

Memorandum



Metro-North Railroad

Date: March 15, 2023

To: Metro-North and Long Island Railroad Committee

From: Catherine A. Rinaldi

CAR

Re: March 2023 Schedule Changes

Schedules will change on the Hudson, Harlem and New Haven lines effective Sunday, March 26, 2023, and will remain in effect through Saturday, June 10, 2023.

The March 26 schedule reflects hourly weekend service on the Hudson Line to support several significant State of Good Repair infrastructure improvements, some minor PM Peak weekday adjustments on the Harlem Line to alleviate station congestion at Southeast, and the continuation of the amended New Haven Line weekday schedule as a result of the elevator/ escalator- replacement project at Stamford, the busiest Metro-North station outside of Grand Central Terminal. There are no changes to weekday train frequencies. The schedules continue to support major MTA C&D and MNR Maintenance of Way projects that require extensive track outages. The significant Hudson Line work described below is expected to be completed by Saturday, June 10, 2023, and we will resume normal weekend service on Sunday, June 11, 2023.

The new schedule also heralds the arrival of Spring and, with it, the return of Trains to the Game for New York Yankees baseball at Yankee Stadium. Opening Day is Thursday, March 30, and Metro-North is ready with its popular Trains to the Game, extra stops on Hudson Line trains and shuttle trains from Grand Central Terminal. New York Football Club has already opened its season, which began March 11, and we'll operate shuttle trains from Grand Central Terminal and make extra stops on Hudson Line trains for all 34 of the team's home games.

Hudson Line:

- Weekday schedules have only minor changes at en-route stations. Customers should check the TrainTime app or website schedules for adjustments to their specific trains and stations.
- Weekend service is reduced to one train per hour in each zone in each direction because of significant infrastructure-improvement projects in capacity-constrained areas, including the replacement of track switches at CP 8 near Morris Heights and at CP 10 near Marble Hill.

- One Poughkeepsie express train will operate each hour in each direction
- One Croton-Harmon local train will operate each hour in each direction
- The track-switch replacements are expected to be completed by Saturday, June 10, and normal weekend service resumes on Sunday, June 11
- Schedules continue to support other major engineering projects including:
 - Park Avenue Viaduct direct-fixation project between CP 3 at 102nd Street and the Harlem River lift bridge
 - Repairs to overhead bridges between CP 12 north of Spuyten Duyvil and CP 19 north of Greystone
 - Repairs to the deck of the Croton River bridge south of Croton-Harmon
 - Replacement of track crossties between CP 35 north of Croton-Harmon and CP 39 south of Peekskill
 - Hudson Express Cable project and its associated plow train between CP 39 north of Cortlandt and CP 46 at Manitou
 - Replacement of high-level platform edging at Beacon

Harlem Line:

- There are minor adjustments to times on weekday PM Peak Upper Harlem trains to minimize station congestion at Southeast. Customers should check the TrainTime app or website schedules for adjustments to their specific trains and stations.
- Schedules continue to support major engineering projects including:
 - North White Plains station platform-renewal project.
 - Replacement of rail/highway crossings at Cleveland and Commerce streets in Valhalla.

New Haven Line:

- There are minor adjustments to schedule times on weekday trains at intermediate stations. Customers should check the TrainTime app or website schedules for adjustments to their specific trains and stations.
- Adjustments to several Amtrak trains to accommodate Penn Station Access infrastructure work on Amtrak's Hell Gate Line between Queens and New Rochelle
- The Stamford elevator/ escalator-replacement project continues
 - FTA does not allow a train to be scheduled to stop at a platform without functioning ADA access if that access existed previously. As a result:
 - 4 westbound AM Peak trains bypass Stamford
 - 9 eastbound AM and PM Peak trains bypass Stamford
 - This schedule has been in effect since February 13 with no complaints
 - Significant pre-project public outreach
 - Presented travel alternatives and options to customers

- Schedules continue to support major engineering projects including:
 - Replacement of South and Fulton street overhead bridges in Mt. Vernon
 - Replacement of Pelham electric-traction substation
 - Replacement of track switches at CP 217, east of New Rochelle
 - Rail replacement between CP 235 east of Stamford and CP 240 at South Norwalk
 - Constructing new catenary foundations for the Walk Bridge replacement project at South Norwalk
 - Replacement of track crossties between CP 248 at Southport and CP 255 at Bridgeport
 - SmartTrack infrastructure improvements between CP 266 east of Milford and CP 271 west of New Haven

Holiday Services and Special Timetables

The 2023 Spring Holiday Program is:

Memorial Day, Monday, May 29

Metro-North will operate a weekday schedule on Friday, May 26, with extra early-getaway trains, and a Sunday schedule on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29.

West Of Hudson Service

There is a schedule change planned for Metro-North's West of Hudson service effective Sunday, April 23. Plans are still developing and will be provided for the April Board meeting.

Upcoming Schedule Changes

The next schedule change for all three East of Hudson lines is tentatively planned for Sunday, June 11, 2023.

cc: J. Lieber
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