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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

New York City Transit to Perform Critical Track Work Along NW Line, Significant 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

New York City Transit is undertaking a critically important track work replacement this weekend on a stretch of the N/W corridor in Queens. The work, which will occur over the next three weekends, 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 Ed Koch Bridge 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 an aggressive social media campaign to maintain awareness of the work through the weekend.

The location of the work necessitates a series of street closures in the area and motorists are strongly encouraged to avoid **the following areas**:

MITIGATION SPECIFICS

- Parking will be prohibited on Queens Plaza North from 29th Street to 21st Street
- Vehicles heading to Jackson Avenue from Northern Blvd will be detoured via 39th Ave. and 21st Street.
- Cars using Jackson Avenue should use the upper level of the Queensborough Bridge by using Thomson Avenue, 11th Street, or the 21st Street entrance ramps.
- No left turns will be allowed from Queens Plaza North to Lower Level Roadway at the Crescent Street intersection.
- Trucks on Northern Blvd heading to the bridge must use 39th Street bridge or Honeywell St to Queens Blvd. Trucks must use the lower level via Queens Blvd. or Crescent Street.
- Drivers using the Southbound FDR, 1st Avenue and York Avenue in Manhattan are encouraged to use the South Outer Roadway of the Queensborough Bridge UNTIL 1 AM ONLY.
- Drivers using the lower level from Manhattan into Queens, should continue onto Queens Blvd. and use 35th Street and 39th 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.

The work this weekend will be conducted from Friday July 27 at 10 p.m. to Monday July 30 at 5 a.m. Specific traffic mitigation details for the following two weekends are being developed.