



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: May 23, 2016

In reply refer to: R-16-07

Mr. Gregory M. Dean
Chief
District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department
2000 14th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20009

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 2 to the Federal Transit Administration, 1 to the mayor of the District of Columbia, 3 to the District of Columbia Office of Unified Communications, 24 to WMATA, and the following recommendation to the District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Services Department:

R-16-07

Implement measures to train all command officers who will serve in the role of incident commander in the skills and practices of National Incident Management System incident command and unified command processes. This training should include regular refresher training.

Chairman HART, Vice Chairman DINH-ZARR, and Members SUMWALT and WEENER concurred in this recommendation.

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 this recommendation because it is 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 it. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart,
Chairman