



Schedule Changes: 4 and 7 Line Subway Schedule Changes Effective December 2022

Judith McClain, Chief, Operations Planning, NYCT

Service Issue

To ensure that subway schedules match current rider demand, schedules are regularly reviewed, evaluated and revised in order to provide passengers with efficient and effective service. Changes are recommended to the 4 and 7 line schedules to accommodate recent changes in rider demand for peak period service on those lines

Recommendation

Modify the schedules of weekday trips on the 4 and 7 lines to accommodate changes in rush hour ridership trends.

Budget Impact

Implementation of the proposed 4 and 7 line schedule changes will save approximately \$0.3 million annually, which will be incorporated into the mid-year 2022 budget amendment and will be included in the 2023 budget.

Proposed Implementation Date

4 and 7 line schedule changes will be implemented in December 2022.

Staff Summary



Subject	④ and ⑦ Line Subway Schedule Changes Effective Fall 2022
Department	Operations Planning
Department Head Name	Judith McClain
Department Head Signature	
Project Manager Name	Glenn S. Lunden

Date	July 8, 2022
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 Comm.			X	
3	Board			X	

Internal Approvals			
Order	Approval	Order	Approval
8	President	4	VP General Counsel
7	CFO	3	Deputy Chief, Management & Budget
6	SVP Subways	2	Director, GCR
5	Chief Cust. Officer	1	Chief, OP

Purpose

To obtain Presidential approval, and to inform the NYC Transit and MTA Bus Committee, of weekday schedule adjustments on the ④ and ⑦ lines in order to more closely match ridership demand as it has shifted over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Discussion

The schedule adjustments on the ④ and ⑦ lines are a product of NYC Transit's continuing effort to review and revise subway schedules, when feasible, to ensure that they meet changes in customer demand.

The schedule changes outlined below would take effect in December 2022. These changes represent service adjustments during weekday morning and afternoon peak periods, as well as the weekday midday period, to align service more closely with observed customer demand. Basic information about these proposed adjustments is outlined below, and additional details are shown in Attachment 1.

Staff Summary

- Two southbound 4 trips would be moved from the 9-10 a.m. hour to the 5-6 a.m. hour.
- One northbound 4 trip would be moved from the 7-8 p.m. hour to the 3-4 p.m. hour.
- One southbound 7 local trip and one southbound 7 express trip would be moved from the 9-10 a.m. hour to the 5-6 a.m. and 6-7 a.m. hours as two southbound 7 local trips.
- One northbound 7 local trip and one northbound 7 express trip would be moved from the 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m. hours to the 3-4 p.m. and 4-5 p.m. hours.

NYCT routinely observes ridership of all subway lines at key locations throughout the day, and, where feasible, recommends changes in frequency as warranted to provide more effective and efficient service. As ridership patterns have changed as a result of COVID-19 pandemic, ridership has remained relatively strong in the early shoulders of the peak period but has lessened during other peak hours. To accommodate the ridership pattern changes on the 4 and 7 lines, we are proposing to shift selected trips to better accommodate the relatively high early ridership volumes.

There is no net change proposed in the total number of daily trips on the 4 and 7 lines. The number of crews that would be required for 4 service would be unchanged, while one fewer crew would be needed for 7 service.

Weekday 4 and 7 trains do not, on average, carry passenger volumes in excess of the maximum load specified in the MTA Board-adopted loading guidelines (110 passengers per A Division car).

Recommendation

Implement 4 and 7 line schedule adjustments.

Alternative to the Proposed Service Changes

Do nothing. NYCT would not make the 4 and 7 line service adjustments that are necessary to better meet customer demand.

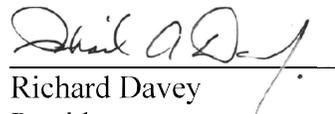
Budget Impact

Implementation of the proposed 4 and 7 line schedule changes will save approximately \$0.3 million annually, which will be incorporated into the 2023 budget.

Proposed Implementation Date

The proposed 4 and 7 line schedule changes would be implemented in December 2022.

Approved:



Richard Davey
President

Attachment 1

Summary of Proposed 4 and 7 Line Trip Changes as of December 2022

Line	Direction	Hour beginning	Current frequency (trains per hour)	Proposed frequency (trains per hour)	Proposed change (trains per hour)	Current % of max load	Proposed % of max load
4	Southbound 86 St	5:00 AM	5	7	2	99%	71%
		9:00 AM	12	10	-2	40%	48%
	Northbound 59 St	3:00 PM	8	9	1	84%	74%
		7:00 PM	10	8	-1	43%	49%
7 7	Southbound 61 St-Woodside*	5:00 AM	6	7	1	85%	72%
		6:00 AM	19	20	1	81%	76%
		9:00 AM	19	17	-2	49%	55%
	Northbound Queensboro Plaza	3:00 PM	14	15	1	66%	62%
		4:00 PM	16	17	1	80%	75%
		5:00 PM	26	25	-1	66%	68%
		6:00 PM	22	21	-1	57%	60%

*Southbound loads on 7 Local are shown for 40 St-Lowery St