

Testimony for Connecticut General Assembly's Transportation Committee

Public Hearing, Wednesday, February 11, 2015, Hartford, CT

Riding the Metro-North New Haven line, I am very concerned about safety in the new rail cars. Repeatedly I have experienced the ride in these cars to be extremely rough and noisy. There is very strong bumping and jolting, sometimes so bad that I am almost thrown out of my seat. On one trip my husband had to stand most of the way because the bumping and jolting was injuring his back. Along with this, there is screeching like metal on metal. It is as if the wheels are not running along the rails properly.

I have reported this to the MTA and the response has been a pat on the head, along the lines of "sorry but sometimes the trains don't always ride as smoothly as people would like."

I am not talking about normal vibration and normal running noise. What I have experienced in these new cars is an order of magnitude worse. It gives the impression that the rail car is about to jump the track at any time. I do not feel safe riding the train with this bumping, jolting, and screeching going on.

Sincerely,

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