



Service Changes: SIM4X and SIM8X Discontinuation and Conversion to Some SIM4 and SIM8 Trips

Sarah Wyss, Acting Chief, Operations Planning

Background

The SIM4 and SIM8, and their variants the SIM4X and SIM8X, are weekday peak period, peak direction, express bus routes operating between Staten Island's South Shore and Downtown/Midtown Manhattan.

The SIM4X and SIM8X both serve only two bus stops on Staten Island, but they make all full-route SIM4 and SIM8 stops, respectively, in Manhattan. These variants were established as part of the Staten Island Express Bus Redesign in August 2018 to experiment with leveraging the Staten Island Mall Park-and-Ride to attract ridership.

The SIM4X and SIM8X trips are underutilized, on average, the SIM4X trips are running approximately 15% full and the SIM8X trips are running approximately 25% full.

Recommendation

Make better use of underutilized resources by discontinuing the SIM4X and SIM8X variants of the SIM4 and SIM8, respectively, and reinvest into seven full-route SIM4 trips and two full-route SIM8 trips while meeting schedule loading guidelines.

Impact on Funding


The net decrease in operating costs of this change is \$2.5 million per year.

Implementation Date

Fall 2025

Staff Summary



Subject	SIM4X and SIM8X Discontinuation and Conversion to Some SIM4 and SIM8 Trips
Department	Operations Planning
Department Head Name	Sarah Wyss
Department Head Signature	
Project Manager Name	Robert Lai

Date	June 17, 2025
Vendor Name	N/A
Contract Number	N/A
Contract Manager Name	N/A
Table of Contents Ref #	N/A

Board Action					
Order	To	Date	Approval	Info	Other
1	President		X		
2	NYCT/MTA Bus Committee			X	
3	Board			X	
4					

Internal Approvals			
Order	Approval	Order	Approval
		4	Chief Cust. Officer
7	President	3	General Counsel
6	Co-CFO	2	Sr. Dir., GCR
5	Acting SVP, Buses	1	Acting Chief, OP

Purpose

The purpose of this staff summary is to gain presidential approval for and to inform the New York City Transit/MTA Bus Committee of a proposal to discontinue the SIM4X and SIM8X, which are variants of the SIM4 and SIM8, respectively and convert some trips to full-route trips.

Discussion

The SIM4 and SIM8 and their variants the SIM4X and SIM8X, respectively, are weekday, peak-period, peak direction express bus routes operating between Staten Island's South Shore along Richmond Avenue, and Downtown/Midtown Manhattan. The SIM4 and SIM4X serve Downtown Manhattan, and the SIM8 and SIM8X serve Midtown. The SIM4X and SIM8X trips are shorter variants of their full route services, making just two stops on Staten Island (at the Staten Island Mall Park-and-Ride and one other stop), but serving all the same stops in Manhattan as the full-route. See Maps 1 and 2 for the travel path and bus stops of the SIM4 and SIM4X. See Maps 3 and 4 of the travel paths and bus stops of the SIM8 and SIM8X.

The SIM4X and SIM8X were introduced as part of the 2018 Staten Island Express Bus Redesign to leverage the Staten Island Mall Park-and-Ride facility, making one stop at the Park-and-Ride, and then running non-stop to/from Manhattan. In January 2019, one more stop in Staten Island was added in each direction near their first/last stops in Staten Island.

There are currently 15 trips per weekday operated on the SIM4X, seven morning trips to Manhattan and eight afternoon/evening trips to Staten Island. The SIM8X currently operates 16 trips per weekday, seven morning trips to Manhattan and nine afternoon/evening trips to Staten Island.

The SIM4X and SIM8X trips are underutilized. On average, the SIM4X trips are running approximately 15% full and the SIM8X trips are running approximately 25% full. Discontinuing the SIM4X and SIM8X variants and converting some of these trips into full-route SIM4 and SIM8 trips would better use underutilized resources. It is proposed to add a total of seven trips to the SIM4 (three trips to Manhattan and four trips to Staten Island) and two trips to the SIM8 (one trip each to Manhattan and Staten Island) while meeting bus schedule loading guidelines.

Recommendation

Make better use of underutilized resources by discontinuing the SIM4X and SIM8X variants of the SIM4 and SIM8, respectively, and reinvest into seven full-route SIM4 trips and two full-route SIM8 trips while meeting schedule loading guidelines.

Alternatives

Do nothing. Service adjustments to better utilize resources while meeting passenger ridership demand would not be made.





Impact on Funding

The net decrease in operating costs of this change is \$2.5 million per year.

Implementation Date


Fall 2025

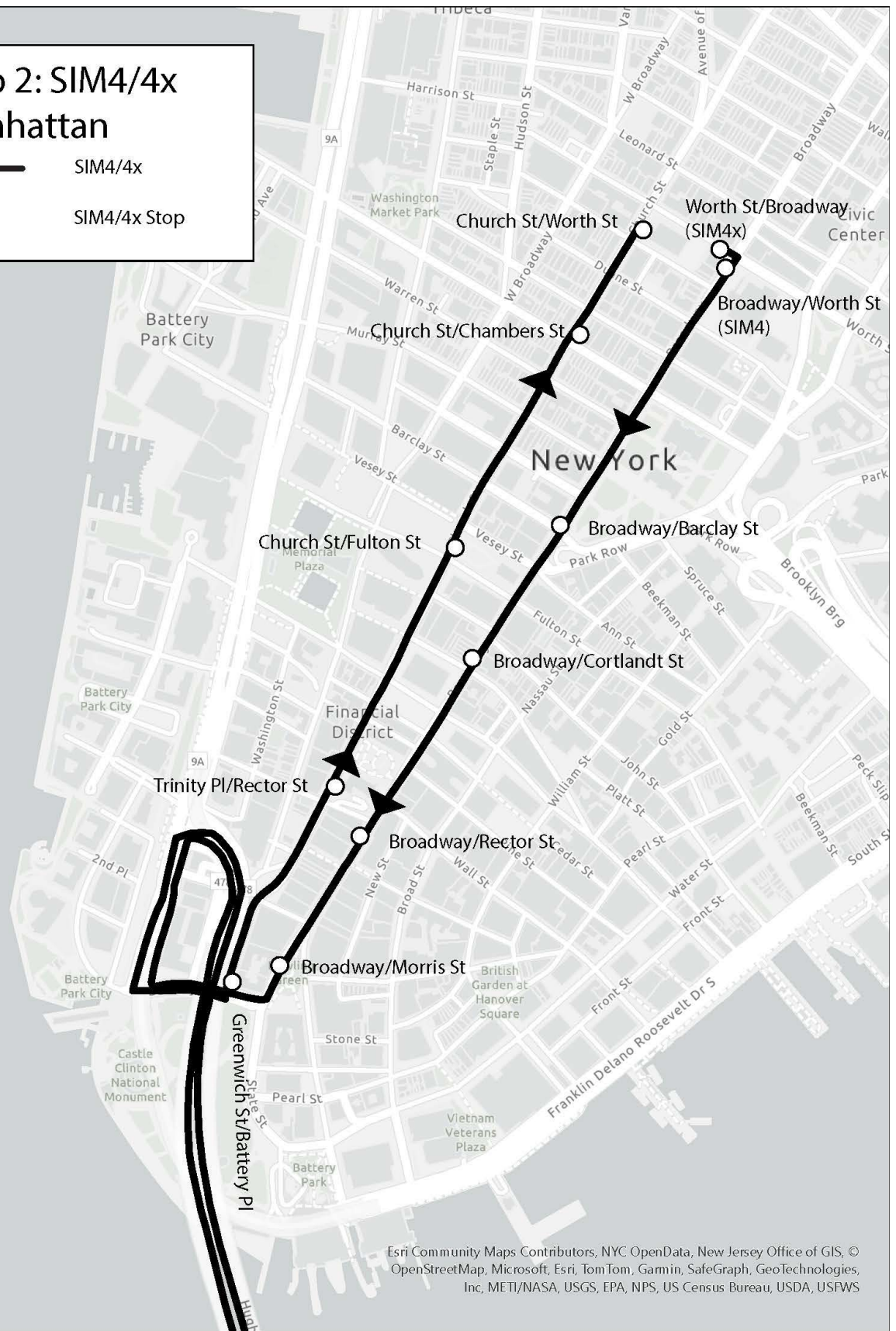
Map 1: SIM4/4x Staten Island

-  SIM4
-  SIM4x
-  SIM4/4x Stop
-  SIM4 Stop

Lamberts Ln/
 Richmond Av
 Richmond Av/Lander Av
 Richmond Av/Yona Av
 Richmond Av/Morani St
 Richmond Av/Merrill Av
 Richmond Av/Victory Bl
 Richmond Av/Eton Pl
 Richmond Av/Carnegie Pl
 Richmond Av/Signs Rd
 Richmond Av/Rivington Av
 Richmond Av/Rockland Av
 Richmond Av/Travis Av
 Richmond Av/Draper Pl
 Richmond Av/Nome Av
 Richmond Hill Rd/Vassar St
 SI Mall
 P&R
 Marsh Av/Westport
 Marsh Av/Ring Rd
 Marsh Av/Elmwood Park
 Marsh Av/Windham Loop
 Richmond Av/Yukon Av
 Richmond Av/Forest Hill Rd
 Annadale Rd/Token St
 Eltingville Transit Center
 Drumgoole Rd/Annadale Rd





Map 2: SIM4/4x Manhattan

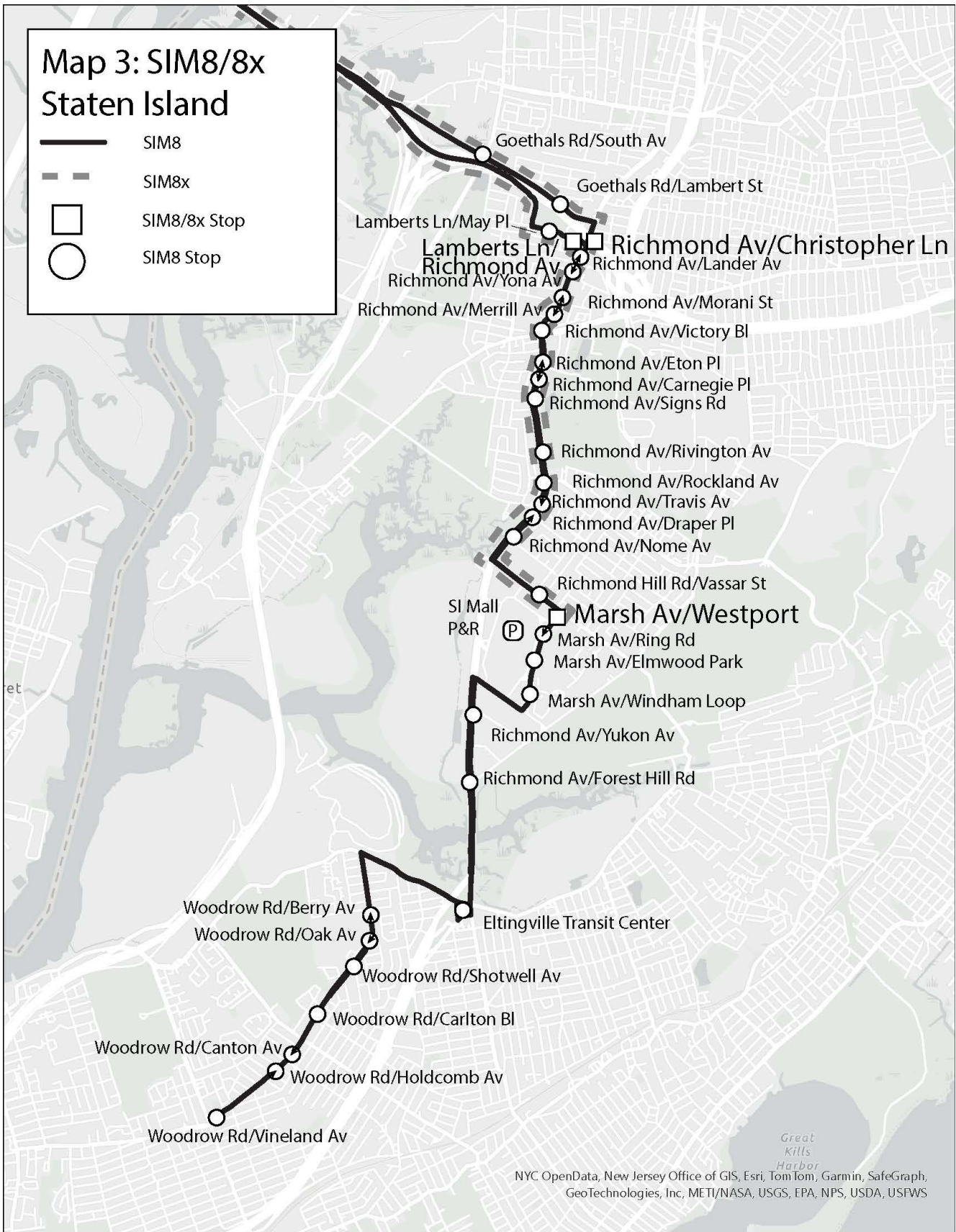
-  SIM4/4x
-  SIM4/4x Stop





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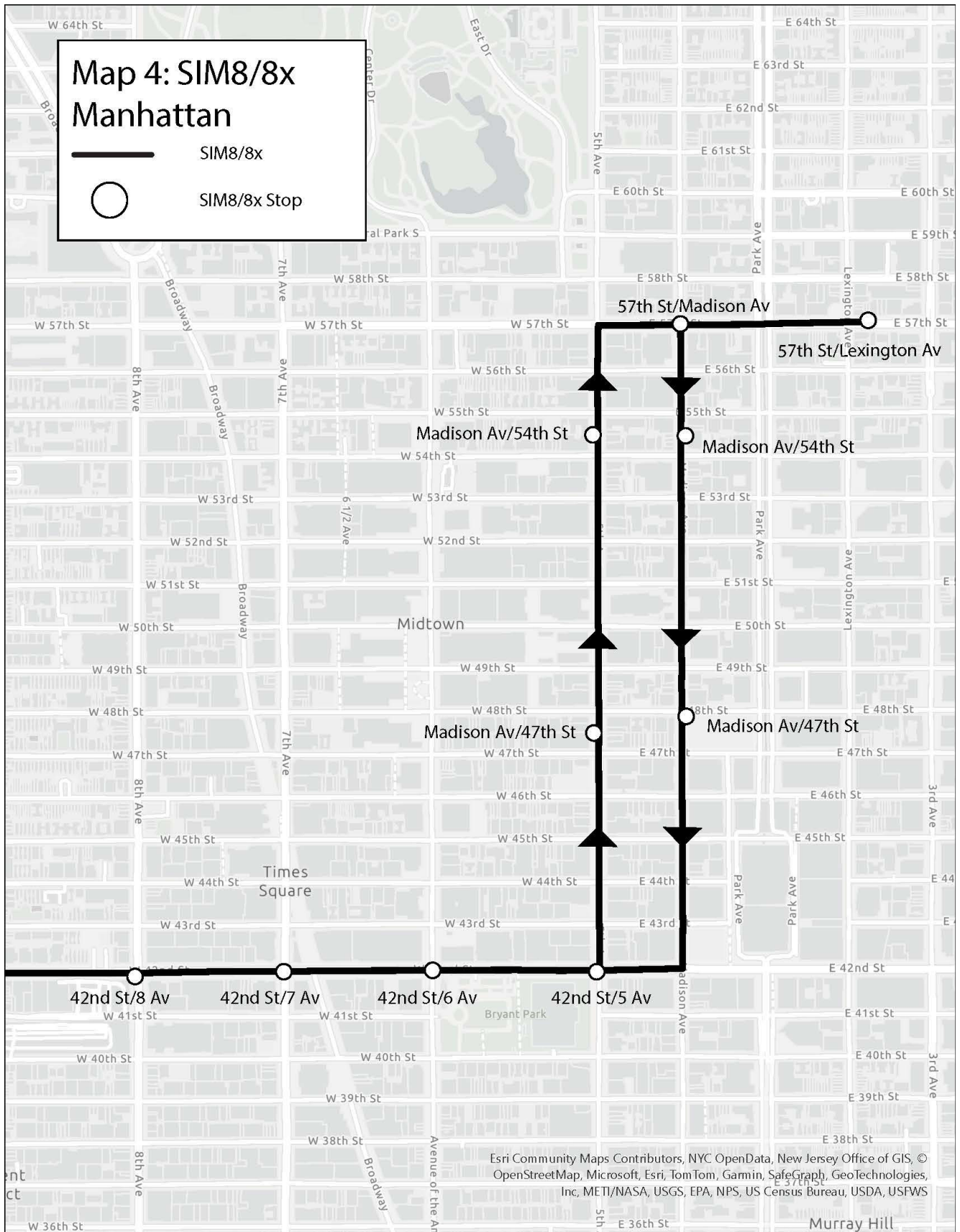
Map 3: SIM8/8x Staten Island

-  SIM8
-  SIM8x
-  SIM8/8x Stop
-  SIM8 Stop



Map 4: SIM8/8x Manhattan

-  SIM8/8x
-  SIM8/8x Stop



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