

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 19, 2020 NJT-20-024 Contact: Press Office 973-491-7078

# NJ TRANSIT ADJUSTS SERVICE LEVELS ON RAIL

# Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>: North Jersey Rail Service Operates on Weekend Schedule; Bus, Light Rail and Access Link Remain on Weekday Schedules

**NEWARK, NJ** — Beginning Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, NJ TRANSIT's rail lines, with the exception of the Atlantic City Rail Line (ACRL), will operate on a weekend schedule with slight modifications. Customers are strongly encouraged to sign up for My Transit alerts and activate push notifications on the mobile app to receive the latest status of the system.

#### RAIL:

- All weekday rail service, with the exception of Atlantic City Rail Line (ACRL), will
  operate on <u>weekend schedules</u> with the following modifications until further notice.
  - Gladstone Branch rail service <u>WILL</u> operate on <u>weekdays only</u>.
  - Eight extra trips will operate between Dover and Hoboken <u>during weekdays</u>
     <u>only</u>. Departure times for these trains will be available on njtransit.com.
- ACRL will operate on a regular weekday schedule.

Bus, Hudson-Bergen Light Rail, Newark Light Rail, RiverLINE and Access Link will all remain at full weekday schedules. If and when service adjustments are necessary to those systems, NJ TRANSIT will immediately communicate those changes to customers.

Access Link customers can use their telephones to check ride status, cancel, confirm and text for estimated arrival times. Customers may also customize their notifications. For additional information, customers can email <u>ACES@njtransit.com</u> or call customer service.

Customers are also encouraged to sign up for My Transit Alerts by clicking the link provided or visiting <u>www.njtransit.com</u> and go to the My Transit Alert section.

## NJ TRANSIT'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

NJ TRANSIT has enhanced its cleaning efforts to include disinfecting vehicles every 24 hours. Hard surface cleaning and disinfecting typically includes handholds, arm rests, seating areas and restrooms.

Our enhanced cleaning regimen in stations includes additional disinfecting of frequent customer touchpoints such as ticket vending machines, handrails, door handles. In major stations and terminals, this occurs once every shift.

The cleaning agents used in this effort are deemed effective for these purposes and contain anti-viral components such as bleach/water mixes and other disinfectant sprays. Areas regularly cleaned include are doors, door knobs, windows, benches, partitions, trash cans, elevators, escalators, handrails, ledges, all restrooms and floor surfaces and all floor mats.

NJ TRANSIT has a dedicated web page offering a centralized location to highlight the many initiatives the agency has undertaken to protect customers and employees against COVID-19. The web page, <u>njtransit.com/COVID19</u>, is available on both desktop and through the mobile app.

In addition to outlining the steps the agency has taken, the website also includes a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section. Posters reminding customers of best-practices to prevent the spread of germs will be appearing on NJ TRANSIT vehicles throughout the system in the coming days.

NJ TRANSIT is closely engaged with the New Jersey Department of Health and other state and federal resources to carefully monitor, and if need be, respond to emergent health concerns that have the ability to impact customers and employees.

The Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention (CDC) offer the following preventative steps for the coronavirus:

• Stay home if you are sick

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with those who are sick
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, throw the tissue in the trash, then wash hands

For more information, please visit the following websites: New Jersey Department of Health: <u>https://www.nj.gov/health/;</u> the CDC: <u>https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00427.asp</u>.

## Travel Advice:

- Before starting your trip, visit njtransit.com for up-to-the-minute service information.
- Customers are encouraged to download or update the NJ TRANSIT mobile app to set up and receive customized service alert information via push notifications. Visit the <u>You Tube video</u> for easy instructions on setting up custom push notifications.
- Stay connected to NJ TRANSIT social media during your commute. Search for rail, bus or light rail-specific Twitter accounts for the best information:
  - Twitter: <u>@NJTRANSIT</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT NEC</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_NJCL</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_ME</u>
     <u>@NJTRANSIT\_ME</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_MOBO</u>
     <u>@NJTRANSIT\_MBPJ</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_MBPJ</u>
     <u>@NJTRANSIT\_PVL</u>
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_PVL</u>
     @NJTRANSIT\_RVL
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_RVL</u>
     <u>@NJTRANSIT\_ACRL</u>
  - @NJTRANSIT HBLR
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT NLR</u>
  - @NJTRANSIT RL
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_NBUS</u> (North Jersey Bus)
  - <u>@NJTRANSIT\_SBUS</u> (South Jersey Bus)
  - Facebook: facebook.com/NJTRANSIT
  - YouTube Channel: <u>TheNewJerseyTransit</u>
- Sign up for the My Transit alert system on njtransit.com, which delivers travel advisories for your specific trip to your cell phone via email or text.

- Allow extra time getting to and from your destination.
- Listen closely to public address announcements at stations for late-breaking service information.

#### About NJ TRANSIT

NJ TRANSIT is the nation's largest statewide public transportation system providing more than 925,000 weekday trips on 253 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 166 rail stations, 62 light rail stations and more than 19,000 bus stops linking major points in New Jersey, New York and Philadelphia.

This document and others are available for translation on njtransit.com.