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Press Release

August 3, 2018

NYC Transit

IMMEDIATE

New York City Transit to Perform Critical Track Work Along N/W Line, Some Street Level Disruptions Expected For Motorists This Weekend

Track Replacement Work Will Replace Worn Down Rail on Critical Curve; Motorists are Urged to Avoid the Northern Boulevard Approach to the Queensboro Bridge

For the second straight weekend, New York City Transit will be undertaking critically important track work replacement on a stretch of the **N/W** corridor in Queens. The weekend work, set to be completed next weekend, will replace 1,200 feet of worn down rail on curved track, and will result in improved service along the line for thousands of commuters. More than half of the trains delayed due to signal and track issues on the Astoria line over the past year have been in the 39AV – Queensboro Plaza segment. In the past month alone, five track and signal incidents have resulted in significant effects to service on just this segment.

The track panel replacement work will take place between Queensboro Plaza and 39 Av. Due to the need for street-based cranes to work on the elevated tracks, motorists who drive in this area should expect significant traffic disruptions. Drivers entering Manhattan using the approaches to the Queensboro on Northern and Queens Boulevard will be impacted and may experience traffic delays. They are encouraged to use alternate routes to the Queensboro Bridge and into Manhattan including the Queens Midtown Tunnel, the RFK Bridge, the Williamsburg Bridge, the Brooklyn Bridge, and the Manhattan Bridge.

New York City Transit, in coordination with the NYPD and the Department of Transportation, will deploy a series of aggressive traffic mitigation measures. NYPD will have traffic agents at key intersections and areas to help facilitate the smooth flow of traffic. Variable Message Signage will be placed in key locations in both Manhattan and Queens to encourage drivers to take alternate and optimized routes and signage along other routes will inform drivers of the ongoing work and diversions. Staff from New York City Transit are speaking directly to the impacted communities and community boards and will be launching a social media campaign to maintain awareness of the work through the weekend.

MITIGATION SPECIFICS FROM 10 PM FRIDAY AUGUST 3RD TO 5 AM MONDAY AUGUST 6TH

- All lanes of the westbound bridge approach on Northern Boulevard will remain open this weekend
- One lane of the westbound bridge approach on Queens Boulevard will be closed from Jackson Avenue to 29th Street
- One southbound lane of Jackson Avenue will be closed from Bridge Plaza West to Queens Boulevard
- All eastbound lanes from Manhattan travelling onto Northern Boulevard will be closed.
- Drivers should continue onto Queens Boulevard and use Skillman Avenue, 43rd Ave, and 35th Street to Honeywell Street to access Northern Blvd

Broader track and signal repair and replacement work along this corridor began in May as part of the Subway Action Plan. While this weekend work is being conducted, **N** train service will be suspended in both directions between Ditmars Blvd and Times Square, and free shuttle buses will provide alternate service between Ditmars Blvd and Queensboro Plaza, where **7** train service is available.

From 3:45 a.m. on Saturday, August 4 to 10 p.m. on Sunday, August 5, free shuttle buses will replace **N** trains in both directions between Ditmars Blvd and Queensboro Plaza due to track replacement. **N** trains will run between Queensboro Plaza and 36 St, Brooklyn, and via the **D** to/from Coney Island-Stillwell Av. Free shuttle buses make all **N** line station stops between Ditmars Blvd and Queensboro Plaza. Transfer between trains and buses at Queensboro Plaza.