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Press Release

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NYC Transit

IMMEDIATE

First Full Weekend Shutdown of Cranberry AC Tube to Begin

Trains Will Run on F Line While Crews Make Sandy-Related Repairs

The subway tunnel that carries the **A C** Lines between Manhattan and Brooklyn under the East River will be shut down in both directions this weekend as part of 40 nonconsecutive weekends of repairs to fix integral components heavily damaged during Superstorm Sandy. **A C** trains will use the **F** Line between Brooklyn and Manhattan, and customers can use nearby alternatives for all five stations closed during the work.

The 1.6 mile-long tunnel, known as the Cranberry Tube, was one of nine MTA New York City Transit subway tunnels flooded and damaged by an unprecedented storm surge during Sandy in October 2012. More than 1.5 billion gallons of corrosive salt water flooded the tunnel, damaging tracks, signals, pumping equipment, and electrical and switching equipment. Although temporary repairs immediately after the storm enabled a safe return to service, a thorough examination of the tunnel's components determined that significant permanent repair, in addition to upgrades and hardening against future storms, was needed.

Repairs began in July 2015, with a partial closure that affected Manhattan-bound **A C** service. This weekend will be the first of 10 nonconsecutive weekends of full tunnel closures in 2015, with the rest of the repairs to take place during weekend closures scheduled through the summer of 2016. During these weekend closures, **A C** trains will run over the F Line between the upper level ACE platforms at W 4 St in Manhattan and Jay St-MetroTech in Brooklyn. AC trains will not make the following stops: High St, Fulton St, Chambers St, Canal St and Spring St. The schedule of repairs is planned to ensure projects will be completed in time for early weekday service restoration.

"The Cranberry Tube project is the next phase in what is the most extensive reconstruction and fortification effort in the history of the New York City subway system. This effort is well underway and we continue to face the challenge of performing these vital tasks as quickly and effectively as possible while minimizing the impact on our customers' commutes," said NYC Transit President Carmen Bianco.

Subway service alternatives include:

- High St alternatives: Clark St **2 3**, York St **F**, Court St **N R**, Borough Hall **2 3 4 5**, and Jay St-MetroTech **A F R**
- Fulton St **A** alternatives: Fulton St **2 3 4 5 J Z** and Cortlandt St **R**
- Chambers St **A** alternatives: Chambers St **1 2 3**, City Hall **R**, World Trade Center **E**, Park Place **2 3**, and Brooklyn Bridge-City Hall **4 5 6**
- Canal St **A** alternatives: Canal St **1**, Franklin St **1**, Canal St **R**, and Canal St **E**
- Spring St alternatives: Canal St **1**, Houston St **1**, Prince St **N R**, Spring St **6**, Broadway-Lafayette St **B D F M**, and Spring St **E**

The Cranberry Tube carries approximately 255,000 customers across the East River on an average weekday. The stations affected by the service changes serve approximately 180,000 customers on an average Saturday.

The \$96.7 million Cranberry Tube project includes repairs, installations and fortifications to components such as power and communications cables, ducts and duct banks, pump rooms and related equipment, fan plants, a substation, a circuit breaker house and signals. Service on the **A** Line also was disrupted immediately after Sandy, when major infrastructure repair was performed along Broad Channel for six months. A 3.5-mile segment of the line was completely rebuilt and fortified in Queens, south of Howard Beach to the Rockaways.

The Cranberry Tube project is the fourth major tunnel restoration in the aftermath of Sandy. Repairs were completed on the Montague **R** Tube and Greenpoint **G** Tube in 2014, and work is ongoing on the Steinway **7** Tube. For photos during Sandy and Sandy-related damage on MTA property, go to MTA's [Flickr page](#). Customers may visit www.mta.info and check out "The Weekender," accessible by clicking "The Weekender" tab located within the Service Status Menu. The Weekender makes it easy for subway customers to visualize exactly how weekend work will affect subway service.