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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA New York City Transit to Introduce More Service Investments

New Service Will Serve New and Growing Markets; Additional Initiatives Will Improve Service Quality and Intermodal Connectivity

For the third consecutive year, in a continuing effort to improve service and meet increasing customer demand, MTA New York City Transit has proposed a series of investments and initiatives that will improve service, reliability, and provide customers with new travel options. The \$15.5 million worth of investments include added service to growing neighborhoods and new employment/retail centers; resources to improve service quality; a continued rollout of Select Bus Service; and improved intermodal connectivity.

\$10.1 million in new service initiatives are included in the MTA's 2015 budget that is part of the 2015-2018 four-year Financial Plan. The MTA Board will vote on next year's final Financial Plan in December. The other \$5.4 million in investments will be incorporated into the 2014 budget and will be implemented as early as August.

"We always want to better serve our customers by strengthening service whenever we have sustainable resources to do so," said MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast. "These new investments in both subway and bus service will provide our customers with additional travel options and add seamless connectivity to vital transit hubs."

"Since 2012, we have reinvested nearly \$68 million into service," said New York City Transit President Carmen Bianco. "That investment, as well as additional resources to reduce response and recovery time after incidents, will go a long way toward improving service for our customers as ridership continues to grow throughout the system."

Service to Growing Neighborhoods and New Employment/Retail Centers

The MTA will extend [J] weekend service from its current terminus at Chambers St to Broad St. Extending the line will improve connectivity by providing Williamsburg and Bushwick customers with a transfer at Fulton St. It also increases service into Lower Manhattan and eliminates the need to transfer at Chambers St for service into Lower Manhattan. On average, 14,000 weekend customers will benefit from this added service when it is implemented in mid-2015.

On August 31, the **B13** and **B83** bus routes will be extended to Gateway Center II in Spring Creek. The lines will serve a growing retail center that will double in size with the opening of Gateway Center II in the fall. The extended route will benefit 2,000 daily weekday customers, 2,000 Saturday customers and 1,400 Sunday customers.

In mid-2015, the **Bx5** bus will be split and weekend service extended to Bay Plaza Shopping Center. The change will not only improve service reliability, but will also serve another growing retail center. A large enclosed mall will open at the existing shopping center in the fall. The service change will benefit 12,000 daily weekday customers, 7,500 Saturday customers, and 5,500 Sunday customers by improving reliability and providing additional access to the shopping center.

Service Quality

In order to improve service quality, additional resources will be deployed to reduce the time for response and recovery addressing incidents in the system that result in delays. The Department of Subways has created Combined Action Teams (CATs) that consist of multidisciplinary teams of Track, Signals and Third Rail personnel strategically deployed for a rapid response to incidents during the PM peak period. In addition, signal crews will be dispatched to Grand Central-42 St, 14 St-Union Sq and Brooklyn Bridge during both the AM and PM peak periods for immediate response to signal failures on the  Lexington Av Line, the busiest in the system.

Select Bus Service

Funding will be secured to add two new Select Bus Service (SBS) routes in 2015. The routes, to be determined in the coming months, will be implemented as part of the MTA's ongoing partnership with the New York City Department of Transportation (NYC DOT). This collaborative effort has already created seven successful SBS routes that, on average, have decreased travel times along these routes by 20 percent while increasing ridership by 10 percent.

Improving Intermodal Connections

In May 2014, NYC DOT increased weekend evening Staten Island Ferry service until 2 a.m. As a result, 14 new bus trips and three additional Staten Island Railway round trips were added to ensure all ferries were met with connecting service at St. George Terminal. On Sundays, 36 new NYCT local bus trips and 5 additional Staten Island Railway round trips were added.

As mandated by the City Council, NYC DOT will provide ferry service every 30 minutes at all times 7 days a week starting next spring. NYCT bus and Staten Island Railway trips will be added or adjusted to connect to the new ferry trips.

More information on the initiatives are available at [mta.info](https://www.mta.info).