November 20, 2006

Mr. Lawrence G. Reuter, President
MTA New York City Transit
2 Broadway
New York, NY 10004

RE: PTSB CASE #9122

Dear Mr. Reuter:

The Public Transportation Safety Board received notice of a multiple injury bus accident involving the MTA New York City Transit, which occurred on 3rd Avenue at the intersection with East 150th Street, Bronx, NY, on September 26, 2006.

Based on a review of the enclosed Close Out Report, no further action is necessary.

Sincerely,

John F. Guinan
Executive Director
Public Transportation Safety Board.

Enclosure
MTA NYCT bus #865 was standing at the red traffic signal on W 125th St. at the intersection with 3rd Ave. when the right side of a tractor trailer, traveling in the same direction to the left of the bus, collided with the left rear of the bus. The bus driver and 5 of the 20 bus passengers claimed various minor injuries and were transported to a local hospital where they were all treated and released. Both vehicles sustained moderate damage from the collision. The tractor trailer driver, in a statement to police, indicated that he had become distracted, while looking for street signs, causing him to collide with the bus. Post accident drug and alcohol tests performed on the bus driver upon his release from the hospital, 7 hrs and 3 min from the time of the accident, were negative. Bus and bus driver records were reviewed and found to be complete, in-order and up-to-date. The bus records also showed no recurring defects or history of problems which would be considered causal to the accident. Decelerometer tests were performed on the bus’ braking systems and showed stopping distances that met the MTA NYCT adopted standards for passenger vehicles of NYS DOT Regulations (Title 17 of NYCRR, Article 3, Part 720). The Public Transportation Safety Board staff finds that the most probable cause of the accident was the failure of the tractor trailer driver to remain in the proper travel lane due to his being distracted while looking for street signs.

IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT THE BUS PROPERTY INVOLVED IN THIS ACCIDENT DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT.

SUBMITTAL

THE ABOVE ACCIDENT HAS BEEN INVESTIGATED AND MEETS ALL OF THE CONDITIONS IDENTIFIED IN PTSB RESOLUTION #1340 AND REQUIRES NO FURTHER ACTION.