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Press Release

August 17, 2009

[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA NYC Transit Advisory 1 Service Suspended

Due to a collapse of the brick façade from the ceiling above the tracks at the 181st Street station, 1 train service will remain suspended throughout the rest of today, Monday, August 17th, 2009. Service through this area will be suspended until further notice.

At approximately 10:30 p.m. Sunday, a section of the brick architectural façade fell 35 feet to the track bed below. A downtown 1 train was in the station, but did not sustain any major damage. No customer injuries were reported. The cause of the ceiling collapse at the 181st Street station is under investigation. A contractor has been called in to remove any remaining loose brick and make temporary repairs, but those repairs may take several days to complete. 1 service will not resume until it is safe to operate trains through the area.

During this outage, 1 train service will operate in two sections, with a FREE shuttle bus in operation between affected stations in Upper Manhattan:

- 1 train service will operate in both directions between South Ferry and 168th St
- Free Shuttle buses will operate between 168th St and Dyckman St
- 1 train service will operate in both directions between Van Cortlandt Park – 242nd St and Dyckman St

During this service outage, the M3 bus, which operates along St. Nicholas Avenue will be FARE FREE for northbound customers 168th Street; in both directions at 181st Street, and; southbound at 191st Street.

This suspension in service will have an impact on wheelchair customers who rely on the 1 train. Those customers are advised to do the following:

- Customers who use wheelchairs heading Manhattan bound should at 231st Street should call 1-800-834-1173 and make arrangements for a shuttle bus to take them to 207th Street, where they can transfer to the A for the ride downtown
- Customers who use wheelchairs heading northbound on the 1 should transfer at 72nd Street to the M5 bus to 168th Street. At 168th Street they should transfer to a free shuttle bus that will take them to stops heading northbound

Or

- Customers who use wheelchairs can take the A train to 168th Street where they can transfer to a FREE shuttle bus that will take them to 1 stops heading northbound

1 line customers should add additional time to their commute during this outage. We apologize for the inconvenience. Additional Transit personnel will be on hand at both the 168th Street and Dyckman Street stations on the 1 line to assist customers with travel information.

The 181st Street station is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The station is a two-track side platform station located within the Fort George Tunnel. It is one of three stations along this stretch of tunnel which includes the 168th Street, 181st Street and 191st Street stations. All three stations are of round bored-tunnel construction, approximately eight to ten stories (in this case 121 feet) beneath the street.

The central portion of this station features soaring ceilings that are approximately three stories high. The keyblock of the central arch is heavily embellished with a volute draped with a laurel wreath. Along the center of the ceiling are six evenly spaced, multi-colored terra cotta medallions that once held light fixtures.