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Christie Administration Encourages NJ Transit Customers to Avoid Delays, Take Free Service from HBLR Liberty State Park Station to Lower Manhattan

Tuesday, November 6, 2012

Tags: [Hurricane Sandy](#)

Free Parking, Shuttle Buses, Ferries to Battery Park

Trenton, NJ – Governor Chris Christie today announced that the federal government has extended disaster assistance for New Jerseyans impacted by Hurricane Sandy to all 21 counties, providing direct assistance to individuals and households in the aftermath of the historic hurricane Sandy. Individuals in all New Jersey counties are now eligible for federal disaster relief. New Jersey residents and small businesses in all 21 counties are now eligible for Individual Assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and U.S. Small Business Administration.

Eligibility allows New Jerseyans to apply for different types of assistance, including temporary housing, repair, replacement or other needs such as Disaster Unemployment Assistance, and Small Business Administration disaster loans.

All 21 of the counties have already been approved by the federal government as eligible for Public Assistance, which is an additional form of federal disaster relief. Public Assistance Program funding is available to state and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency work and the repair or replacement of facilities damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

Residents of the counties that had yet to be declared eligible for individual assistance by the federal government are now being encouraged to begin the process of registering with FEMA for relief. Survivors of Hurricane Sandy who suffered damage should apply for disaster assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency - even if they have insurance or aren't sure if they are eligible.

Register by phone at 800-621-FEMA (3362) or TTY 800-462-7585 for those with hearing or speech impairments. Specialists are standing by at the toll-free numbers seven days a week, 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. local time, until further notice. Help in languages other than English is available. Or you can register online at www.DisasterAssistance.gov. You can also apply through a web-enabled mobile device or smartphone by visiting <http://m.fema.gov/> and following the link to "apply online for federal assistance."

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Trenton, NJ – The Christie Administration advised NJ TRANSIT customers today to save time and money by taking free ferry service from Jersey City to Lower Manhattan. The service includes free parking at the agency's Hudson Bergen Light Rail Liberty State Park station's park-and-ride, free shuttle bus service to/from the nearby ferry docks and free ferry service to/from Battery Park.

NJ TRANSIT has teamed up with Statue Cruises to operate the service until further notice 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. LSC is located off of Exit 14C of the New Jersey Turnpike.

The free parking, busing and ferry service at HBLR's Liberty State Park station's park-and-ride is part of an emergency Trans-Hudson access plan designed to get customers back to work as NJ TRANSIT continues to repair significant storm damage from Hurricane Sandy.

NJ TRANSIT is still several weeks away from full service restoration. Emergency conditions still exist across the NJ TRANSIT system and will continue for some time for regular commuters. During the recovery period, NJ TRANSIT strongly advises customers to use ferry service.

Additional Customer Tips

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, crowding 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 or Facebook page.

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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.

Automated service information is also available by calling (973) 275-5555.

About NJ TRANSIT

NJ TRANSIT is the nation's largest statewide public transportation system providing more than 895,000 weekday trips on 261 bus routes, three light rail lines, 12 commuter rail lines and through *Access Link* paratransit service. It is the third largest transit system in the country with 164 rail stations, 60 light rail stations and more than 19,000 bus stops linking major points in New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia.

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