



MTA Press Releases

Press Release

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[Bridges & Tunnels](#)

IMMEDIATE

Weeknight Closures of Manhattan-bound Tube of Queens Midtown Tunnel Begin March 7 for Superstorm Sandy Repairs

North Tube Closed Overnights for 18 Months for Extensive Restoration Work

Beginning Monday night, March 7, 2016, the Manhattan-bound (north) tube of the Queens Midtown Tunnel will be closed during weeknights for approximately 18 months to accommodate Superstorm Sandy restoration work. One lane will remain open in each direction in the other tube during these periods.

Closures will take place between 10:30 p.m. and 5:30 a.m., Monday through Thursday. On Fridays, the closures will take place from 11 p.m. to 8 a.m. Saturday.

"Scheduling repairs in the Manhattan-bound tube first allows for maximum efficiency, and will lessen the impact on our customers," said facility engineer John Pfisterer.

The four-year \$236.5 million project was awarded to Judlau Contracting Inc. of Queens in April 2015. The restoration and repair work include replacing multiple systems that were damaged during Sandy in 2012, such as electrical and communications, drainage and fire standpipe. In addition to other capital improvement work, contractors are installing new LED lights and emergency way-finding safety lights; replacing tunnel wall tiles, ceiling finishes, curbs, catwalks, and duct banks, and repaving tunnel roadways.

"There will be overnight and weekend tube and lane closures, but one tube at the tunnel will always remain open to accommodate traffic in either direction," said Raymond Webb, Director of Tunnel Operations for MTA Bridges & Tunnels.

Traffic enforcement agents and signage will help direct motorists, who should allow extra time and may wish to use an alternate route if possible.