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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA, UNION REPRESENTING METRO BUS, RAIL OPERATORS AGREE ON CONTRACT EXTENSION TO AVERT STRIKE

Officials for the union representing Metro Bus and Rail operators and the MTA today jointly announced they have reached agreement to extend the current labor agreement with the operators thereby averting the possibility of a strike at midnight Thursday, Sept. 18 when a court ordered "cooling off" period expires.

James A. Williams, General Chairman of the United Transportation Union (UTU), representing about 5,000 Metro Bus and Rail operators, and MTA CEO Roger Snoble said they have approved an extension agreement for a period of 10 days, which can be terminated after that by either party with 72 hours notice.

Snoble and Williams said the parties pledge to bargain in good faith during this contract extension in an effort to reach a mutually agreeable new collective bargaining agreement.

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