## BOMA NY CODES AND REGS COMMITTEE

## TRANSPORTATION REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2025



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## BOMA-NY Codes & Regs Committee September 2025

#### Glenn Waldorf, Bell Environmental Services

#### WHAT IF? ANTICIPATING NYC MEDIA HEADLINES FOR UN WEEK (SEPT 22-26)



- GRIDLOCK & LOAD! UN Week chokes NYC traffic as envoys bring diplomatic immunity + double-parked SUVs.
- SLOW-VIET UNION: Russian envoy's convoy causes Midtown meltdown again.

#### **DAILY®NEWS**

- "NOT MOVIN' UNITED NATIONS: City snarls as world leaders take over and NYers take the long way.
- "HONK IF YOU HATE GRIDLOCK!" Diplomatic plates, dead engines, and no end in sight.

#### The New Hork Times

- "As Leaders Meet, Midtown Slows to a Crawl UN tests New York's patience, infrastructure, and horns.
- "When Policy Meets Pavement: Navigating the UN Traffic Trap" For NYers, it's not global cooperation —
  it's survival.



- "A Brief History of Waiting at 2nd Avenue and 44th: How I Spent the Prime of My Life Behind a Motorcade from Luxembourg.
- "We Regret to Inform You That Your Uber Is in Paraguay: Dispatches from a city where time, space, and Waze collapse.



- "Traffic Derivatives Surge as Midtown Gridlock Hits Q3 Peak"
- "UN Week: Where the Yield Curve Bends... and So Do City Buses"

### Gothamist:

- "UN Week Is Here Again, and So Is That Weird Smell on 1st Avenue"
- "Your Commute Will Be a Hellscape, But Here's a Map and a Therapist"



- "Avoid Midtown or Abandon Hope, Basically"
- "UN Week: Brace for Sirens, Sanity Loss, and 37-Minute Delays



- "Diplomacy and Dystopia: UN Week on the Asphalt Stage"
- "The Motorcade Is the Message"



- "UN Week Could Cost Midtown Businesses \$40M Again"
- "When Traffic Stalls, So Does the City's GDP"



- •"10 Things to Do This UN Week While Sitting in Gridlock"
- "Can't Get to Work? Here's Where to Day Drink Instead"

#### Airplane Safety: Look Out Above and Below!

- Delta passengers stranded overnight on island in the middle of Atlantic Ocean
- CBS News analysis finds warning signs of collision danger before deadly D.C. plane crash
- Inspector General to Review F.A.A.'s Handling of D.C. Airspace After Crash
- Delta Flight Forced to Make Emergency Landing In Florida Over Lithium Battery Fire
- <u>Terror as Spring Airlines Japan flight from Shanghai to Tokyo flight plummets</u> 25,000 feet in minutes
- 25 Hospitalized After Delta Flight Is Hit by Strong Turbulence
- Southwest Airlines jet dives when collision alarms sound as a fighter jet crosses its path near Los Angeles
- <u>Passengers flee on emergency slide after American Airlines Boeing in Denver suffers landing gear fire</u>
- <u>Passenger describes moment SkyWest flight turned to avoid B-52 bomber:</u> <u>Like "a sharp turn on a roller coaster"</u>
- Delta Boeing 767 engine bursts into flames after takeoff from LAX airport: video
- American Airlines flight returns to airport due to mechanical issue flames seen shooting out of engine



#### **7** Fly The Unfriendly Skies

- Trump drops Biden flight disruption reimbursement rule: Passengers whose flights are delayed would no longer be entitled to compensation from airlines under a DOT plan to kill off a Biden-era rule on disruptions caused by carriers.
- Southwest's C.E.O. on Why Now Is the Time for Bag Fees and Assigned Seats The New York Times
- Southwest changes rules for Plus-Sized-Travelers
- Real IDs are being rejected at airports by TSA due to 'sporadic' scanning issues

#### Vs. X The Friendly Skies

• Flight Attendant Shows Kindness to Family Whose Son Had Meltdown

#### Air Traffic Control

- Overhaul of nation's air traffic control system has started, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy says
- Watchdog to audit FAA relocation of Newark, NJ air traffic controllers
- Air Traffic Control Recruits Describe 'Hazing' Atmosphere
- Many air traffic controllers fail or drop out, adding to FAA shortages

#### Mewark Airport

- FAA wants to extend Newark flight cap through October 2026
- Thousands of flights were delayed at Newark. Investigators want to know if moving this FAA facility caused it
- United CEO Says Newark Airport Is Back To Normal
- <u>US Travel Rebounds With UAL-Newark Turnaround as flights rise to 380 daily and ontime tops all NY Airports</u>
- Fiber optic line installation completed at Newark Liberty International Airport

#### **Air Force One**

• What Will It Cost to Renovate Trump's 'Free' Air Force One? Don't Ask.





#### Harrison Ford - Did You Think We'd Forget To Include Him After Our Summer Break?



Remember when this Hollywood legend acted as an impromptu traffic cop when his chauffeur got stuck at the entrance of an underpass in Midtown Manhattan? See: Instagram for Video.

VOTE: Did He Say:

- ☐ "It's Not The Years, Honey, It's The Mileage."
- ☐ "I Don't Know. I'm Making This Up As I Go."

And Because I'm Hanging On For Fortune & Glory.... "Snakes 🐧 🐧 - Why'd It Have To Be Snakes?!?"

An Ilinois Snake On A Train Cannot Beat The 16 Snakes On An Indian Plane, Including A Rhino Rat Snake

#### Tariffs

- <u>Trump Signals Imminent Supreme Court Appeal to Protect Tariffs That Lower Courts Ruled Illegal</u>
- De Minimis Exemption Ended As Full Tariffs Were Put In Place
- Staggering U.S. Tariffs Begin as Trump Widens Trade War
- Detroit Automakers Blast U.S.-Japan Deal Lowering Auto Tariffs
- Ford paid \$800 million in tariff costs, despite building most cars in America. Ford cuts profit forecast
- Trump's tariffs are pummeling top automakers. The hit is \$11.7 billion: and climbing
- What the US-EU Deal Means For The Auto Sector
- <u>Automakers Are Revealing How Much Trumps Tariffs Are Costing</u> Them
- Volkswagen Suffers \$15-Billion Loss From Trump's Tariffs

#### **Electric Vehicles**

- Why China Is Trying To Tame Its Electric Car Frenzy
- Cadillac Is A Luxury EV Giant Can It Keep Up Under Trump?
- Trump Will Slow, but May Not Stop, the Rise of Electric Vehicles
- You Can Now Lease an EV for Less Than \$100 a Month
- Remember the \$7,500 Tax Credit/Subsidy Ends In September 2025
- That was biggest factor that caused the big Trump Musk rift in June.
- BMW Kicks Off €10 Billion Line of Revamped EVs With New SUV

#### **♦ Tesla**

- Yet another bad three months as Tesla reports its Q2 2025 results
- Tesla's response to cratering sales? A deals blitz
- Tesla's future murky as Musk pivots
- Musk Has a New Master Plan for Tesla. Uh Oh.
- "Tesla Diner Just Opened In LA" How does it compare to NJ's Best Diner?
- Will Elon become the world's wealthiest diner owner? <u>Tesla board wants to pay him 1</u> Trillion dollars!

Ford (Motor Co.) Had A Rough 2025, But At Least It Can Take Credit For This Truck Name And Top Gun Joke



Would Coffee and Classic Car Aficionado Jerry Seinfeld Say: "There's Nothing Finer Than Being In Elon's Diner"?



Mike Myers Returns to SNL as Elon Musk and Channels His Iconic Austin Powers Character Dr. Evil

**ONE TRILLION DOLLARS** 

#### Car Technology – "You know what would make this car perfect? Microsoft Teams."

- Mercedes-Benz Expands Collaboration with Microsoft to Boost In-Car Productivity with Enhanced Meetings for Teams App, Intune Integration and Microsoft 365 Copilot
- Mercedes Believes Making Video Calls While Driving
   Is OK, As Long as You Do It for Work.

   <sup>≜</sup>
   <sup>e</sup>
   Hmm →

SAGAL: Probably.

SAGAL: Think of the meetings you'll be able to enjoy now that you don't have that excuse, and think of the fun your colleagues will have trying to distract you into having a crash during the meeting. Whoa, boss, thanks for buying lunch for anybody who gets here within 15 minutes.

SAGAL: ...Driving the latest Mercedes models, you'll be able to use the in-

dash screen and camera to have Zoom meetings.

GROSZ: Did they take out the airbag to put in the Zoom part?

BURKE: It's good, though, 'cause you could call your boss an a-hole and say, no, I just got cut off.

#### **♣** Crime

• 3 New York DMV employees, driving school busted in driver's license scheme, Staten Island DA says

- NYC transit crime spirals downward, even as major felonies remain an issue for law enforcement
- 'Why Do You Continue to Lie?': Fight Over Subway Crime Erupts at House Hearing With DOT Secretary Duffy

#### Congestion Pricing

- Numbers are in and NYC congestion pricing is a big 'success,' Gov. Hochul said.
- \* 67k fewer drivers entering the zone daily
- \* Delays in Holland tunnel down 65%
- \* Traffic deaths down 32% so far in 2025
- \* \$500m projected this year for MTA capital improvements

- \* Broadway theater attendance up 12%
- \* Subway ridership up 7%
- \* Bus ridership up 12%
- \* LIRR ridership up 8%

• Two more congestion pricing lawsuits against the MTA were dismissed.

#### NYC Crosstown Corridors

- City officials walk faster than M34 bus in rush-hour race
- Pedestrians race NYC bus to stress need for 34th Street busway
- Is Mayor Adams hitting the brakes on a plan to restrict traffic on 34th Street?
- Everyone Wants to Fix 14th Street

#### •

**Buses** 

#### Madonna Before & After She Crossed The Borderline!

- Can Mamdani bring free buses to NYC?
- <u>Can We Bring Back Madonna On A Bus In NYC?!?</u> The Express Yourself? Faster Than A Ray of Light? It Runs Into The Groove? On Time-Like A Prayer?
- To shame bus passengers into paying the fare on New York City buses, the MTA is considering video-recording anyone who fails to pay, then playing the clip for everyone else aboard accompanied by a message stating that fare evasion was detected.
- HM CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR AND CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR
- <u>Uber's new shuttles look suspiciously familiar to anyone who's taken a bus</u>
- New pilot program from the MTA/DOT spotted on the Upper West Side. A real-time bus wait time touch screen on W. 80th St. 4 devices were placed across the city on June 25 to test the technology over the next year.

#### **Bicycles**

- NYC creating new Department of Sustainable Delivery with e-bike and scooter enforcement
- Dozens of new officers will crack down on NYC delivery workers riding e-bikes and mopeds
- NYC cyclists see tenfold increase in criminal summonses under NYPD push
- Councilman wants an age limit on CitiBikes

• 'He needs Hasidic voters': Mayor Adams' campaign gambit on a Brooklyn bike lane

#### = Tell 'Em Large Marge Sent'cha!

• <u>Pee-wee Herman's iconic red bicycle to be permanently displayed at the Alamo</u>, but not in the basement! →





#### Deliveries

• Tote Taxi Will Deliver Just About Anything to the Hamptons' Elite

#### **Bridges**

• MIT researchers discover game-changing solution for America's \$200 billion failing bridge crisis: 'Huge milestone'

#### **d** Cruises

- Wild footage captures massive Carnival Cruise ship brawl that erupted over 'chicken tenders'
- Chaos on Royal Caribbean's Icon of the Seas cruise ship as broken water slide injures guest

#### Deep Dives (Including Submarines)

- Who Owns the Streets? The Competition for New York's Public Realm
- When Midcentury New York Spoke, This Sound Archivist Listened—and Recorded Every Word
- OceanGate's Titan Submersible Implosion Was Preventable Disaster, Coast Guard Report Concludes
- Submarine Stealth Mission: How a 2019 Top Secret SEAL Team 6 Mission Into North Korea Fell Apart

#### Environment

- The EPA proposes gutting its greenhouse gas rules. Here's what it means for cars and pollution
- E.P.A. Is Said to Draft a Plan to End Its Ability to Fight Climate Change
- Japan just built a robot fish that swims through sewage and cleans microplastics as it goes!
- Hundreds of gallons of fuel spilled at Wildwood Wawa next to bay

#### Extreme Weather – The Tri-State Got Soaked And The Subway Was A Mess! (Try To Blame The Sewers & Geology)

- Heavy rain floods NYC streets, highways and subway as commuters brace for Tuesday July 15, 2025 Commute
- <u>July 14, 2025: Flash flood warnings across NYC and NJ as downpours soak Tri-State Area Metro-North tracks in Hawthorne show severe flooding on the Saw Mill.... Multiple cars were submerged during the evening commute.</u>
- MTA says it's trying to fix hot subway cars amid June heat wave
- NYC flooding traps semi, submerges multiple vehicles on Queens highway as Gov. declared state of emergency
- After storms cause massive subway flooding, MTA chief calls on NYC to grow sewer capacity
- Flooding forces NYC commuters to CLIMB out of subway
- Floodwater seeped through the walls of the 7th Avenue station in Park Slope
- New York City, Tri-State area hit with heavy rain, flash flooding
- Grand Central Metro North train and platform flooded
- NYC subway service still dragging for evening rush after Tuesday July 29 morning meltdown
- Power outage disrupts morning subway commute July 29, 2025
- Subway Geyser Created By Primordial Stream Buried Under Manhattan Really?!?

#### News of The Weird – Chicago

• <u>Divers located 97 cars in Chicago River amid search for couple who disappeared in 1970. SNL's Motivational Speaker Matt Foley (35 Years-old, Divorced)</u> was no help despite <u>living in a van down by the river</u>



#### Ferries and Waterways

- Circle Line Celebrates 80 Years Around the Island and Still Making Waves from Hell's Kitchen
- Proposed City Ferry Plan Takes West Siders on a Two-Borough Detour, Not a Commute
- NYC Ferry could get direct service from Bronx to Rockaways
- NYC Ferry changes include Brooklyn and Staten Island connection
- NYC Ferry finally considering waterway connection between Brooklyn, Staten Island
- City awarded \$5.75M federal grant for upgrades to St. George Ferry Terminal
- Abandoned boats among debris clogging New York City waters

#### 🧤 News of The Weird – Ireland 🤲 – Hey Look! It's Bono From U2! 🗲

• Motorist shaken after hitting dummy filled with tomato ketchup and placed in road

#### **Highways**

- BQE Triple Cantilever repair project drawing renewed attention
- E-ZPass drivers could still be charged extra toll rate: Here's why

#### **Mathematical Mathematical Math**

• NYC To Build 3,000 New Homes At Former Flushing Airport Site

#### Infrastructure

- 5 projects, including one in the Hudson, on track for new NJ-NY Gateway rail tunnel
- America's Most Critical Rail Tunnel is Failing—Here's the \$16 Billion Plan to Fix The Hudson Rail Tunnel: Watch
- How to Navigate JFK When It's Under Construction
- Fewer cars or expanded highways? A battle for New York's future on the road
- New York City to mostly stop buying gas-powered vehicles as of 2025
- Transit breakdowns raise questions about region's readiness for World Cup crowds

#### MTA

- New LIRR train cars to arrive nearly 60 years late
- Proposed changes to Metro-North ticket policy and fares for next year
- Proposed changes to MTA fares and tolls in 2025
- New Proposed Connecticut MTA Rates
- MTA calls out Connecticut over 'scary' double-digit Metro-North rate hike proposal
- New Ticket Vending Machines Have Been Installed At Some Metro-North Stations

#### Mationwide Rail

- Amtrak launches 'new era' of high-speed trains From Boston To DC
- The US May Soon Have A 3-Day Transcontinental Train Route Connecting These Major Cities
- LA to NYC high-speed train proposed ahead of FIFA World Cup
- America's high-speed rail fail Today, Explained Worth a Listen (Podcast) 🞧 📼 🔼 💵 📢
- Maglev train from D.C. to Baltimore killed by Trump administration
- Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern reach \$250 billion merger deal

#### 🔑 Grand Slam or Grand Scam? US Open Your Wallet Wide? Match Point: MTA. Just Take The LIRR or 7 Line!

• Uber sparks chaos at US Open by price gouging with \$200 rides, long wait times







#### News of The Weird - Maryland

Wind turbine blade crashes into Maryland traffic on Interstate 70 →

#### **New-Yawk Vs European Language Concerns**

- 'Bonjour' Sets Off a Linguistic Dispute on a Belgian Train
- From pronunciation attempts to guessing which names were real or fake, Now it's @NY1's JamieStelter and New Yorkers' turn! How'd they do?

## I-70 EAST -70 EAST -70 EAST -70 EAST -70 EAST -70 EAST

#### Mew Jersey – The Earthquake Capital Of The Summer!

- A third of new members on the US DOT advisory committee have NJ ties
- These are the ugliest public buildings in New Jersey!
- NJ drivers can now get a digital license on their phones. Here's how.
- After nearly dipping below \$3, NJ gas prices are rising again
- NJ Radio legend Dennis Malloy bids goodbye to New Jersey 101.5 WKXW FM
- New law requires driver's ed on bike, pedestrian, exam questions come next year
- Jersey Shore beach replenishment gets no federal funding
- The Greenway: Construction begins on NJ's newest rail-to-trail park
- Jersey Shore drawbridges from 1930s failing, causing traffic problems
- Future of N.J.'s 'evil clown' sign in question after court ruling
- Boxcar: New Shoreliner Special: One Seat Ride From NYC to the Jersey Shore
- <u>Made in NJ: "All Points West" Distillery brings bold new spirits to cocktail scene</u> (with a name taken the announcements at the legendary Hoboken train station)



- NJ's New For 2025 Summer Highway Signs Of Course There Were Two Bon Jovi References: Who says you can't go home? The police if you drive drunk!" and "Don't let your speed be to blame / Don't give our roads a bad name."
- <u>Drivers advised to watch for kids as school year begins</u>. There's a new sign on South Orange Avenue warning: "Back To School, Eyes Up-Phones Down, Kids Around."
- NJ's Fall Highway signs are shorter and lean into an 80's Vibe like this whole report. Though we haven't seen Mr. T standing next to a road sign in real life. BTW We're still sentimental about some of NJ's greatest road sign hits.

Will see soon see: Don't Text Your Ex 💔 📱 ... Not Even While Driving 🚙 🤻

- Gov. Murphy announces expanded transportation options for South Jersey
- Garden State Parkway: Hidden toll-free exit at Connie Chung service area closed
- How extreme heat affected Highway Route 287 In Morris County, NJ
- I-80, Mile Marker 41.6 Parsippany-Troy Hills Twp, Morris County was the scene of a 4 to 5-acre wildfire burning along the westbound side of Interstate 80.

#### Scary sight/site along my route home! →

- Is New Jersey or Massachusetts to blame for the dreaded traffic circle?
- NJ Turnpike board settles dispute over \$3.1M Academy bus subsidiaries owed
- Impact of SEPTA service reductions on NJ commuters
- What's the faster Jersey Shore commute Route 9 or the Parkway?







#### Are you also a transportation nerd?

News 12 - NJ has a whole series on "The Toll of Commuting"



#### MJ Transit

- NJ Transit fare revenue: Will 2026 finally break 9-year shortfall streak?
- NJ Transit fares for trains and buses increased by 3% on July 1, 2025
- U.S. Supreme Court to decide whether NJ Transit can be sued in other states
- Groundbreaking on the next critical phase of the new Raritan River Bridge.

#### NJT Trains

- NJ Transit Trains Have The Worst Performance In The Region: By The Numbers
- This Comes After NJ Transit Was Delayed Over And Over Again Due To Amtrak Signal Issues
- Amtrak Officers Save NJ Transit Conductor Having A Heart Attack At Penn Station
- Hackensack wants NJ Transit to improve crossing safety after recent fatalities
- Tired Of NJ Transit? Hoboken Mayoral Candidate Floats \$5 NYC Ferry Rides
- NJ Transit Launches Interactive Map Showing Historical Sites Across The State
- Meadowlands Rail Line temporarily renamed for the Jonas Bros.
- Feds investigating NJ train fire that injured 9 and snarled morning commute
- Will AC problems cancel NJ Transit trains when heat waves approach?
- NJ Transit: 2 drawbridges stuck open due to extreme heat, service suspended
- Service to MetLife Stadium Begins for Jets & Giants Games: What To Know.
- NJ Transit takes over troubled, 34-mile light rail Camdem-Trenton River Line from operator Alstom.

# Jonas Brothers Hometown Express Jonas Brothers Hometown Express

#### NJT Buses

- New NJ Transit Bus Schedules Aim To Improve On Time Performance
- Temporary NJ Transit bus terminal opens in Hoboken as part of \$900M development
- NJ Transit bus collides with PSE&G truck in Newark, 14 injured
- Police: 36 passengers, 2 drivers treated for minor injuries after 2 NJ Transit buses collide in Manhattan
- Port Authority Bus Terminal closed after NJ Transit crash injures 17 people

#### NYC Greenways

• NYC plans major expansion connecting city's greenways 'for generations to come'

#### NYC Subways

- Tallest subway platform in NYC among 60 stations set to finally get elevators: 'They're climbing Mount Everest'
- MTA To Begin Digging 2nd Avenue Subway In East Harlem 50 Years After Project Halted
- MTA to award \$1.9B contract to build Second Avenue subway tunnels, stations
- As MTA moves ahead with 2nd Avenue subway extension, East Harlem locals brace for change
- MTA moves to seize 10 East Harlem sites for new Second Avenue subway station
- Interborough Express moves a step closer to reality
- NYC Transit System to Hike Fares on Subway, Buses in January 2026
- New trains are on the way! The MTA approved the purchase of new M-9A railcars to join our expanding fleet within 5-10 years. These new cars will have modern amenities and enhanced accessibility
- Public health experts alarmed by return of alcohol ads to NYC transit system
- Brooklyn hotel marquee crashes down in front of subway entrance
- Video: Comedian Colin Quinn reminds us how the subway used to be: "Remember, It's Chain Snatching Season!"

NYC Subway banned Dogs unless they fit in a bag, so this is what New Yorkers did



This Is Not How Roscoe The Bed Bug Dog Travels!

- <u>Video: Stray kitten joins rat race aboard New York City subway</u> and <u>Adopted By Woman Who Found Her</u>
- Every NYC subway signal upgrade is far behind schedule, MTA consultant says. What If the MTA brought in Harrison Ford to fix signal delays. He'd say, 'It belongs in a museum,' and they knew he meant the entire system."
- Woman commandeers Queens N train for 1-stop joy ride, NYPD says
- MTA data reveals how NYC's hottest subway cars bake 1 train riders
- NYC subway stations are full of vacant spaces, so they're started letting artists use them. Now we have Dinosaur Bodega
- <u>Dueling Rats on NYC Subway Platform</u> <u>A Not Pizza Rats</u> <u>Me And Not News of The Weird</u>, Just An Every Day Sight in NYC.

#### Parking

- Food distributor sues city over 15K double-parking tickets tied to outdated rule
- NYC reverses course on UWS parking meters following community pushback
- Ice cream trucks in Central Park bike lanes? Cold reception from councilwoman
- Video: Remember when Eddie Murphy Chased Down An Ice Cream Truck?
- MTA To start fining cars blocking bus stops

#### 🥞 News of the Weird – Florida – You Knew We Had To Include Florida

Florida man arrested for allegedly driving lawn mower drunk down busy highway

#### PATH

- Newport PATH train fire sends 9 to hospital; PATH train service restored
- Riders Criticize Port Authority For Service Failure
- Workers repair switch problems at Hoboken PATH Station causing delays
- Hoboken PATH delays: Defective track junction won't be fixed until after Labor Day
- Malfunctioning switches cause PATH train derailment, 12-hour service suspension

#### Pedestrians

- 'Call it a comeback': Manhattan foot traffic finally tops pre-pandemic times
- Watch Where You Step!

#### Tourism

- \$250 Visa Fee Risks Deepening Us Travel Slump
- Visa integrity fee: What to know about new travel fee to enter the US
- Trump tariffs, tiffs tied to NYC tourism drop are 'catastrophically' affecting business
- US is the only country facing tourism decline as Trump policies to cost \$29 billion in visitor revenue







#### Penn Station

- U.S. Department of Transportation and Amtrak Unveil Timeline for New York Penn Station Transformation Project
- New Plan To Address Penn Station Will Address Biggest Issues: The Train Platforms
- Per Crains, Penn Station rebuild to start in 2027, Trump officials say, but no price tag yet
- Bloomberg has the scoop though, Penn Station Overhaul Will Cost \$7 Billion

#### **†** Ports

Port of NY-NJ Claims Title of Busiest U.S. Port in May

#### Robotaxis

- Tesla makes a move to bring robotaxis to New York City
- While Google-owned Waymo is starting in Seattle and Denver.
- No Way-mo: Opposition to NYC's robot car pilot grows
- New York City gives self-driving taxi firm Waymo the green light on pilot program
- Tesla's Robotaxi Launch Shows Google's Waymo Is Worth More Than \$45 Billion





- Trump names Transportation Secretary Duffy as interim NASA administrator
- Trump administration takes aim at satellite that measures carbon dioxide and crops
- NASA Website Will Not Provide Previous National Climate Reports



• Connecticut pizza state license plate now available (Welcome to our 80's issue.)



#### **Tolls**

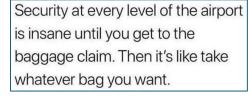
Port Authority Tolls: A 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025 increase on July 6 for drivers whose tags were mounted poorly or have no EZ-Pass

#### Wait Wait! You Read This Far! Laugh + Learn About Changes In Airline Security 🛃 & Baggage 🗓

- Delta Luggage Scam 🔒 🗓
- Airline Lost Your Bags? Your Luggage Is Probably in Alabama
- TSA Busts Woman with 2 Turtles Seemingly Hidden in Her Bra
- ( Does this belong in News of the Weird?)
- TSA No Longer Requires Fliers to Take off Their Shoes 🛝 👠 🛌 👢
- TSA May End Restrictions on Liquids in Carry-Ons, DHS Head Teases After Eliminating Shoes-Off Rule 🧴
- Airlines to allow some passengers to skip customs security checkpoint
- NPR's Game Show Addressed TSA allowing people on planes without removing shoes:

Flip To The Next and Last Page For A Good Read - And Even **Better If You Follow The Hyperlink To Listen!** 

If not, then that's the news, and I am outta here!







#### 🏿 From NPR and WBEZ Chicago, this is WAIT WAIT... DON'T TELL ME, the NPR news quiz. 🗐

#### July 12, 2025

HOST PETER SAGAL: You're going to play Who's Bill This Time? Announcer Bill Kurtis is going to read for a quotation from this week's news.

SAGAL: All right. Your first quote is a traveler talking to NPR.

ANNOUNCER BILL KURTIS: "I don't like my feet on floors that I don't know about."

SAGAL: She was celebrating the fact that as of this week, you no longer have to take your shoes off before you do what?

CONTESTANT OLIVIA: Is it go through the TSA check?

SAGAL: Yes, going through airport security. That's right, everybody, our long national nightmare is over. The TSA just announced they'd be ending the policy of making travelers take off their shoes to go through security. It's great that we can finally leave our shoes on, but why are they making everyone take off their underwear?

FAITH SALIE: You know, for the past whatever it is, 20 years...... have assumed shoes were a security threat. But now that Secretary Kristi Noem has assured us they are not, I feel so safe. I think it is Kristi Noem's gravitas that makes me...... Feel comforted.

EMMY BLOTNICK: And she's said that we can put e-cigarettes in any bag we want now?

SALIE: This is America.

SAGAL: Well, Kristi Noem just got tired of, like, peeling off her thigh-high stilettos.

*SAGAL:* Now, as you may remember, this policy was instituted more than 20 years ago after just one guy tried to blow up a plane with a bomb in his shoe. So one failed bomb meant us seeing 10,000 gross toes we will never be able to forget.

*BLOTNICK:* No, it's like, it was how humanity connected. We'd all put our gross toes on the same thing. It's like, you know, we're all the same.

SAGAL: Yeah, I guess we're all...

BLOTNICK: A beautiful ritual we're losing.

SAGAL: It's true. Frequent travelers are celebrating, but let's not forget what a huge day this is for the shoe-bombing community. We are back, baby.

HARI KONDABOLU: I mean, isn't the whole model of TSA PreCheck that, oh, I don't need to put my shoes off anymore. So if they take - if everyone can go through the metal detector, that's everything.

SAGAL: I know.

KONDABOLU: They're done for.

SAGAL: Here's a - that's actually a good point. Some of the news articles raised this, that not having to take off your shoes was a huge incentive to pay the 80 bucks to join TSA Pre. And some people think they kept the policy just to keep that program going. Now that it's gone, what are they going to use for an incentive to sign up? Every passenger gets to bring on one little gun.

KONDABOLU: Do you think they'll raise it to four ounces of shampoo?

SAGAL: Maybe.

SAGAL: Oh, the parties we'll have.

KONDABOLU: Oh, brother.

#### AT THE SHOW'S CONCLUSION

SAGAL: We're going to ask our panelists to predict, now that we can leave our shoes on, what would be the next thing we will be allowed to do at the airport? Now, panel, what will we be finally allowed to do at the airport next? EMMY BLOTNICK: Fly with explosives.

HARI KONDABOLU: Use your Costco card as a valid form of identification.

FAITH SALIE: Check your child in the overhead compartment.

BILL KURTIS: And if any of that happens, panel, we'll ask you about it on WAIT WAIT... DON'T TELL ME.