

**JOHN E. BROOKS**  
**SENATOR, 8<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

**Ranking Minority Member**

Agriculture

Local Government

Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

**THE SENATE**  
**STATE OF NEW YORK**



**Committees**

Aging

Consumer Protection

Education

Housing, Construction and Community

Development

Insurance

April 6, 2017

Charles W. Moorman  
President and CEO  
Amtrak  
60 Massachusetts Avenue, NE  
Washington, DC 200022

Dear Mr. Moorman:

I am writing to express my extreme disappointment regarding Amtrak's handling of recent track failures at Penn Station, especially given today's admission that your railroad had knowledge of track issues prior to Monday's derailment. Thousands of Long Islanders travel in and out of Penn Station every day as a means to get to and from work, and rely on your railroad maintaining its tracks.

The Long Island Railroad (LIRR) is the largest commuter rail in the nation with a ridership of 87 million per year. It is inconceivable that that day after day millions of hard working taxpayers must pay the price for failures that are preventable. I implore you to conduct an immediate evaluation and assessment of all tracks under your jurisdiction that go in and out of Penn Station, and remediate all deficiencies in order to restore and preserve all rail service. Every inch of track should be walked and inspected, and not a stone should be left unturned. Further, I believe that the Metropolitan Transit Authority should be consulted in your review given the significant impact on their customers and service.

Not a day goes by that I do not hear from scores of constituents and LIRR riders who are severely impacted by this avoidable situation. They have been late to work, missed important meetings, and forced to be absent from family engagements. These disruptions have serious consequences on the lives of hardworking Long Islanders and their outrage is justified.

I look forward to an immediate resolution of this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any assistance I may provide to you in resolving these ongoing issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John E. Brooks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

John E. Brooks  
Senator, 8<sup>th</sup> District

**Albany Office:** Room 513, Legislative Office Building • Albany, New York 12247 • (518) 455-2765 • Fax (518) 426-6925

**District Office:** 5550 Merrick Rd., Suite 205 • Massapequa, NY 11758 • (516) 882-0630 • Fax (516) 882-0636

**E-mail Address:** brooks@nysenate.gov • **Webpage:** brooks.nysenate.gov

