Social Issue

Transportation in New York City is supposed to take you from point A to point B in a quickly manner. The issue is that there is always a problem in which creates chaos, whether it’s the person not driving the speed limit they are supposed to or the traffic in the train tunnels which ends up being a 40 minute wait time.

Why is this social issue a problem?
It affects people from getting from point A to point B in the time they usually would without delays, wasting time and money.

What are some of the causes and effects of this issue?
- Swiping cards for the MTA; when it doesn’t work it ends up holding up the line and missing the train or creating delays for buses as well as drivers if the buses are blocking them.
- Subway changing routes last second; creates even more traffic, confusing for tourists, and being congested.
- Not driving the speed limit and driving on the fast lane at a slow speed backs up all the cars creating traffic from a usual 20 minute drive to a hour to hour and a half

Who does this issue impact?
This issue impacts citizens living their day to day lives. It affects individuals commute on getting to work or class on time.

Keywords:
Traffic OR congestion OR transportation OR travelers
AND New York City subway
Kate Ascher discusses the major traffic relation to the traffic back in the days in the article “Stop and Go.” Yes there are more vehicles and people in New York City now which creates even more traffic. Ascher also describes how New York City’s subway system is the most complex system even if it carries less passengers than other places like Tokyo, Seoul, Moscow, and Mexico City; but NYC has more carts and stations. If NYC has the same amount of carts as other places; it will be just as packed. However, places like Tokyo who have a scanning metrocard system instead of swiping makes it more convenient. They also have a glass wall with openings along the edge of the tracks so no one jumps onto the tracks or throws trash. This will save so much money which can be spent on other needs for the citizens. Tokyo’s transportation system works well even with a lot of people. They get to their destination on a timely manner compared to NYC. Yes, there are many difference between NYC and other places, but the fact is that we lack in technology as well as some intelligence. For instance,
changing the speed limit of cars on highways from what used to be 60 mph to 50 mph ends up backing traffic up 15 minutes to an hour.

In the New York Times article, “From Cab Fare to Court Dates: The Costs of a Subway Delay,” Emma Fitzsimmons discusses how inconvenient the subway transportation is in New York City. One train delay can cause a great amount of disruption on people’s day to day life. Millions of people rely on the subway everyday to get them to work, school, doctor appointments, and other circumstances. Fitzsimmons continues to discuss the negative impact which subway delays have on individuals, from their personal experience.

In the Newspaper Article “We Need (and Deserve) A Better Transportation System,” Christina Greer talks about how the transportation system in New York City is broken. Even leaving early by an hour or two would still get one late to their designated destination. Mostly all the individuals in NYC who take public transportation on a daily basis have experienced delays. Greer discusses that there should be new ways implemented into the system to pay for repairs and a more modern transportation system that works better.