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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

B Express Service Returns to the Brighton Line

MTA New York City Transit announces that B express train service in Brooklyn will return to the Brighton (B, Q) Line on Monday, October 3, 2011. On an average weekday, 125,000 riders are expected to use the express service when it returns after a two-year absence.

B express service can save riders from 4 to 6 minutes in travel time by skipping eight local stations and stopping only at Brighton Beach, Sheepshead Bay, Kings Highway, Newkirk Plaza, Church Avenue and Prospect Park. Q local service will continue to make all stops between Coney Island-Stillwell Avenue and Prospect Park.

B express service was suspended in October of 2009 to accommodate the rehabilitation of seven stations from Newkirk Plaza to Neck Road. This work consisted of two contracts, one for Avenue U and Neck Road and the second for five other stations on the line: Newkirk Plaza, Avenues H, J, and M and Kings Highway.

Contract I was awarded to Judlau Contracting in October of 2008. This \$57.7M contract included the closing of the platforms, first southbound then northbound, at Avenue U and Neck Road for rehabilitation. The work on this contract was substantially completed in December 2010.

Contract II (Newkirk Plaza, Avenue H, Avenue J, Avenue M and Kings Highway) was awarded in October 2008 to Granite Construction Northeast. In the first phase of this \$161.4M contract, a hard rail connection was installed at Newkirk Plaza (formerly Newkirk Avenue) that allowed trains to be rerouted to the express track. In addition, a temporary platform and crossover bridge was erected at Avenue J and another temporary platform was placed at Kings Highway to ease the impact of station closures on the community.

Stations in both contracts were reconstructed with improvements such as new annex buildings, platform reconstruction, canopy replacement, reorganized fare control and exit areas and the incorporation of artwork. In addition, lighting, electrical, communications, plumbing, signage and architectural treatments were all upgraded.

Upon completion, Kings Highway, which is designated an ADA Key Station, will have two elevators making it fully ADA accessible. Work at the Newkirk Plaza (formerly Newkirk Avenue) station includes the replacement of the roof deck/plaza with new waterproofing and brick paving. The main control house at Avenue H is a designated landmark structure that is being carefully restored. Substantial completion for the all five stations in this contract is expected by the end of this year.