Office: 202-384-1520 . Website: www.wmsc.gov

# WMSC Inspection Report 20241226

ISSUED 12/30/24

# **Inspection Details**

Title: Observation of WMATA Metro Center Winter Shutdown

Location: Metro Center (C01) to McPherson Square (C02)

Date: 12/26/2024

Time: 11:00am to 1:00pm

Announced by email on December 21, 2024

Non-Risk Based

### **Overview**

A WMSC representative, escorted by Metrorail Track and Structures (TRST) representatives, inspected the winter shutdown from C00 (Metro Center) to C01 (McPherson Square) on tracks 1 and 2. Work included removing restraining rail and chairs, replacing plates and fasteners, and repairing other previously identified defects TRST marked during the inspection to be entered in MAXIMO to be repaired later.

### **Defects and Corrective Actions**

WMSC Inspections identify safety issues that may be classified as defects, findings, or recommendations. Findings and recommendations are defined by Program Standard Section 5.E.2 and 5.E.3 respectively. Ordinarily, issues identified in a WMSC inspection report are classified as defects. Defects are specific safety issues of non-conformance/non-compliance that are identified and that require remedial action.

This inspection did not identify any findings or recommendations and therefore does not require a WMSC Corrective Action Plan in accordance with Program Standard Section 5.E.4.

#### Defect 1

### **Track and Catwalk Walking Obstructions**

Both tracks and catwalks were cluttered with the track components that had been removed during this shutdown. There were 39-foot-long restraining rails, restraining rail chairs, plates, and fasteners scattered around the work sites. These materials were obstructions to

#### WASHINGTON METRORAIL SAFETY COMMISSION



walking through the work site, accessing the work train and accessing the work site when the work train was on site.

Additionally, the inspector noted segments of the catwalks that were unusable for walking. Employees could clear up on the catwalk to allow the work train to pass, but in some scenarios, employees had to climb over the materials on the work train to gain access to the work site on the other end of the work train. TRST should consider methods and practices to remove materials from the work site to provide safer access to the work site for employees.

# **Hazard Rating: 2C**

#### **Photos**

Note: Inspector's camera was unable to capture useful images of the clutter, so they were not retained. In addition, prime movers were in the way and the inspector could not obtain a good angle on the catwalks for a sufficiently illustrative photo.



Obstructions (Removed track materials)

#### **Next Steps**

Please respond by January 2, 2025, to acknowledge receipt and to convey responses to the WMSC regarding what, if any, actions will be or have been taken in response.

Also, TRST is to respond to a request for additional documentation by Thursday, January 2, 2025. WMSC Inspector requests:

# WASHINGTON METRORAIL SAFETY COMMISSION

- The original plans/objectives and results of the current winter shutdown
- Status of main line restraining rails to be removed identified in the report
- Status of the update to the TRST-1000 manual. The completed TRST-1000 is expected in January 2025