



MTA Press Releases

[Select Language](#) | ▼

Press Release

December 30, 2009

[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

B61 Split Into Two Routes

B61 and B62 Set to Begin This Weekend

Beginning Sunday, January 3, 2010, MTA New York City Transit's B61 bus route will be divided into two shorter routes – the B61 and B62 – with an aim towards increasing service reliability.

Currently, the B61 route is 9.7 miles long, linking Brooklyn's Red Hook section with Queens Plaza. Serving approximately 18,500 customers on weekdays, 10,800 on Saturdays and 7,400 on Sundays, the route is subject to delays due to traffic congestion, especially in the area of Downtown Brooklyn.

"After careful study, we are dividing one long, cumbersome route into two shorter routes which will be easier to supervise and more manageable to operate. We made this decision in response to concerns from customers and community organizations who have long complained about this route's lack of reliability. Both of the new services are projected to be more reliable than the single route they are replacing," said NYC Transit President Thomas F. Prendergast.

The southern B61 route will travel between the Ikea Terminal in Red Hook and Downtown Brooklyn (Smith Street and Livingston Street). The northern B62 route will link Downtown Brooklyn (Boerum Place and Livingston Street) and Queens Plaza and will be rerouted past the Williamsburg Bridge Plaza Bus Terminal. Taking the route past the bus terminal will allow a Transit dispatcher to monitor the route, thus increasing reliability and providing more convenient road reliefs for bus operators.

"We recognize that there are rapidly growing new residential areas along the Williamsburg waterfront," added Prendergast. "The B62 will also provide convenient bus and subway connections for these customers to the Williamsburg Bridge Plaza transit hub which is served by six bus routes and the Marcy Avenue subway station."

Customers may call our Travel Information Center at 718-330-1234 from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily, or log onto www.tripplanner.mta.info to use Trip Planner to plan their trips. Customers with web enabled phones or PDAs can use our Trip Planner On-the-Go! by going to www.tripplanner.mta.info/mobile; in addition to planning their trips, Blackberry users can download the free icon for one touch access to the service.