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## STRAPHANGERS CAMPAIGN RESPONSE TO NEW LIMITATIONS ON ACCESS-A-RIDE ON-DEMAND PILOT

We are deeply disappointed with the fate of Access-A-Ride as laid out in the MTA's new pilot phase for on-demand e-hail service, which would limit the number of rides available to paratransit riders. The future of Access-A-Ride should be one that includes, and expands, unlimited on-demand e-hail service to all paratransit riders.

If done right, on-demand e-hail service has the potential to become one of the greatest success stories to come out of the MTA in recent years. The authority has a chance to transform a service that has failed its riders into a shining example of what paratransit can look like in transit systems all of America's big cities. Yet the MTA has chosen to weaken its program that has been lauded as "life changing" by so many of its users, opting instead to provide pilot users with on-demand service on a severely limited basis.

Accessibility of our transit system was made a huge priority in the MTA's next 5-year capital plan, but the MTA cannot claim it is serious about improving accessibility until it provides decent service to the 150,000 New Yorkers who depend on Access-A-Ride each day.

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