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Forestville, Md. – February 13, 2018: On February 10 and 11, 2018, a crew of 20 track maintenance workers (pictured), represented by ATU Local 689, and six supervisors traveled to the Baltimore transit system to perform essential track repair work.

The report by WMATA to the [Washington Post](#) that the crew was sent to Baltimore to provide “technical assistance” is a slap in the face to the hard-working crew who traveled to Baltimore at a time that their subway system has been rendered inoperable. Based on Metro’s response, it is clear the people of Baltimore, who depend on their rail system, are more appreciative of the work done by these Metro workers than Metro’s own leadership who instead find it more convenient to scapegoat them when problems arise on the Metro system.

WMATA track maintenance are some of the best workers in their field, who exceeded time expectations of work done last weekend. It is disrespectful and dishonest to the tax-paying public that Metro would present the work performed by their workforce as insignificant or merely to assist.

- The work performed totals 320 hours of manpower (without overtime) that these workers gave to Baltimore at the expense of WMATA.
- The essential work this crew did included laying 13 stringers (310 feet worth of rail, each) and an additional 78 feet totaling 4,108 feet (more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile) of rail that Metro’s track crew completed without the assistance of those employed by MTA.
- The crew also drilled and replaced joint bars along the track.
- The track replacements were done at or near the West Coldspring station and Ownings Mills stations.

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ATU Local 689 would like to thank our members for the time they gave to the Baltimore rail transit system at a time that their work was needed:

Matt Hughes, Lindsay Frye, Melvin Phillips, Willie Taylor, Kenny Euell, Jamaal Haggie, Juan David, Phillip Fitzsimmons, Petey Kates, Maurice Williams, Wayne Carroll, Kenneth Chioma, Robert Childress, Bob Fansler, Sharaf Ashkar, Supervisors- Gregory Watkins, Folger Moore, Jimmy Gauthier, Micheal King, Mook, Alan Young, Matt Hughes, Lindsay Frye, Melvin Phillips, Willie Taylor, Kenny Euell, Jamaal Haggie, Juan David, Phillip Fitzsimmons, Petey Kates, Maurice Williams, Wayne Carroll, Kenneth Chioma, Robert Childress, Bob Fansler, Sharaf Ashkar

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