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For Release IMMEDIATE

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Queens Midtown Tunnel Ongoing Superstorm Sandy Repairs: One Tube Closed Every Weeknight and Weekend

One lane open in each direction in other tube

One tube of the Queens Midtown Tunnel will continue to be closed every weekend, starting at an earlier time on **Friday nights, from 10:00 p.m. through Monday mornings at 6:00 a.m.**, to accommodate ongoing Superstorm Sandy restoration work. One lane in each direction will always remain open in the other tube during periods when one tube is closed.

The full weekend tube closures accommodate an accelerated schedule and shorten overall project duration and impact on customers and the neighboring communities. Depending on the nature of the work, either the Queens-bound or Manhattan-bound tube may be closed. Signage will be in place to help direct motorists, as will NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agents.

Weeknight Manhattan-bound (north) tube closures currently in effect will continue, Monday through Thursday nights, from 9:00 p.m., through 6:00 a.m., as well.

Motorists should expect heavy delays, allow extra time and or use an alternate route if possible.

The \$236.5 million project was awarded to Judlau Contracting Inc. of Queens in April 2015. The restoration and repair work includes replacing multiple systems that were damaged during Sandy in 2012, such as electrical and communications, drainage and fire standpipe. In addition to other capital improvement work, contractors are installing new LED lights and emergency way-finding safety lights; replacing tunnel wall tiles, ceiling finishes, curbs, catwalks, and duct banks, and repaving tunnel roadways.

Motorists can sign up for MTA e-mail or text alerts at <u>www.mta.info</u> and check the Bridges and Tunnels homepage or Facebook page for the latest information on this planned work.

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