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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

7 Line Project Update

Manhattan-Bound Trains Will Make All Stops Between Woodside-61st Street and Queensboro Plaza on Weekends

MTA New York City Transit officials announced today that as a result of significant progress during the ongoing capital project to install new signaling and track switches along the Flushing Line, Manhattan-bound 7 trains will make all stops between Woodside-61st Street and Queensboro Plaza for the next two weekends.

During the past weekend, the first weekend of a complete shutdown between Flushing-Main Street and Woodside-61st Street, Manhattan-bound 7 trains skipped 52nd Street, 46th-Bliss Streets, 40th-Lowery Streets and 33rd-Rawson Streets stations. Riders at those stops had to back ride to Woodside-61st Street to make connections to free LIRR service to Penn Station or free Shuttle Bus service to 74th Street-Broadway and transfer to E F or R service into Manhattan. However, as a result of the work achieved to date, 7 trains will now make all stops between Woodside-61st Street and Queensboro Plaza.

According to NYC Transit President Howard H. Roberts, Jr., "Restoration of this segment of service will bring relief to thousands of our customers who use the affected stations on weekends. We are pleased that our crews were able to be as productive as they have been in installing this very important system upgrade, and we hope that the weather will continue to cooperate with us."

"This is a very complex project which required a lot of advance planning and cooperation between several departments," said Steven Feil, Sr. V.P. for the Department of Subways. "It's a team effort with one goal - to improve the service we provide our customers." Most of the track installation by in house forces is complete, making way for the signal portion of the project to commence. "Our signal engineers and our contractors are up to the challenge," said Sr. V.P. for Capital Program Management, Cosema E. Crawford. "We learned valuable lessons during the Rawson Street segment of this project which we are putting to good use now."

As a reminder, 7 service between Woodside-61st Street and Main Street-Flushing will be suspended from 12:01 a.m. Saturday until 5 a.m. Monday. Customers traveling between Main Street and Manhattan are urged to use the free alternate service provided by MTA Long Island Rail Road to Penn Station (Flushing-Main St. and Woodside-61st Street, Port Washington branch). Trains will run approximately every 15 minutes between approximately 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 a.m.

For passengers traveling to Manhattan from stations between Flushing-Main Street and Woodside-61st Street, free Shuttle Bus service making all stops to 74th Street-Broadway will be available. Once there, customers can transfer to E F R trains into Manhattan. At 74th Street-Broadway, there will be additional E and F trains available between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday during these weekends.

Until March 3rd, all weekday 7 service will run local between Times Square and Main Street.

For more information on this and other weekend construction work, riders can log on to www.mta.info and click on the 7 icon on the homepage or click on Service Advisories for information on the 7 line and for the entire Weekend Summary. While on line, customers may also listen to a TransitTrax podcast on the project at <http://www.mta.info/nyct/transittrax.htm>.

