

Staff Summary



Subject OCTOBER 6, 2024, SCHEDULE CHANGE
Department OPERATIONS
Department Head Name VONASHEK, JUSTIN
Department Head Signature

Date SEPTEMBER 12, 2024
Vendor Name
Contract Number
Contract Manager Name

Board Action					
Order	To	Date	Approval	Info	Other
1	M-N Comm. Mtg.				

Internal Approvals			
Order	Approval	Order	Approval
1	President	2	CTO

PURPOSE:

Schedules will change on the Hudson, Harlem and New Haven lines effective Sunday, October 6, 2024.

The October 6, 2024, Schedules continue to support major C&D, CDOT and Maintenance of Way projects that require extensive track outages on all three lines including Switch replacements, Track and Tie renewals, the continuation of Park Avenue Viaduct Span renewal and Walk Bridge replacement.

OCTOBER 6, 2024, TIMETABLE CHANGE

Service Improvements

- **HUDSON LINE:**
 - Minor adjustments to weekday outbound trains later in the PM-Peak for better spacing during Park Avenue Viaduct two track outages.
 - Weekend Trains will see a 1-to-2 minute reduction in run time.
- **HARLEM LINE:**
 - Minor adjustments to weekday outbound trains later in the PM-Peak for better spacing during Park Avenue Viaduct two track outages.
- **NEW HAVEN LINE:**
 - AM & PM Peak Trains will see a 1-to-2 minute reduction in run time.
 - Weekend Trains will a 1-to-2 minute reduction in run time.

Holidays

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY WEEKEND – 11/27/2024 – 12/01/2024

Metro-North will publish and operate a special four-day schedule for the Thanksgiving holiday

weekend (Thursday, November 28, through Sunday, December 1) that is tailored to the travel needs of our customers; these schedules will also be available through the MyMTA app, our IVR/call center, the internet, and via TrainTime and third-party apps. As in past years, off-peak fares will be valid throughout the entire four-day period.

- Wednesday, the day before Thanksgiving – 11/27/2024

Historically, this is the heaviest travel day of the year with outbound ridership between noon and 8 PM more than 25% higher than a normal weekday. Metro-North will operate a regular weekday schedule with longer trains at key times and 19 additional trains (6 Hudson, 3 Harlem, 10 New Haven) departing GCT between noon and 4:15 PM. Later in the evening, Metro-North will combine or cancel Trains on the Hudson and Harlem Line and run a Friday Service Plan on the New Haven Line. All service is shown in the current timetables.

- Thanksgiving Day – 11/28/2024

Metro-North will provide additional inbound morning service for customers going to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. There will also be expanded outbound service starting in the late morning and continuing until mid-afternoon for customers traveling to suburban destinations. Finally, there will be expanded evening service for customers returning to New York City.

During the key outbound period between 10 AM and 2 PM all fares from Grand Central and from Harlem-125th Street will be collected from customers before they board trains. "Gate collection" of fares will take place to ensure that a fare is collected from each customer. Overall, we project that Metro-North will provide more than 100,000 rides on Thanksgiving Day.

- Friday, the day after Thanksgiving – 11/29/2024

Fewer commuters and greatly increased discretionary travel require a significant change to regular weekday service. A special schedule included in Metro-North's four-day timetable addresses the unique travel patterns of our ridership on this day by featuring an expanded Saturday schedule with extra service in the traditional AM and PM peak periods. On the Harlem Line, trains which normally terminate and originate at Crestwood will be extended to serve Scarsdale, Hartsdale, White Plains and North White Plains.

- Thanksgiving Weekend (Saturday and Sunday) 11/30 – 12/1/2024

Saturday and Sunday Schedules complete the four-day timetable with additional cars on existing trains.

- CHRISTMAS-NEW YEAR'S WEEK (Tuesday 12/23 – Monday 12/30)

Historically, commuter ridership decreases in the week between Christmas and New

Year's, while mid-day inbound ridership between 10 AM and 2 PM increases by more than 100% on the weekdays. This increase reflects high discretionary ridership while schools are on holiday recess, as well as shoppers taking advantage of after-Christmas sales. To accommodate this shifted demand, Metro-North will not operate a select number of morning rush-hour trains and will adjust train lengths and operate 6 additional mid-day trains (2 Hudson, 1 Harlem, 3 New Haven).

- Christmas Eve – 12/24/2024

On Christmas Eve, Tuesday, 12/24/2024, Metro-North will be operating a Friday Service schedule in which a select number of AM and PM Peak Trains will not operate and will operate 6 additional mid-day Trains. (2 Hudson, 1 Harlem, 3 New Haven).

- Christmas Day – 12/25/2024

Christmas Day has one of the lowest ridership of any holidays. Metro-North will operate a special schedule on Christmas Day, with hourly service on the lower Hudson, upper Hudson, mid-Harlem, upper Harlem, inner New Haven and outer New Haven Lines and on the New Canaan branch, every two hours on the Wassaic segment, and every three hours on the Danbury and Waterbury branches.

- New Year's Eve – 12/31/2024

On New Year's Eve, MNR will operate a regular Saturday schedule with extra service for customers after midnight to accommodate passengers going home from the Times Square Ball Drop.

As in past years, customers riding home on Metro-North's early-morning New Years' service will have their tickets collected prior to boarding trains at GCT.

- Martin Luther King Jr. Day – 01/20/2025

Martin Luther King Jr Day is a holiday with a unique travel pattern. Metro-North will operate an expanded Saturday schedule, with additional trains in the traditional AM and PM peak periods. Trains will be shown in the regular Saturday schedule.

- President's Day – 02/17/2025

Metro-North will operate a regular Saturday schedule.

Special Schedules

- Hudson Line:

- The popular Fall Foliage trains return to Hudson Valley on October 5th, 2024, and will

continue into the new schedule on October 6, 2024 through November 10th, 2024. There are two extra northbound AM trains toward Poughkeepsie and two extra southbound PM trains returning to Grand Central.

- Metro-North will operate a Friday Service Schedule on Election Day, Tuesday, 11/5/2024, in which a select number of AM and PM Peak Trains will not operate and will operate 6 additional mid-day Trains. (2 hudson, 1 Harlem, 3 New Haven).

- Harlem Line:
 - Metro-North will operate a Friday Service Schedule on Election Day, Tuesday, 11/5/2024, in which a select number of AM and PM Peak Trains will not operate and will operate 6 additional mid-day Trains. (2 hudson, 1 Harlem, 3 New Haven).

- New Haven Line:
 - Extra Seasonal weekend Service will commence between November 30 and December 29, also known as Shopper Schedules, will return to the New Haven Line. Eight additional Trains will run on Saturdays and 4 additional Trains will run on Sunday between Grand Central and New Haven.
 - Metro-North will operate a Friday Service Schedule on Election Day, Tuesday, 11/5/2024, in which a select number of AM and PM Peak Trains will not operate and will operate 6 additional mid-day Trains. (2 hudson, 1 Harlem, 3 New Haven).

IMPACT ON FUNDING:

Funding for these projects is contained in the Metro-North Operating and MTA Capital Program budget.