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Press Release

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[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

### MTA Subway and Rail Services Continue Rapid Restoration

***Major Subway Connections Reopen Between Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan; Staten Island Railway Begins Limited Service; Commuter Railroads Offer Additional Service for Monday Morning Rush Hour; Monitor [mta.info](#) and Media Outlets and Call 511 for Lat...***

**Attention editors and assignment desks: Audio of MTA Chairman Joe Lhota's technical briefing is available for download at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/v7aavusmgc9ju0d/11-3-12%20Lhota%20subway%20briefing.MP3>**

Gov. Andrew M. Cuomo today announced a series of major restorations of the MTA New York City Transit subway system, which will have more than 80 percent of the system's track miles in service by the end of Saturday.

"In under one week, 80 percent of the subway service has been restored from what was horrendous damage, the worst damage that the subway system had ever seen," Governor Cuomo said. "That is just a great, great job. The service between Brooklyn and Queens and Manhattan is being restored immediately."

The 4, 5, 6 and 7 trains resumed full service at 10 a.m. Saturday, providing the first subway link between Brooklyn and Manhattan to be restored after Hurricane Sandy flooded seven subway tunnels under the East River. The Staten Island Railway began limited hourly service at 10 a.m. as well, and service is expected to become more frequent throughout the weekend.

"I want to thank the MTA workers who made this possible. I have never met people so dedicated and so much in love with what they do," MTA Chairman and CEO Joseph J. Lhota said. "They have done a phenomenal job, and they have gotten New York back on its feet again. I also want to thank our customers for their understanding. As we were able to put the system together piece by piece, they have been great."

Later Saturday, the D, F, J and M trains are expected to resume service between Brooklyn and Manhattan, as trains begin using the East River tunnel and crossing the Manhattan and Williamsburg bridges again.

The Brooklyn Bus Bridge, which has connected passengers between Brooklyn and Manhattan since Thursday, will cease operating Saturday afternoon once customers are aware of the subway resumption.

The Q train is expected to resume full service between Astoria and Coney Island on Saturday afternoon, and the R train is expected to resume service between Herald Square and Forest Hills as well.

The 2 and 3 trains are expected to resume full service Saturday night or early Sunday morning, when the 1 train will also extend its southern terminus from 34 St. to 14 St.

#### **Additional restorations for Monday morning rush hour**

The MTA expects to offer additional service restorations in time for the Monday morning rush hour. New York City Transit expects to offer full service on the E train, local service on the A train between 168 St. and Lefferts Blvd., N train service between Astoria-Ditmars in Queens and 59 St. in Brooklyn, and local service on the 1 train extending downtown as far as Rector St.

MTA Metro-North Railroad, which resumed full service on all three of its main lines today, will resume service on its branch lines east of the Hudson River on Monday morning. The New Canaan Branch in Connecticut, which still has severe tree damage to overhead catenary wires, will be served by buses connecting to train service.

Metro-North service west of the Hudson River is operated by NJ Transit, which anticipates resuming partial service on the Port Jervis line by Monday morning. Four morning peak trains and four afternoon peak trains will make all local stops to Secaucus. The Pascack Valley Line's 900 daily customers can use Transport of Rockland's Tappan Zee Express Bus from the Palisades Mall to the Tarrytown train station. The Newburgh-Beacon Ferry and the Haverstraw-Ossining Ferry will also return to service Monday.

MTA Long Island Rail Road will operate a modified schedule on all branches except the Long Beach branch. Trains on the Ronkonkoma Branch will not operate east of Ronkonkoma, and trains on the Montauk Branch will not operate east of Speonk. With two East River tunnels operated by Amtrak into Penn Station out of service due to flooding, train service must operate at reduced levels. Customers are advised to travel in off-peak hours since trains are expected to be crowded. Modified schedules will be posted on the [mta.info](#) website. Customers are advised to check the website to plan their travel.

#### **Work continues on flooded portions of MTA system**

New York City Transit is continuing to work to restore service. The L train tunnel under the East River remains flooded, as does the G train tunnel under Newtown Creek. The Rockaway branch of the A train requires extensive reconstruction and no timetable has been established for resumption of service there.

MTA Bridges and Tunnels continues pumping millions of gallons of water from the flooded Hugh L. Carey Tunnel and Queens-Midtown Tunnel. No timetable for their reopening has been established.