

DRAFT TALKING POINTS

*CEO of Rapid Rail Systems Richard Walker - Gaby Einhorn*

- Thank you for the warm introduction, Governor Hochul. Here at Rapid Rail Systems Inc., we are overjoyed to be responsible for transporting New Yorkers more safely and quickly than ever before.
  - Here at RRS, our mission is to create a high-tech rail system that seamlessly integrates efficiency with comfortability. All Rapid Rail trains are aeronamically designed to reduce overall energy consumption, through the use of electricity rather than gasoline.
  - For over a decade, our team has conducted extensive research studies into Japanese high-speed monorail technology, in order to perfect an electric rail system that fits the needs of New York State residents.
  - Through the use of electronic transportation, the future is now. Never has there been a more time-efficient, cost-efficient way to travel from Buffalo to New York City, and vice versa.
  - A trip from New York City to Buffalo by train would usually take about 10 hours, whereas the RRS trains now allow the trip to be completed in as little as four hours.
  - The trip, which normally would have cost over \$100 through a competing tail system, can now be purchased for a low price of \$80 through Rapid Rails.
  - During trips, amenities such as free wifi, charging stations, and pod bathrooms with diaper-changing tables will be available at all times on Rapid Rail trains. In addition, food is available to be served during mealtimes, equipped with vegetarian, vegan, and gluten-free options if needed.
  - In comparison to competing railroad metro systems, Rapid Railroads allows passengers to travel to and from both locations in almost half as little time, and at an extremely affordable price.
  - Thank you for your time and attention, I will now hand the microphone off to the president of New York State Transit Authority, Thomas Wright, who will guide you through what this means for New York state transit systems.
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1. What are the long-term goals of Rapid Rail Systems Inc. with regard to their electric rail system, and how do they plan to achieve them?

2. Can you explain the benefits of the amenities available on Rapid Rail trains, such as free wifi, charging stations, pod bathrooms, and food options?
3. What are the implications of Rapid Rail Systems Inc.'s rail system for the future of transportation in the United States and around the world?
4. How has Rapid Rail Systems Inc. researched Japanese high-speed monorail technology, and how has it helped them create a rail system for New York State residents?
5. How has Rapid Rail Systems Inc. addressed safety concerns in their electric rail system, and what measures have they put in place to ensure passenger safety?

*Governor Kathy Hochul - Abigail Jones*

- Hello everyone, thank you all so much for coming out here today to listen to an exciting update on New York transportation. I would like to thank Richard Walker, the CEO of Rapid Rail Systems, for being with us here today, as well as Thomas Wright and Pete Buttigieg.
- As you know, two of the driving forces of my campaign have been keeping our communities safe and lowering the cost of living for New Yorkers. We want to keep public transit affordable and make our communities safer while protecting our environment.
- Over the past five years at a cost of \$10 billion, a new set of rails has been developed from New York City to Buffalo, New York to support a high speed service train by Rapid Rail Systems, Inc.
- The rail service will be launched on September 1, 2023.
- One of our priorities has been developing a system of transportation for New York State residents that is safe, efficient, low-cost and contributes to our goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and this bullet train does just that.
- This rail service is our next step to improving access to transportation across New York State for residents while improving safety while traveling.
- Although it has cost a significant amount of taxpayer dollars, this new transportation system will impact all New York residents by providing them a more cost-effective, safer, and more environmentally friendly method of transportation.
- Thank you all so much for your attention and time with us here today. I would now like to introduce someone who has been integral in developing this new form of transportation, Richard Walker, the CEO of Rapid Rail Systems.

1. \$10 billion is a significant amount of taxpayer dollars. How do you justify spending this amount of taxpayer money on a train that only has two stops?
2. What are the environmental concerns of this new form of transportation?
3. Kathy Hochul vetoed a rail safety law less than three months ago that would have required freight trains to be operated by at least a conductor and engineer. How can we be sure that safe public transportation is a priority for Hochul's campaign?
4. Where in New York City and Buffalo will the train stops be located? Are these locations going to be accessible for all New Yorkers to use?
5. How much more taxpayer dollars do you foresee the bullet train requiring?
6. How will you measure the bullet train's success and share those results with the public?

*President of New York State Transit Authority Thomas Wright - Taylor Byrne*

- Introduce myself briefly
- What this means for NYS transportation development
- What this means to New York Residents
- How it compares to current highspeed transportation
- How it is the beginning of development for not only New York but the rest of the country
- The technology is fast, safe, and affordable
- It will bring in jobs for NY residents
- Appeal to the personal appeal (seeing friends and family and other connection)
- Introduce pete buttigieg
- What this means for people beyond NY as well (America)
  - Thank you Mr. Walker. Hello everyone, my name is Thomas Wright, I am the president of the New York State Transit Authority. I think I speak for every New Yorker when I say that this a great step forward. Here in the heart of New York City we are known for our 24/7, 365 subway. It is one of the easiest and most convenient public transportation systems in the United States. And once again New York is taking revolutionary strides in public transportation with the introduction of the high speed train from New York City to Buffalo. For the people of New York State this railroad means affordable, statewide transportation. It means seeing family and friends

faster, it means traveling cheaper, it means connection, and it means jobs. The creation of the New York, Buffalo high speed rail will create around 2,000 jobs for hardworking New York State residents.

- This is the beginning of the future for not only New York, but the rest of the country. Compared to other countries the United States has much to do before our public transportation systems are up to par to our friends in Europe and Asia. Our current high speed rail system in the United States reaches top speeds of 150mph, our new high speed train service can reach speeds up to 250mph. By using the latest technology that is popular and proven to be successful and safe in Japan, we are moving towards a future of eco-friendly, fast, safe, and affordable transportation for America.
- To speak more on the safety of the high speed train service is Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg.

#### Questions

1. What land did you use to build this rail on? Were any New York residents disadvantaged or displaced?
2. Will these jobs, on all levels, offer a livable wage for people living in areas with a high living cost like New York City?
3. Many people critique the NY subway system for being unsafe and unclean. What measure will be taken to keep the highspeed rail safe and clean?
4. As prices continue to rise for transportation services across the country, do you see these prices increasing unexpectedly after boasting its' affordability?
5. How can you guarantee that this train is safe for New York residents?

*Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg - Allison Oey*

- Railroad safety
- Safety design
- Speaking at federal level

- Train safety
- Biden administration feel strongly about this
- Thank you, President Wright. My name is Pete Buttigieg and I am the secretary of transportation. Thank you for joining us today. We believe that Rapid Rail systems is a safe way of transportation.
- For all train systems accident rates are down by 49% since 2000 and the derailment rate is down by 31%. Track accidents are at a straight decline of 40% which is the lowest rate in the rail industry. Per class, employee injury rates have dropped by 70% and are at an all-time low.
- With Rapid Rails we are hoping to beat these percentages and lower them even more. We are taking specific measures to put the public first in terms of safety.
  - Our newest trains are updated with the newest technology that allows trains to run most efficiently with the lowest amount of accidents.
- The Biden administration fully supports Rapid Rail systems and is looking to provide these services in cities across the country.
  - Since Biden took office he has made United States infrastructure and transportation his main priority.
  - He delivered the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law which provides a basis for laws and programs for Federal Highway Administration.
  - This law has now awarded 20,000 new projects to be funded. The projects included repaving roads and upgrading water systems. Additional projects are due to come.
  - The Rapid Rails System will be supported by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to allow for funding and expansion.

1. How does Rapid Rails put their customers first in terms of safety?
  - a. Safety signals located in the train to make passengers aware
  - b. Encouraging passengers to listen and read fire and safety regulations
2. How does Rapid Rails compare to Amtrak in terms of safety?
  - a. Rapid Rails accident rates, track accident rates and employee injury rates are significantly lower and on the decline.
3. What are you hoping to accomplish with the expansion of Rapid Rail Systems?
  - a. We are hoping to promote railroad safety and enforce safe railroad systems across the country.
4. How long will the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law be funding Rapid Rails?
  - a. For as long as Rapid Rails needs it. The Biden administration fully supports Rapid Rails and the service they want to provide to their customers.

5. How do you see Rapid Rails safety measures influencing other train systems like Amtrak?
  - a. Rapid Rails goes to extreme measures to ensure passenger safety and we believe this will change how other companies take their own safety measures. However, Rapid Rails will always put customers first and will continue to evolve and change with new measures.

#### Closing Statements (Kathy Hochul)

- Thank you all again for your time with us today.
  - The Rapid Rails System bullet train is a more efficient, cost effective method of transportation for New Yorkers, and we are ecstatic to introduce it to all of you on September 1st.
  - We would now like to open up the floor for any questions that you may have for us.
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#### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

##### Roles

Richard Walker, president and CEO of Rapid Rail Systems - Gabi

Thomas Wright, president of the New York State Transit Authority - Taylor

Kathy Hochul, governor of New York state - Abigail

Pete Buttigieg, secretary of Transportation - Allison

##### Basic Questions

- Who are the target audiences?
  - Residents of New York State
- How did the company gain entry to the New York State rail market?
  - Has been recognized as direct competition with Amtrak, which has cost the state over 10 billion dollars over the last 5 years. This railway system offers a time-efficient, cost-efficient transportation alternative to Amtrak, which takes a total of 10 hours to complete the trip, while Rapid Rails Inc. only takes 4 hours total.
- Who will participate in the briefing?
  - All of us
    - Governor first- (introduce CEO, excited)
    - CEO second (excited, technology, research, staff, safety)
    - President NYS Transit Authority (what it means to New Yorkers)

- Secretary (safety, train accidents, Biden administration, excited for state of New York, services for other states/cities)
  - Bring the Governor back out (conclusion, questions)
- What will the ticket prices be?
  - \$80 round trip
  - Competitor Amtrak: \$95-\$115
- Where should the media briefing be held?
  - The media briefing should be held at Lincoln Center in New York City
- What amenities will be offered on the trains?
  - Complimentary food/drinks, electric sockets for charging devices, free baggage service
- What is the safety record of RR?
  - Amtrak: 24 derailments annually
  - Rapid rail: 10 dereailments annually
- Do high speed trains cause any environmental concerns or damages?
  - No because trains make transportation cost effective, reduces air pollution and traffic congestion, improves quality of life
  - Keeps people moving in and out of congested areas
  - Benefits outweigh costs
  - Increases air quality by 21.5%
- How does Rapid Rails put their customers first in terms of safety?
  - Safety signals located in the train to make passengers aware
  - Encouraging passengers to listen and read fire and safety regulations
- How many employees
  - Around 2,000 new york jobs
- What land did you use to build this rail on? Were any New York residents disadvantaged or displaced because of its construction?
  - Response: Similarly to many other train networks in the United States, we utilized the space that highways have created to build next to and above existing roads. We either built above the highways themselves or expanded a lane to utilize an existing one.
- Will these jobs, on all levels, offer a liveable wage for people living in areas with a high living cost like New York City?
  - Response: Every job that this railway will provide, from sanitation workers to engineers, makes above New York State minimum wage.
- Many people critique the NY subway system for being unsafe and unclean. What measures will be taken to keep the high-speed rail safe and clean?
  - Response: The New York State high-speed train prides itself on being not only safe and affordable transportation but an experience. In addition to the amenities

we provide, each train car is maintained throughout the day and thoroughly cleaned at the end and beginning of each day. In terms of safety, there are authorities stationed at each stop and easily accessible emergency phones, doors, and fire extinguishers in each car.

- As prices continue to rise for transportation services across the country, do you see these prices increasing unexpectedly after boasting its' affordability?
  - Response: Despite the rising costs of living this country is facing, we are going to do everything in our power to keep our affordable tickets, affordable.
  
- How can you guarantee that this train is safe for New York residents?
  - This train technology is proven to be safe and efficient. This is the latest technology from Japan which has been in effect for many years with just one incident which was proven to be human error. There have been very few accidents in countries that utilize this transportation all of which were human error-related or risky decision-making on the part of the injured.