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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

MTA Bus Adds Service to Popular Q70 Route to La Guardia Airport

Fast and Reliable Bus Connection Will Operate Every 8-10 Minutes

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Bus Company is adding service to meet rising customer demand for the Q70 Limited bus that links La Guardia Airport with regional transit hubs in Woodside and Jackson Heights. Starting in Spring 2016, the Q70 Limited will increase service around the clock, carrying travelers and airport workers between La Guardia, the Long Island Rail Road and the  and  subway trains.

“We always want to better serve our customers by strengthening service whenever we have sustainable resources to do so,” said Darryl Irick, Senior Vice President, MTA NYCT Department of Buses and President of MTA Bus Company. “This added service on a growing route will further enhance the fast and reliable bus connection between La Guardia Airport and all parts of the City via the transit hubs in Queens.”

The Q70 Limited was designed to link the airport with regional transit lines 40% faster than earlier local bus routes. Travel times between Midtown Manhattan and La Guardia Airport connecting at Woodside or Jackson Heights can be as fast as 35 minutes. This convenient option to and from the airport has seen ridership more than double, from 2,173 average weekday customers in September 2013 to 4,372 average weekday customers today.

MTA Bus Company is also actively working to bring Select Bus Service (SBS) to the Q70, which will allow faster boarding and more convenient service. SBS routes use off-board fare collection technology, which allows customers to enter and exit through any bus door once they have pre-paid their fare, eliminating the need for customers to pay at a single farebox. The MTA anticipates converting the route to SBS during 2016. SBS is already operating on the M60 bus connecting La Guardia with 125th St. in Harlem, reducing travel times and improving service.

Initially, the Q70 Limited ran on a 12-minute frequency during most of the day, with 15-minute and 20-minute headways during early morning and late evening periods; and 30 minute headways during overnight periods. Due to increasing ridership, buses will run every 8 minutes during midday and weekday p.m. peak hours. On weekends, buses will run every 10 minutes middays and p.m. hours. Buses will run every 20 minutes during overnight hours.

The Q70 Limited serves the Woodside-61st Street LIRR and  subway station and the  and  subway station at the Jackson Heights-Roosevelt Av hub, then travels non-stop to and from La Guardia Airport via the limited-access Brooklyn-Queens Expressway and Grand Central Parkway. At the airport, the Q70 Limited serves all central airport terminals with the exception of the lightly-used Marine Air Terminal (Terminal A); customers can access this terminal to and from Jackson Heights via the Q47.

Direct connections with the LIRR at Woodside have provided access to the airport from the eight LIRR branches that previously have no access, making travel to the airport more convenient for LIRR customers as well as subway customers.