



**Metro**

Metropolitan Transportation Authority

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MARCH 17, 2004

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**THROUGH:** ROGER SNOBLE  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**FROM:** JOHN B. CATOE, JR.  
DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**SUBJECT:** REBUILDING OF ESCALATOR #207 LOCATED AT  
CIVIC CENTER STATION

**ISSUE**

Escalator #207, which serves the street to mezzanine levels of Civic Center Station's south portal, was taken out of service on January 29, 2004 due to corrosion damage. MTA Construction has assessed water intrusion in the pit and efforts are underway to mitigate the constant exposed flow of water from the base of the unit. Mitsubishi Electric, MTA's elevator/escalator maintenance contractor, will rebuild the escalator at a cost of approximately \$307,000.

**DISCUSSION**

Escalator #207 at Civic Center Station, which operates downward from street level to mezzanine level, is located atop an underground water stream that flows continuously. Attempts made in the past to block the flow by chemical grouting were unsuccessful. In order to provide a relief point for the water, a drain was installed that redirected the water beneath the escalator pit. Humidity from the constant presence of water at the lower end of the escalator has resulted in premature corrosion of the escalator's major moving parts. On a recent inspection, the maintenance contractor assessed the condition of the drive chain and steps and recommended to take the unit out of service due to its unsafe condition. A third party elevator/escalator consultant has corroborated the findings of the maintenance contractor.

Construction and Operations maintenance staff have assessed the water intrusion problem and efforts are under way to enclose the running water to minimize exposure to the unit. All parts to rebuild the escalator have been placed on order by Mitsubishi after Procurement

issued them a limited notice to proceed on February 12th. The lead-time for parts not in inventory is eight weeks. Mitsubishi Electric will complete the rebuilding of the unit under a change order that will modify their existing maintenance contract to include this additional work. Estimated completion date is April 19, 2004.

Funding for the project is drawn from \$1.5M in additional authorization that the Board approved in August 2002 for Mitsubishi's contract to complete several elevator/escalator upgrade and modernization projects. These additional funds were authorized by the Board to maintain an effective and reliable elevator/escalator transportation system. The urgent need to rebuild this key escalator and place it back in service is a higher priority and warrants deferring a less critical elevator improvement project. Consequently, \$307,000 of the funds that were approved by the Board earlier to address elevator/escalator upgrades and modernization will now be redirected to repair escalator #207.

### NEXT STEPS

Once the rebuilding of escalator #207 is completed, periodic assessment of the condition of the unit will be made to monitor any additional and premature deterioration of the equipment due to water intrusion.

Prepared by:

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