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Christie Administration Announces Restoration of Additional NJ Transit Rail, Light Rail Services

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Tags: [Hurricane Sandy](#)

Trenton, NJ - The Christie Administration announced that two additional NJ TRANSIT rail and light rail services would resume operations, effective Wednesday, November 7. This includes:

Restoration of limited service on Newark Light Rail between Grove Street and Newark Penn Station

Restoration of normal, weekday service on the Princeton Line (The "Dinky")

"These announcements mark yet another milestone in NJ TRANSIT's ongoing recovery efforts. While certainly welcome news, the road to recovery remains long and arduous," said Transportation Commissioner and NJ TRANSIT Board Chairman James Simpson. "The devastation wrought by Hurricane Sandy has us looking at every avenue possible to increase rail capacity into New York, resulting in the implementation of our ongoing emergency bus and ferry service. NJ TRANSIT crews have been - and will continue working around the clock to restore service for our customers."

NJ TRANSIT advises customers of the following:

Rail Service:

Northeast Corridor: Rail service is operating between Trenton Transit Center and New York Penn Station, with the exception of service to Jersey Avenue. Service continues to operate on a special schedule.

North Jersey Coast Line: Rail service between Bay Head and Woodbridge remains suspended. An assessment of rail infrastructure has revealed significant damage across the system, including:

Morgan Drawbridge in South Amboy sustained damage from boats and a trailer that collided into the bridge.

There are wires and trees down, as well as rail washouts (no ballast under the tracks), between South Amboy and Bay Head.

Main/Port Jervis Line: Rail service is operating on a special schedule. The Main Line operate from Suffern to Hoboken making all local stops. The Port Jervis Line will operates from Port Jervis to Hoboken making all local stops via Main Line. Main/Port Jervis Line trains will not stop at Secaucus until further notice.

Raritan Valley Line: Service remains operational between Raritan and Newark Penn Station only, operating on weekend schedule. Service between High Bridge and Raritan remains suspended

Atlantic City Line: Service has been fully restored and is operating on a regular schedule.

Bergen Line, Pascack Valley Line, Montclair-Boonton Line and the Morris & Essex Lines: Service remains suspended. An assessment of rail infrastructure has revealed significant damage across the system, including:

There is major damage due to downed trees between Summit and Millburn, as well as in Denville and Morristown. There is also overhead wire damage, including signal wires, with support poles down in Lyons and Bernardsville. In addition, rail washouts (no ballast under the tracks) occurred at Kearny Junction, where Midtown Direct service connects to the Northeast Corridor. Rail washouts also occurred at several tracks in Hoboken Terminal and at Netcong Station.

Elsewhere on the rail system, local power outages have prevented NJ TRANSIT rail operations from being able to further test crossing gates and operating signals. In addition, hundreds of downed trees have fallen across the rail system, which have caused damage to overhead wires and signal wires. Several rail stations have sustained flood damage, including Hoboken Terminal.

A number of rail stations throughout the system may have limited lighting and no elevator and escalator service due to power problems as a result of Hurricane Sandy. As a result, Secaucus Junction will not be ADA accessible until further notice. Customers are urged to use caution in and around all rail stations.

Additionally, NJ TRANSIT encourages customers to travel outside of the morning and afternoon peak periods to avoid delays and crowding. Customers are specifically encouraged to utilize the free ferry service NJ TRANSIT has established with Statue Cruises on weekdays from 6 a.m. to 10 a.m., 1 p.m. to 2 p.m., and 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The free parking, busing and ferry service at HBLR's Liberty State Park station's park-and-ride is part of an emergency Trans-

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Hudson access plan designed to get customers back to work as NJ TRANSIT continues to repair significant storm damage from Hurricane Sandy

Light Rail Service:Hudson-Bergen Light Rail

Regular weekday service has been restored between Tonnelle Avenue to Hoboken with first train out at 4:30 a.m.

West Side Avenue to Tonnelle Avenue service has been restored with limited service operating every 40 minutes.

Newark Light Rail:

Grove Street and Newark Penn Station service has been restored with limited service operating every 15 minutes.

Broad Street to Newark Penn Station service remains suspended until further notice.

There is no ADA accessibility currently available at Newark Penn Station's light rail terminal. Customers with disabilities are asked to use the Washington Street Station.

Bus Service:

Bus service is now operating on 95% of NJ TRANSIT bus routes. For details regarding operating routes, visit njtransit.com

Bus service on routes not listed remains suspended until further notice. Power outages in local communities have resulted in the loss of traffic control devices critical to safe operation in some areas. Downed tree limbs and power lines continue to make many roads impassable. Personnel are in the field reviewing and assessing these conditions in order to ensure that service is restored as soon as it becomes safe to do so.

Monthly Pass Extension:

NJ TRANSIT has extended the validity period for October monthly passes until Friday, November 9 for customer convenience.

Service Updates:

For the latest travel information, customers should listen to broadcast traffic reports, visit or access NJ TRANSIT's Twitter feed at @NJ_TRANSIT. Additionally, NJ TRANSIT will provide the most current service information via the My Transit alert system (www.njtransit.com/mytransit), which delivers travel advisories for your specific trip to your cell phone, PDA or pager. Service information is also available by calling (973) 275-5555.

Customer Tips

The following tips are offered for customers:

Customers utilizing NJ TRANSIT rail or regular NJ TRANSIT bus service are encouraged to consider traveling during off-peak periods to avoid crowds and potential delays.

Delays, detours and other challenges can continue to be expected by customers during system restoration and recovery.

For the latest travel information, customers should listen to broadcast traffic reports, visit njtransit.com, or access NJ TRANSIT's Twitter feed at @NJ_TRANSIT.

Additionally, NJ TRANSIT will provide the most current service information via the My Transit alert system (www.njtransit.com/mytransit), which delivers travel advisories for your specific trip to your cell phone, PDA or pager.

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