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Press Release

June 19, 2015

NYC Transit

IMMEDIATE

### Route Change for B26/Q58 Buses in Bushwick/Ridgewood to Start Sunday, June 28

#### *New Traffic Pattern to Address Safety Concerns*

In an effort to address safety concerns and improve the flow of traffic in the area, effective Sunday, June 28, 2015, MTA New York City Transit B26 and Q58 buses will be rerouted in Bushwick and Ridgewood. The NYC Department of Transportation will establish a new traffic pattern, prohibiting right turns from Wyckoff Avenue to Palmetto Street, in an effort to make the intersection safer for both motorists and pedestrians. Both MTA New York City Transit and the NYC Department of Transportation are jointly committed to creating the safest bus routes to protect both bus customers and pedestrians.

Wyckoff Avenue, Myrtle Avenue and Palmetto Street is a six-point intersection, with two subway lines above, six bus routes, and a high volume of pedestrians, making it one of the most challenging and complex intersections in the city. Since 2009, there have been two pedestrian fatalities at this intersection, and three pedestrians severely injured from 2009-2013.

In July 2014, DOT implemented a street safety improvement project at the intersection of Myrtle Avenue, Wyckoff Avenue and Palmetto Street. Following the pedestrian fatality in October 2014, NYC DOT and MTA NYC Transit reviewed the intersection to further improve the safe operation of B26 and Q58 buses. The route change will restrict right-turning bus movements (northbound Wyckoff Avenue to Palmetto Street), which will improve safety for all road users.

Currently, the B26 and Q58 routes share a last stop and terminal on Wyckoff Avenue. After leaving the terminal, both routes turn right from Wyckoff Avenue to Palmetto Street to enter the Ridgewood Bus Terminal. With the safety improvement, NYC Transit is rerouting the B26 and Q58 routes along Putnam Avenue, Ridgewood Place and Palmetto Street, effective Sunday, June 28. The existing shared stop and terminal on Wyckoff Avenue at Palmetto Street would be discontinued, and the new B26 last stop and terminal would be located on Palmetto Street, far side of Wyckoff Avenue, with the new Q58 last stop and terminal located on Palmetto Street, near side of Wyckoff Avenue.

The new B26 and Q58 bus routes will operate as follows:

#### **B26**

- **Eastbound:** Buses will operate on the existing route to Wyckoff Avenue, then make a left turn on Putnam Avenue, right on Ridgewood Place, right on Palmetto Street to stand on Palmetto Street, midblock, between Myrtle Avenue and St. Nicholas Avenue.
- **Westbound:** From the bus stop on Palmetto Street, buses will make a left on St. Nicholas Avenue to the existing route.

#### **Q58**

- **Southbound:** Buses will operate on the existing route to Putnam Avenue, then make a right turn on Ridgewood Place, right Palmetto Street to stand on Palmetto Street, near side of Wyckoff Avenue.
- **Northbound:** From the bus stop on Palmetto Street, buses will make a right on Cypress Avenue to the existing route.

NYC Transit is continuously working with communities in order to address transit and safety needs in their neighborhoods. Elected officials and community leaders were notified of this upcoming reroute, and appropriate signage will be posted at all affected bus stops. For the most updated travel information, customers may visit our website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) to sign up for free email and text message alerts, or dial 511 for MTA customer service and travel information.