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Press Release

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[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

### MTA to Provide Free Transfer to Staten Island Veterans Impacted by Hurricane Sandy

#### *Free Transfer to B70 Bus Provides Access to Brooklyn VA Hospital at No Additional Cost*

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority announced today that, beginning Monday, it will add a free transfer to the B70 bus from the S53 to provide Staten Island veterans access to the Brooklyn VA Hospital without having to pay an additional fare. Staten Island veterans have not been able to utilize the VA hospital in Manhattan which was extensively damaged and has been closed since Hurricane Sandy hit in October.

"Our veterans have given so much to our country, and now, as a result of Sandy, getting the health care they need and deserve has become more difficult," MTA Chairman & CEO Joseph J. Lhota said. "As a result of this new free transfer, Staten Island veterans can now get the services they need at the Brooklyn facility without incurring any additional transfer costs."

The change in fare box machines will allow a free transfer to/from any SI bus route to the S53 and another free transfer to the B70. This transfer change will only be temporary and will be lifted once the Manhattan VA Hospital reopens.