



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: May 23, 2016

In reply refer to: R-16-01 through -02

Ms. Carolyn Flowers
Acting Administrator
Federal Transit Administration
Washington, DC 20590

On May 3, 2016, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) adopted its report concerning the January 12, 2015, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) L'Enfant Plaza station electrical arcing and smoke accident.¹ Additional information about this accident and the resulting recommendations may be found in the report of the investigation, which can be accessed at our website, <http://www.nts.gov>, under report number RAR-16/01.

As a result of this investigation, we issued 31 new recommendations, including 1 to the mayor of the District of Columbia, 3 to the District of Columbia Office of Unified Communications, 1 to the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department, 24 to WMATA, and the following 2 recommendations to the Federal Transit Administration:

R-16-01

Issue regulatory standards for tunnel infrastructure inspection, maintenance, and repair, incorporating applicable industry consensus standards into those standards.

R-16-02

Issue regulatory safety standards for emergency egress in tunnel environments.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in these recommendations.

¹ See *Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority L'Enfant Plaza Station Electrical Arcing and Smoke Accident, January 12, 2015*, Railroad Accident Report RAR-16/01 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, 2016).

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement them. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman