

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- x</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ PUBLIC HEARING</p> <p style="text-align: center;">----- x</p> <p style="text-align: center;">79 West Jersey Street Elizabeth, New Jersey</p> <p style="text-align: center;">July 18, 2019 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>BEFORE:</p> <p>Michael Farbiarz, Hearing Officer and General Counsel</p> <p>Kevin McCaine, Commissioner</p> <p>Dan Horowitz, Commissioner</p> <p>ALSO PRESENT:</p> <p>BRIAN D'ANDREA - Spanish Interpreter</p> <p>AUDREY ROSENBERG - ASL Interpreter</p> <p>LEIGH ZAREM - ASL Interpreter</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 3</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19</p> <p>2 us in a moment. The video will also be</p> <p>3 playing in a continuous loop in the</p> <p>4 room next door so you can step out and</p> <p>5 watch it at any point that might be</p> <p>6 convenient for you.</p> <p>7 The Commissioners are with us</p> <p>8 here tonight, but there won't be a</p> <p>9 back-and-forth conversation that</p> <p>10 will take place today. We have a</p> <p>11 clock to keep track of things.</p> <p>12 That's because each speaker is</p> <p>13 going to get allocated three</p> <p>14 minutes. If you want to make more</p> <p>15 comments than that, if you want to</p> <p>16 elaborate more than the three</p> <p>17 minutes allows, you can make</p> <p>18 additional comments in writing in a</p> <p>19 couple of different ways; we have</p> <p>20 iPads in the back of the room for</p> <p>21 typing out comments or you can</p> <p>22 visit our website, PANYNJ.gov,</p> <p>23 until September 13th. The website</p> <p>24 will be taking written comments.</p> <p>25 All verbal comments that are</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 2</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19</p> <p>2 MR. FARBIARZ: Good evening,</p> <p>3 everybody. Thank you for being here.</p> <p>4 My name is Michael Farbiarz. I'm</p> <p>5 the General Counsel for the Port</p> <p>6 Authority and I'm tonight's Hearing</p> <p>7 Officer. With me to right is</p> <p>8 Commissioner Kevin McCaine and to his</p> <p>9 right, Commissioner Dan Horowitz. They</p> <p>10 serve on the Board of Commissioners</p> <p>11 which The Port Authority is governed</p> <p>12 by.</p> <p>13 There are two distinct purposes for</p> <p>14 today's public hearing; first, to get</p> <p>15 comments on certain proposed</p> <p>16 adjustments to Port Authority tolls,</p> <p>17 fares and fees, and second, to give</p> <p>18 comments on proposed changes to the</p> <p>19 Port Authority 2017 to 2026 Capital</p> <p>20 Plan.</p> <p>21 Now, for the sake of convenience,</p> <p>22 for the various proposed adjustments</p> <p>23 and changes, we will separate them so</p> <p>24 that they are described in a single</p> <p>25 video. You will see that video behind</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 4</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19</p> <p>2 made today are going to be</p> <p>3 transcribed and reviewed by Port</p> <p>4 Authority staff so that everything</p> <p>5 that you shared this evening will</p> <p>6 be conveyed to the full Port</p> <p>7 Authority Board of Commissioners,</p> <p>8 not just the two Commissioners who</p> <p>9 are with us tonight.</p> <p>10 There's a Spanish translator</p> <p>11 here, as well as an American Sign</p> <p>12 Language translator, should that be</p> <p>13 of use to you.</p> <p>14 After the video plays, I'm</p> <p>15 going to call people up to the</p> <p>16 microphone to speak and people will</p> <p>17 be called up in the order in which</p> <p>18 they signed in, so if you haven't</p> <p>19 had a chance to do so already, just</p> <p>20 sign-in in the back.</p> <p>21 Without further adieu, let's</p> <p>22 have the video and then we will</p> <p>23 begin calling up people to speak.</p> <p>24 (Video is played.)</p> <p>25 MR. FARBIARZ: We're going to begin</p>

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<p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 with public comments now; just a 3 reminder, each commenter gets three 4 minutes. There is a Spanish language 5 interpreter in addition to an American 6 Sign Language translator. 7 I will be calling people up in the 8 order in which they've signed in, and 9 the first person is Christian Hartman. 10 MR. HARTMAN: Good evening. Thank 11 you, everybody. Again, my name is 12 Christian Hartman, last name is 13 H-a-r-t-m-a-n. I am the vice president 14 for a group called the New Jersey 15 Alliance for Action, and basically 16 we're an association -- a non-partisan 17 association with a few thousand folks 18 representing our Government; academic 19 and professional. 20 All we try to do is promote capital 21 construction and responsible 22 infrastructure investment in New 23 Jersey, and that could be 24 transportation, water and wastewater, 25 costal protection, harbor dredging,</p>	<p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 facilities, so I congratulate you on 3 doing such a really good job. 4 On a personal level, I use the Port 5 Authority, some of the assets, a lot, 6 for both professional and business, 7 whether I'm interfacing with clients or 8 whether I'm visiting my family in 9 Staten Island and everything like that, 10 so from the airports to the bridges, 11 the PATH, I'm happy to pay a little bit 12 more in order to make sure that these 13 assets remain safe and expand moving 14 forward. 15 Also, the Port Authority employs a 16 lot of people as you embark on 17 different capital improvements and that 18 helps the entire region's economy, so 19 we're happy to see these assets 20 continue to grow, continue to get 21 investment, so we strongly support the 22 proposed fare and toll changes as it 23 will help fund a lot of the long-term 24 transportation security and the capital 25 construction plans that are needed to</p>
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<p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 things like that, and we believe 3 infrastructure is one of the most vital 4 elements in this transportation to the 5 state's future and economic growth. 6 Without an efficient and effective and 7 balanced systems of roads, bridges and 8 public transit, the economy declines in 9 our state. We wouldn't be able to 10 compete in the new worldwide 11 marketplace that we have. 12 We support the proposed toll and 13 fare changes. The Port Authority 14 handles truly a staggering amount of 15 people moving through the region every 16 single day, and in order to do so 17 safely and efficiently, the Port 18 Authority has already built a brand new 19 infrastructure like the Goethals 20 Bridge, upgrading current facilities 21 such as PATH and GWB and expanding the 22 region's airports. 23 The region continues to grow and no 24 authority really does as good a job as 25 the Port Authority in upgrading those</p>	<p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 strengthen the region. 3 We'll submit a couple of more 4 detailed comments in writing for you 5 guys to review, but thanks a lot for 6 giving us the opportunity to comment in 7 public tonight. I appreciate it. 8 MR. FARBIARZ: Chip Hallock. 9 MR. HALLOCK: Good evening, 10 Commissioners. I'm Chip Hallock. I'm 11 the President of the Newark Regional 12 Business Partnership. We're a 13 broad-based business organization that 14 was originally founded as a Newark 15 Board of Trade 150 years. Now we have 16 400 members of all shapes and sizes, 17 universities, businesses, corporations, 18 small businesses, nonprofit 19 organizations, and we work to provide 20 our members with connections, 21 information, advocacy they need to be 22 more successful, while at the same time 23 working to revitalize the City of 24 Newark and ensure that we have a 25 vibrant economy here in the Newark</p>

<p style="text-align: right;">Page 9</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 Region. 3 The transportation assets of the 4 Port Authority provide the entire 5 Metropolitan area with business and 6 employment activity that can be 7 sustained only through thoughtful 8 planning and targeted spending, and we 9 are pleased that the Port Authority is 10 considering increased infrastructure 11 investment that will ensure our 12 region's ability to increase in 13 people's safety and efficiency. 14 The PATH train capacity and 15 customer improvements, the new 16 AirTrain, the improvements to the 17 Newark Airport, Terminal 1 and Terminal 18 2, and internals are critical elements 19 to economic vitality which require 20 continuous expansion and modernization 21 and cannot be ignored and they can't be 22 left alone. 23 We support these projects and the 24 reassessed capital plan. We've also 25 included a number of Newark central</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 11</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 community's needs. 3 We thank you for the opportunity to 4 speak tonight and we wish you well. 5 MR. FARBIARZ: Yosry Mohammed. 6 MR. MOHAMMED: Good evening, 7 gentlemen. I'm Yosry Mohammed. I am 8 from the Elizabeth Taxicab Association. 9 I'd just like to share the business 10 with the Port Authority and for us 11 about a new terminal, bridges and 12 obviously all, so I have only one 13 comment about the fee which are applied 14 for the customer for using 15 transportation, and that question which 16 I am asking before we have a meeting 17 with the member of the Port Authority, 18 I would like to ask who is going to be 19 responsible for the \$4 toll fee and how 20 is it going to be collected from us? 21 MR. FARBIARZ: Mr. Mohammed, as 22 I've laid out in the beginning, the 23 expectation tonight is there's not 24 going to be back-and-forth, but if you 25 would like, I think maybe we can get</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">Page 10</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 projects that we've testified at during 3 previous hearings and over many years. 4 When discussing the capital plan 5 adjustments at our late June Board of 6 Director's meeting, our volunteer 7 leadership acknowledged the financial 8 impact in its increases on business, 9 commuters and travelers. No one wants 10 to pay more in tolls, fares or fees, 11 but these projects have to be 12 undertaken and they must be paid for. 13 Port Authority toll and fare revenue 14 has to grow to improve its facilities 15 and services. 16 That being said, our Board urges 17 the Commissioners to review the 18 proposal to ensure that's the most 19 economically responsible plan possible 20 and approve only those revenue 21 increases that are absolutely necessary 22 for implementation. We certainly 23 expect the results of the enhanced 24 investment to be cost effective and 25 responsive to the greater of our</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Page 12</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 your name and number and find a way for 3 staff to contact you separately so we 4 can have that conversation. 5 MR. MOHAMMED: I appreciate it. 6 Thank you very much for that. 7 Thank you. 8 MR. FARBIARZ: Ahmed Ziadm. 9 MR. AHMED: Good evening, 10 Commissioners. My name is Ziadm Ahmed. 11 I'm a second generation taxicab owner 12 in addition to being a part-time taxi 13 driver at Newark Liberty International 14 Airport, Terminal A, so without 15 gratification, I was contacted by the 16 Elizabeth Taxi Association to speak on 17 their behalf today, so I'm basically 18 here to say that we have learned from 19 the airport manager yesterday during 20 the meeting, which I personally didn't 21 attend but I read the agenda, that 22 there would be a \$4 charged fee that 23 will be implemented upon taxicabs and 24 it was allocated that the customers 25 will pay.</p>

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 2 I just have four points we wanted
 3 to run through just to like sort of
 4 impose them. So we wanted to sort of
 5 explain that right now with the
 6 customer paying an increase in tolls
 7 for tunnels and bridges and luggage
 8 fees and credit card transaction fees
 9 and so on and so forth, that when the
 10 customer approaches the taxicab desk at
 11 the airport currently and asks for a
 12 fare to the east side of Manhattan, for
 13 example, during rush hour, they are
 14 told \$55, but after tolls and
 15 everything are factored in, sometimes
 16 they go up to \$75. So with that
 17 increase, as well, it will go up to
 18 even \$79 with the fact being that the
 19 TLC companies are currently affecting
 20 the business which will draw the
 21 customers away from taking taxicabs.
 22 The second point we were talking
 23 about is that for the \$4 to be imposed,
 24 currently there are companies that
 25 operate out of the airport, sort of

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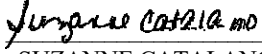
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 2 compare prices with illegal solicitors
 3 or with Uber or arrange for private
 4 pickup, and that way we would be
 5 assigned that they already picked up
 6 the customer even though the fare
 7 wasn't really originated. So, that's a
 8 query right there.
 9 The other question we were asking
 10 is that how is that income being taxed;
 11 basically, is it a profit or an
 12 expense?
 13 And then the fourth thing we were
 14 asking is that we have two types of
 15 fares at the airport; we have long
 16 hauls and short hauls. So, short hauls
 17 are anything that range from \$13 to \$22
 18 on average and they are any that tops
 19 the border of Newark and Newark itself,
 20 so that would be too much for the
 21 customer like to raise the price for,
 22 and we just wanted to know if like that
 23 in comparison -- we know everybody is
 24 going to be implemented that price, but
 25 at the same time with TLCs being up to

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 2 shuttle companies, without naming like
 3 certain corporations, that they carry
 4 up to 18 passengers plus the driver and
 5 they make about four or five rounds
 6 daily. It is set by contract that they
 7 pay about \$400 yearly per vehicle, so
 8 we see that the \$4 per ride would be a
 9 little too much for the customer at
 10 this point in time.
 11 The third question we were asking
 12 is that how would the fee be collected.
 13 Like, for example, currently the taxi
 14 stack area at the airport, when we
 15 enter the stack we're scanned as like a
 16 vehicle is scanned for entering the
 17 line. As you leave the line, you're
 18 scanned again. So at that point some
 19 customers approach the dispatcher and
 20 ask for a receipt, frequently simply
 21 because they want to report it as
 22 income to their companies, and they
 23 leave with the receipt even though it
 24 has their taxi number on it. Sometimes
 25 they even take the receipt and go and

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 2 82.4 billion companies, as vendor
 3 contractors, we have a lot of expense.
 4 We really respect you. Thank you
 5 for this great event and we hope that
 6 you have understood respective where
 7 we're coming from.
 8 Thank you, Commissioners. Have a
 9 nice day.
 10 MR. FARBIARZ: Rodma Sanelus.
 11 MR. SANELUS: Good evening, Rodma
 12 Sanelus, and I'm from the Newark
 13 Taxicab Association.
 14 Basically, I understand the whole
 15 point that you're trying to better the
 16 infrastructure of the Newark Liberty
 17 and also everything that is going on
 18 with the Port Authority, but my point
 19 is we are making the consumer pay for
 20 something that we create a problem,
 21 which is we're allowed kind -- like to
 22 kind of run wild, meaning there is no
 23 (inaudible).
 24 You have a high increase of traffic
 25 issue that is going on through the

<p style="text-align: center;">Page 17</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 airport, through everywhere. Now the 3 consumer is going to end up paying for 4 situations that we allow to happen. 5 Now, if there was a control on 6 that, I think that would kind of like 7 settle the base of the issue we have 8 right now. Right now we have a high 9 number of travelers that's actually 10 going through the airport which is not 11 legal, so how is the consumer paying 12 for something that we create? 13 So my point is, how we make a 14 consumer pay for something we create a 15 problem? 16 MR. FARBIARZ: If there is anyone 17 else in the room who would like to 18 speak at the moment, please sign-in and 19 then come forward. 20 No one for now. We will be here a 21 while yet to await other people as they 22 come in. 23 Thank you for the comments so far. 24 Seeing that there are no further 25 people signed up to speak and seeing</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Page 19</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 C E R T I F I C A T E 3 I, SUZANNE CATALANO, a shorthand 4 reporter and Notary Public within and for the 5 State of New York, do hereby certify: 6 That the within proceeding is a true 7 and accurate record of the stenographic notes 8 taken by me. 9 I further certify that I am not 10 related to any of the parties to this action 11 by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way 12 interested in the outcome of this matter. 13 14  15 SUZANNE CATALANO 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Page 18</p> <p>1 Port Authority Hearing 7/18/19 2 there are no additional people in the 3 audience who would like to sign-up, we 4 will close the proceedings tonight. 5 There are three more public 6 hearings; the next one is on Monday. 7 In addition, written comments can be 8 made until September 13th on the Port 9 Authority's website, PANYNJ.gov. 10 Thank you. We are adjourned for 11 tonight. 12 (Time noted: 9:00 p.m.) 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25</p>	

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