MTA Metropolitan Transportation Authority

DATE: February 15, 2024

AGENCY NAME: Metropolitan Transportation Authority

DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED SINCE 2021

1) Centralized MTA data at metrics.mta.info and NYS Open Data Portal

Proceeding the passing of the 2021 Open Data Law, the MTA submitted the statutorily required Open Data Catalog within 180 days, which outlined the datasets to be centralized and published on data.ny.gov. MTA was proud to be the first New York State agency or public authority to publish our Open Data Catalog as a dataset on data.ny.gov.

In the summer of 2022, the MTA stood up metrics.mta.info – a new, centralized data visualization tool that retired MTA's practice of sharing data primarily through PDFs. The site features interactive, web-based dashboards of all essential customer-focused performance metrics and pulls directly from the data we publish on data.ny.gov. The new site also allowed MTA to retire 6 discrete data dashboards on the MTA website, which have now been visually updated and incorporated into the centralized site. Since launching in 2022, MTA has published 92 datasets to the NYS Open Data Portal and built out 90 visualizations on metrics.mta.info.

2) Produced MTA Committee books in Open Data format

Starting in 2022, the MTA began the process of uploading data traditionally reported in MTA Committee materials to the NYS Open Data Portal in easy-to-use tabular formats. For many years, the MTA shared data for presentation or display, but we are moving quickly toward sharing data in machine-readable formats, as required in the 2021 Open Data Law. Data from the New York City Transit Committee, Joint Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North Railroad Committee, and Safety Committee books are now produced in machine-readable format to metrics.mta.info and data.ny.gov.

3) Assigned a staff person to serve as Data Coordinator

In 2022, the MTA hired a full-time Open Data Manager dedicated to managing the MTA's Open Data Program, as required by the 2021 Open Data Law. While the MTA Transparency Plan called for this staff person to report to the Chief Customer Officer, the position has since moved to the newly formed Data & Analytics team under the Chief of Strategic Initiatives, Jon Kaufman. This placement allows for more seamless data management, improved pipelines and processes, and more efficient publishing of new datasets. The team now has 2 full time data scientists and a broader data engineering function to facilitate data centralization and improve transparency.

The agencies of the MTA

MTA New York City Transit   MTA Metro-North Railroad   MTA Construction & Development
MTA Long Island Rail Road   MTA Bridges and Tunnels   MTA Bus Company

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INITATIVES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2024

1) Publish operating budget data

At the end of Q1 2024, the MTA will publish the agency's operating budget data in machine-readable formats. Datasets will include the MTA's statement of operations, subsidy information, number of employees by agency and position function, and other critical elements of the operating budget. Currently, this data is published as PDFs for the MTA Finance Committee and regular Financial Plan updates, but is not provided in machine-readable format. This information will still be regularly reported in those forums, but with the added benefit of open data access.

2) Publish Congestion Pricing implementation data

Beginning with the launch of the Congestion Pricing program, which will charge drivers a toll for entering Manhattan below 60 Street, the MTA will begin publishing data related to program implementation. Datasets will be in machine-readable format and feature information including toll crossings, revenue generated, and vehicle speeds.

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