, although exempt from further review under SEQRA as a Type II action, in any event will not result in any significant environmental impacts; and (ii) adopting and approving a Negative Declaration pursuant to SEQRA.

DISCUSSION:

At the December 2009 Board meeting, the Board adopted the 2010 Final Budget, which, among other cost-reduction measures, contained a package of service changes. In January 2010, the MTA Chairman oversaw a review of these proposals to ensure that they were designed to limit impact on customers. The guiding principles were to affect the fewest number of riders; minimize the negative effects on riders, operate service within service and capacity guidelines, maintain network coverage where possible and improve cost-efficiency of service. The revised package of service proposals were set forth in materials distributed to the Board and posted on the MTA website that month. Following review of public commentary received through the public hearing process, further restorations and modifications to the package of service proposals were identified.

In accordance with SEQRA, MTA consultants and staff conducted an Environmental Assessment ("EA") of the package of service changes. The EA analyzes the potential environmental impacts of the package and finds that there would be no resulting significant adverse environmental impacts. MTA consultants and staff have also concluded that the proposed service changes qualify under SEQRA and the SEQRA regulations as a Type II action and, as such, the proposed service changes are exempt from further SEQRA review. The consultants and staff reviewed the further restorations and modifications identified after the completion of the hearings and determined that these adjustments to the package of service changes would not alter the conclusions regarding impacts and the need for further SEQRA review. Based on the EA and a technical memorandum regarding the further review, which have been provided to each Board member, the Board is requested to adopt and approve a Negative Declaration, attached hereto as Exhibit A.

IMPACT ON FUNDING:

Adoption of the attached resolution would conclude the MTA environmental review process, completion of which is a prerequisite to implementation of the service changes. The service changes, if fully implemented, are estimated to

generate annualized savings of approximately \$93 million.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board adopt the attached Resolution finding that the proposed service changes are exempt from further SEQRA review and will have no significant adverse environmental impacts, and approving the Negative Declaration, and authorizing the Chairman or his designee to execute it.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in December 2009, Metropolitan Transportation Authority (“MTA”) adopted a 2010 Final Budget providing for changes in service in furtherance of achieving a balanced budget as required by law, which changes were refined by agency staff under the supervision of the Chairman (the “service changes”);

WHEREAS, there has been distributed to the MTA Board a Full Environmental Assessment Form, along with a study prepared by AECOM Consulting, Inc. and AKRF, Inc. (collectively, the “Environmental Assessment” or “EA”);

WHEREAS, the Environmental Assessment identifies and thoroughly analyzes the potential effects of the service changes on each of the relevant areas of environmental concern;

WHEREAS, further restorations and modifications were identified after the completion of public hearings on the service changes, which were reviewed for potential environmental effects in a technical memorandum distributed to the MTA Board;

WHEREAS, a Negative Declaration has been prepared and distributed to the MTA Board pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (“SEQRA”);

WHEREAS, the Negative Declaration concludes that the service changes analyzed in the Environmental Assessment and exhibits annexed thereto, as further revised and modified, and as analyzed in a technical memorandum, will not have any significant adverse environmental impacts, either alone or in combination with related actions;

WHEREAS, the MTA Board has considered the Environmental Assessment, the technical memorandum addressing the further revisions and modifications to the service changes reviewed in the Environmental Assessment, and the Negative Declaration;

NOW, THEREFORE, upon motion duly made and seconded, the following resolutions are adopted by the MTA Board:

RESOLVED, that based upon the Environmental Assessment and the technical memorandum, the MTA Board finds and determines that the service changes as revised following the public hearings: (i) will not result in any significant environmental impacts; and (ii) are a Type II action exempt from further review under SEQRA in that the service changes (a) constitute measures necessary because of a fiscal emergency and/or (b) are continuing agency administration and management actions which do not constitute a major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment;

RESOLVED, that the Negative Declaration is approved pursuant to SEQRA and the Chairman or his designee is authorized to execute it.

March 24, 2010
New York, New York