



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

April 17, 2024

Mr. Janno Lieber  
Chair and Chief Executive Officer  
Metropolitan Transportation Authority  
2 Broadway  
New York, NY 10004

Subject: Withdrawal of selection of the Penn Station Reconstruction Project

Dear Mr. Lieber:

As you are aware, on November 15, 2024, the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) announced it selected (i) Amtrak to receive Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) grant funding under its Federal-State Partnership for Intercity Passenger Rail Program for the Northeast Corridor (FSP-NEC) for project development activities for the proposed Penn Station Capacity Expansion project (Penn-X), and (ii) the Metropolitan Transportation Authority of New York (MTA) to receive FY24 FSP-NEC funding for project development activities for the proposed Penn Station Reconstruction project (Penn-R).

At the time of the FY24 FSP-NEC selection announcement, FRA informed Amtrak and MTA it would be necessary to perform additional analyses and conduct stakeholder and public outreach prior to FRA making class of action determinations under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and initiating the environmental review for Penn-X and Penn-R. FRA has determined the necessary planning for reconstruction and expansion of Penn Station will be conducted under a single grant, led by Amtrak.

To that end, this letter provides notice to MTA that FRA is withdrawing its selection of the Penn-R project for project development activities under the FY24 FSP-NEC program.

FRA's mission to enable the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of people and goods for a strong America, now and in the future, includes modernization and expansion of the Nation's rail system. In implementing that mission, FRA is committed to ensuring that rail development projects, including those proposed for Penn Station New York, further the goal of achieving modern, efficient passenger rail service for the communities it serves.

FRA looks forward to advancing this important planning effort to ensure Penn Station meets the needs of the communities it serves, now and in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kyle Fields".

Kyle Fields  
Chief Counsel