



## Safety & Security

September 5, 2021

Colleagues,

Over the past six weeks MTA has worked to build out a network of 120 testing sites at nearly all of our major employee facilities, and encourages all unvaccinated employees to get tested weekly, at these MTA sites, or other convenient locations. While the testing sites will be operational on Sept. 7, as we've always planned, MTA has decided to defer compliance standards at this time. That means testing, while strongly encouraged, will remain voluntary for the time being.

Of course, we firmly believe that getting vaccinated remains the single most important step everyone can take to protect yourselves, families, friends, and colleagues, in accordance with guidance from health experts at all levels of science and government. If you are not vaccinated, please seek advice and answers to any questions from your personal physician or from the MTA's Occupational Health Services (OHS). If you are vaccinated but haven't uploaded proof of vaccination yet, please do so at [new.mta.info/covid-19](http://new.mta.info/covid-19).

Several factors have played a role in the decision to defer the compliance portion of the vaccine or test program for unvaccinated colleagues. First, in the past week the attention of the organization and our workforce has appropriately been focused on responding to and repairing the extraordinary damage caused by Ida and the RCC-related subway emergency last Sunday. Second, several issues raised by our labor unions require additional review. In addition, the State has updated its policies and extended the start date for its own vaccine-or-test program for non-healthcare State employees until mid-October.

We commit to keeping all of you apprised as we continue to build this program and formalize a date to initiate compliance standards.

Thank you and stay safe.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick Warren".

Patrick Warren  
MTA Chief Safety & Security Officer