

SUMMARY

Improving Structural Inspections at MTA New York City Transit MTA/OIG Report #2012-11

NYC Transit operates over 240 route miles of subway structures with 468 stations system-wide and must regularly inspect these structures for defects to safeguard its employees and riders. These inspections are also vital to the agency's proper management of its limited resources for maintenance and capital repair. Our audit of structural inspection practices, though, finds that NYC Transit has not inspected some critical support structures on a regular and timely basis, and in some cases has not inspected certain critical structures for decades. Examples of the overlooked structures we found include steel supports at elevated stations on the **J** line; truss bridges (one of the oldest types of modern bridges); abandoned sections of stations that serve as supporting structures for active sections of stations; and the concrete Rockaway Viaduct that spans Jamaica Bay in Queens. The Office of the MTA Inspector General made seven recommendations designed to promote safety, and to make structural inspections broader in reach as well as more timely, effective, and efficient.

Inspector General Barry L. Kluger stated that "Certainly we are encouraged that NYC Transit has accepted the substance of our findings and all of our recommendations, which we believe will improve its ability to effectively plan and prioritize maintenance and help ensure that its infrastructure is safe."

Press

[NY Daily News 5/9/13 - MTA report reveals critical parts of subway lack inspection records](#)

[NBCNewYork.com 5/9/13 - Inspectors Fail to Examine Critical Subway Structures, MTA Reports Says](#)

[CBS 2 5/9/13 - Report: Parts of Subway Long Overdue For Safety Inspections](#)

[NY1 5/9/13 - NYC Transit Failing To Inspect Structures That Hold Up Elevated Trains, Report Says](#)

[Gothamist Daily 5/9/13 - MTA Inspector General Finds MTA Hasn't Inspected Some Critical Structures For Decades](#)

[NY Post 5/9/13 - Latest MTA in'span'ity](#)

[Newsday 5/8/13 - Report faults MTA on lax inspections](#)