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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

South Ferry Station Entrance to Close for Nine Months

Fix&Fortify Related Repairs and Resiliency Upgrades

The Whitehall St-South Ferry **1 R** Station is currently undergoing a \$193.8 million rehabilitation. Completion of this project necessitates that the main entrance to the station be closed to pedestrian traffic for nine months starting Monday, November 2, 2015 until August 2016.

During this period, customers can access the Whitehall St-South Ferry **1 R** complex through the Staten Island Ferry terminal building or across the street at the Whitehall Street entrance. In October 2012, Superstorm Sandy sent 15 million gallons of salt water into the new South Ferry station, destroying all electrical and mechanical systems and components and filling the entire structure from the track level to the mezzanine, a depth of 80 feet. The flood water, a mix of seawater, sewage, and debris, caused extensive damage to the station and critical equipment.

The ongoing 31-month rehabilitation project includes leak mitigation, replacement of track, mechanical, electrical, signal, and communications equipment, as well as ceiling and wall panels and other damaged assets.

The station has already been hardened to protect it from a storm surge with temporary watertight panels that can be installed on the street level. As part of the ongoing work, these panels will be switched out for permanent watertight doors. Below grade, redundant flood mitigation features will be added, including flood barrier walls between stations (South Ferry Loop Station and Whitehall Street Station). Watertight doors will also be installed to protect critical rooms, and louver covers will be installed on interior walls at critical rooms. Other entry points for water such as vents, manholes and hatches, conduits, and ducts will also be hardened.

The MTA's restoration of the new South Ferry station is part of an overall effort to make Lower Manhattan's mass transit system far less vulnerable to weather events and rising tides. We regret the inconvenience this work may cause and appreciate our customers' patience while we complete these important projects. To ensure that our customers are well-informed of these staircase closures, appropriate signage will be posted throughout the station. Service notices will also be posted on our website, www.mta.info.