

# TRANSPORTATION REPORT

## BOMA-NY CODES & REGS

JANUARY 2026



**GLENN WALDORF, BELL ENVIRONMENTAL**  
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## BOMA-NY Codes & Regs Committee

♪  **January 2026**  

### Glenn Waldorf, Bell Environmental Services

#### GOODBYE, MTV (8/1/1981–12/31/2025) – ♪ THE DAY THE MUSIC CHANNEL DIED ♪

Don McLean sang ♪ “*A long, long time ago...*” ♪ in *American Pie* as a eulogy for the 1950s. The 1971 classic cataloged how the turbulent 60s moved Americans from being ♪ “*in one place*” ♪ to a generation adrift, ♪ “*lost in space, with no time left to start again.*” ♪

Ten years later, on [August 1, 1981, at 12:01 AM ET, MTV, a new “space,” launched](#), fittingly, with a rocket . The [Moonman](#)  , symbolizing spaceflight and our most powerful form of transportation, became the emblem of a new cultural meeting place for America’s youth, who joined one cable   household at a time.

MTV captured a generation. Music videos became a new form of art and communication. Teens shared the same language, images, heroes, and must-watch premieres. “[I Want My MTV!](#)” became a rallying cry. More than programming, it was a phenomenon.

And now, that era is officially pulling into the station for the last time. [Paramount Global closed five MTV music channels at year-end-2025](#), marking the end of a major chapter in music broadcasting. Our old, shared world is shrinking.

**SAYING FAREWELL TO MTV MIGHT SEEM OFF-TOPIC FOR A TRANSPORTATION REPORT. IN FACT, IT'S A MUST-COVER SUBJECT. MTV WAS ABOUT MOTION. MOVEMENT. MACHINES. AND NOT JUST MUSIC. THE THRILL OF GOING SOMEWHERE. THE MUSIC VIDEO WASN'T JUST A CLIP; IT WAS A VEHICLE. MTV DIDN'T JUST SHOW VEHICLES. IT SHOWED WHAT VEHICLES MEANT.**

Transportation in MTV videos was metaphor and visual shorthand. “[Little Red Corvette](#)”  was temptation with a warning light underneath. “[I Can't Drive 55](#)”  distilled a generation’s impatience with limits into one speed sign and a foot on the gas. “[Fast Car](#)” was a promise and an escape plan. “[Downtown Train](#)”  carried longing through a city of missed connections. “[The Metro](#)”  captured the lonely truth of mass transit: surrounded by people yet still traveling alone. “[Vacation](#)”   turned time off into motion and freedom, like water skis cutting across open water. A yellow school bus  was the crazed ride to a teen fantasy in Van Halen’s “[Hot for Teacher.](#)”   Duran Duran’s “[Rio](#)”  was a floating postcard from a glam escape. “[Sabotage](#)” turned police cars  and sirens into a gritty city chase. And Whitesnake turned a green  Jaguar into a staging ground for our road fantasies.

MTV isn’t one place anymore. It lives now in fragments on social media, everywhere and nowhere, endlessly available but rarely shared at the same exact moment. VJs became   [disc jockeys](#) on  [Sirius XM](#). The streaming era gives us everything on demand, including the way music keeps recycling itself forward. You can hear it when Eminem and Lady Gaga refresh 80s songs for their smashes  “[Houdini](#)” and  “[Abracadabra.](#)” The songs keep moving, even when the platform changes.

If you ever need proof universal youth culture is still possible, look at how quickly “[67](#)” became a ubiquitous catchphrase: [two digits accompanied by a juggling-hand gesture](#) that basically means “okay, old person,” casting Gen X and Millennials as the radio stars [The Buggles warned would be dismissed](#).

♪ “...Video killed the radio star. In my mind and in my car. We can’t rewind, we’ve gone too far.” ♪

[Don't Look Back In Anger](#), not even you [Gallagher brothers](#) and [Oasis](#). We’ll be grateful for our moment and keep driving. MTV taught us what transportation planners already know: every generation finds a new route. Destinations, vehicles, and platforms change. But the need to connect and be together in one place does not.

MTV made generations feel like we were riding together. If one artist embodied that fearless, visual, kinetic spirit, it was [Madonna](#). She was our [True Blue](#)  80s muse, who sang “[Into The Groove](#)” to get us up to dance. MTV gave us the chance. Madonna showed us in 2000, the year of one of her many career rebirths and her cover of [American Pie](#), that there is, in fact, ♪ “*time left to start again.*” ♪ She also reminded us of the whole point of MTV: ♪ “*Music makes the people come together.*” ♪

(If you made it this far, and want more of your MTV, [click here for an expanded version of this essay.](#))



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## ....AND NOW BACK TO OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED TRANSPORTATION NEWS....

### NY Is Touting Congestion Pricing As A Policy Success At The 1-Year Mark

NY Governor Kathy Hochul: "Congestion pricing is working. The cameras are staying on."

Official NYC Congestion Pricing verdict: it's working

Bloomberg Charts Through November 2025:

- Foot traffic: +3.4% YoY
- Sales tax revenue: +6.3% YoY
- Storefront vacancy: -0.9% YoY
- Pollution: -22% (first 6 months)
- Vehicle traffic: -11% YoY (-71.5k per day)
- Est. Revenue: \$548.3M (vs. \$500M goal)

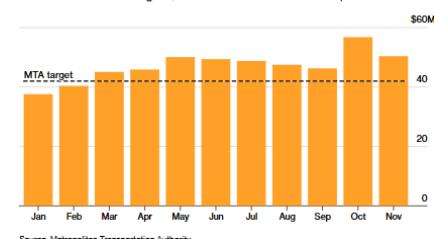
Hochul tells companies to deliver goods overnight to cut down on congestion pricing fees

Gov. Hochul, MTA hail better traffic in Manhattan from congestion pricing, drivers insist otherwise

Critics of congestion pricing say concerns remain.....

MTA vs. Trump administration: Congestion pricing legal battle date announced

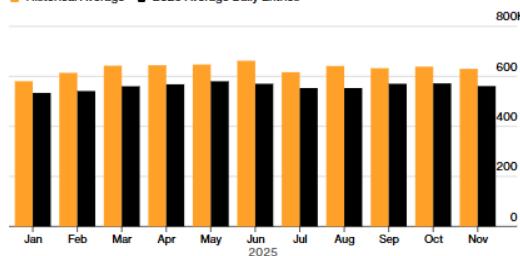
**Congestion Pricing Revenue Is Higher Than Anticipated**  
NYC's toll is set to bring in \$548.3 million in 2025 after expenses



#### Fewer Vehicles Entered the Toll Zone

An average 71,500 fewer vehicles entered the Central Business District each day through November

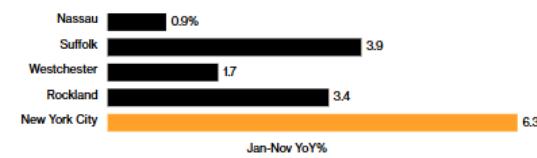
■ Historical Average ■ 2025 Average Daily Entries



Source: Metropolitan Transportation Authority

#### New York City's Sales Tax Receipts Grew Faster Than Nearby Counties

NYC's sales tax revenue grew 6.3% compared to the same period last year

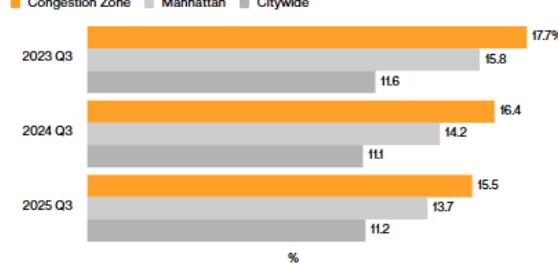


Source: NYS Comptroller Thomas DiNapoli

#### Storefront Vacancies in Congestion Zone Declined Faster

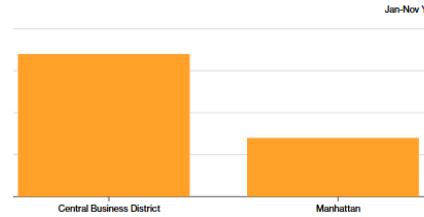
The vacancy rate in the tolled zone dropped by nearly one percentage point in 2025, while the citywide average stayed flat

■ Congestion Zone ■ Manhattan ■ Citywide



Source: NYC Economic Development Corporation analysis of data from LiveXYZ

#### Foot Traffic Growth in the Central Business District Outpaced Manhattan



Source: Placer.ai  
Note: Data reflects foot traffic of people who do not live or work in the analyzed area



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## Gateway Tunnel

Gov. Hochul said Trump has not indicated any end of the cut off of funds for the Gateway Tunnel since the October 2025 suspension nor any time they will resume.

The Gateway Tunnel Progress.  Extra! Extra! Read all about it!  GDC Gazette - December 2025

GDC Completes Manufacturing of First Pair of Tunnel Boring Machines For Hudson Tunnel Project: TBMs Arriving in New Jersey for On-Site Assembly in Early 2026

Gateway Tunnel construction: What to know about the boring machines (And they're anything but boring!)

Hudson River Ground Stabilization Project is stabilizing the riverbed on the Manhattan side of the Hudson River to enable tunnel boring machines to excavate the new tunnel.



### BY THE NUMBERS: Hudson River Ground Stabilization

**1,200 Feet**

Length of the section of riverbed being stabilized – more than 4 city blocks

**208,000 Cubic Yards**

Total volume of concrete mix that will be used for the project

**120,000 Square Feet**

Approximate area of riverbed that will be stabilized

**106 Feet**

Maximum depth of ground stabilization below the riverbed

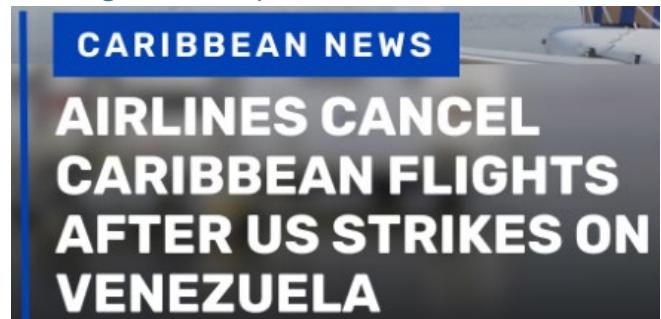
## Military Impact On Skies

U.S. Military Plane and JetBlue Flight Nearly Collided Over Caribbean, Radio Traffic Shows - Airforce Jet Was Flying Without Its Transponder On.

US admits Army, air traffic control failures in deadly plane crash near DC

US military operation in Venezuela disrupted Caribbean holiday travel, hundreds of flights canceled

Thousands stranded as flights canceled across Caribbean following Maduro capture



## ♪ New York, New York ♪

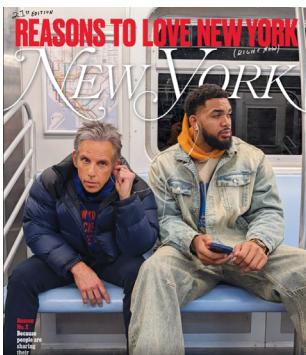
- 39 Reasons to Love New York Right Now:

1- Making Sense of 2025 - Because the World May Be a Runaway Train, But We're All Still on the Uptown Local;

2- Because We're Sharing Headphones on the Subway Again

3- Because a Truck Driver Spent 21 Years Making an Obsessively Completist City Out of Balsa Wood...

...plus 36 more....



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## 2025 - Good Transit News

[When It Comes to US Transportation, 2025 Had Some Wins, Too - Amid federal-level threats and funding cuts, cities found ways to fight congestion, boost road safety and forestall the public transit death spiral.](#)



[All 3 NYC casinos win licenses, ending state's competition](#)

-NYC banking on three proposed casinos to deliver on transit upgrades to avoid mass gridlock. Mets owner Steve Cohen and Hard Rock's "Metropolitan Park" project near Citi Field in Flushing has pledged to invest \$1.75 billion on "community benefits," including boosting nearby public infrastructure – more than double what the billionaire is shelling out for slugger Juan Soto's MLB record \$765 contract. The planned improvements include a full-scale transformation of the Mets-Willets Point 7-line subway station, new bike lanes and pedestrian pathways, and multi-story parking garages.



**News of the Weird - 🕹️ Space Invaders Edition 🕹️**

[NJ-bound plane that plunged and injured 15 was likely hit by 'cosmic rays' from exploding star](#)

**Goodbye MetroCard (1/6/1994 – 12/31/2025) 🙏💳 (Sales ended 12/31, Accepted for a while more. )**

[Goodbye to the MetroCard that transformed how New Yorkers traveled | Watch](#)

Swipe and Let Go: Farewell to the MetroCard. After 31 years, the card reached the end of the line. Nobody will miss the swipe, and especially not SWIPE AGAIN AT THIS TURNSTILE. BTW - 94 percent of riders now use OMNY rather than MetroCard.

WABC-7 Eyewitness News Flashback: "On January 6, 1994, New Yorkers were introduced to this mysterious thing called a MetroCard. We all carried subway tokens then, and while some people were excited about the new card, they needed lessons in how to use it! The anchor introducing the report is Diana Williams."

With the MetroCard officially retiring on Dec. 31, NY1's @patkiernan looks back at the beloved subway payment methods that have come and gone over the years.

Remembering the MetroCard: NYC's beloved subway & bus fare card, which goes the way of the token....

The MetroCard is becoming a museum piece in 'FAREWELL' exhibit

MetroCards are more than a way to pay transit fares for some New Yorkers

As the era of the MetroCard comes to an official end this year, a transit YouTuber and his friend traveled the longest possible distance on a single swipe — from Putnam County to Suffolk County.

NYC MetroCards are now reselling for up to \$5K online!

**Subway Fares 💳💵coins**

It now costs \$3 to ride the subway and some New Yorkers are already angry - Gothamist

NYC slices now far more expensive than subway fare as 'pizza principle' disappears - Gothamist

**Subways 🚅**

[OMNY makes a bumpy landing as MTA fully converts to tap-to-pay fare system - MTA officials said the technology is finally ready for prime time, and noted earlier this month that 94% of all transit trips in the city were paid for with OMNY. The agency touts OMNY as a boon for riders that allows them the flexibility of paying with their smartphone, credit card or special reloadable OMNY card. While there have been 3 billion uses of OMNY to date, straphangers reported being locked out of the system after they tried to tap a commuter benefits card that had run out of money — and they remained locked out even after they were reloaded.](#)

Four NYC subway slashings over the weekend, after Gov. Hochul touts exceptionally safe 2025.

MTA installs new anti-fare-beating turnstiles in Manhattan, Bronx

Bumpy Rollout for New Gates Meant to Stop Subway Fare Evasion

'Like parkour': New Yorkers mull new ways to fare beat at redesigned subway gates



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INTERESTING QUESTION: What are the rules for express and local trains waiting for each other at stations, and does the policy vary based on day of week? Train crews are under strict orders to adhere to tight, fixed schedules as closely as possible. Many of the schedules are designed to allow for timely cross-platform transfers between local and express trains, but when a train is running slightly behind schedule, conductors will often close the doors and move along the line instead of waiting an extra 30s for riders to transfer. When delays build up 30s at a time, they can lead to even more delays throughout the day as trains struggle to stay on schedule when they turn around at the end of the line.

[NY Gov. Hochul vetoes bill to mandate 2-person subway train crews](#)

[NYC influencer takes shelter dogs on subway adventures to help them find homes](#)

[Subway upgrades: MTA board approves A/C line signal project and new elevators at five stations, all funded by congestion pricing](#)

[The MTA Is Speeding Up Subway Elevator Construction: Your Subway Station May Finally Get an Elevator At long last, congestion-pricing funds and a new approach have given the MTA's efforts a major lift.](#)

[What Are Those Nonsensical Tech AI Ads on the Subways?](#)



**News Of The Weird - Subway Edition** 🍕🐀🍩

"Move over, pizza rat — these two rats fighting over a bagel in a New York City subway station have captivated the internet." In the footage, you can see two rodents fighting over a half of a bagel for a couple of minutes before a third rat comes into the picture and joins the fight.

**Air Traffic Control** ✈️🔗⚠️

[Air traffic control overhaul heats up as US government awards contracts.](#)

The contracts awarded to RTX Corp and Spain's Indra Sistemas are part of a \$12.5 billion plan Congress approved last year to overhaul the air traffic control system. The FAA estimates the cost of a full air traffic control system upgrade is \$20 billion to address issues such as airport congestion, technology failures, and high-profile safety incidents.

RTX Corp and Indra Sistemas will be contracted to replace up to 612 radars by June 2028 with modern, commercially available surveillance radars.

The deal also calls for installing surface radars at 44 airports, as well as 27,625 radios and 110 weather stations in Alaska.

**Federal Politics** 🏛️

[Another day, another empty threat from the Trump administration over transit funding](#)

[Trump delivers major blow to California's EV rules](#)

[Transportation Secretary Duffy threatened to withhold federal funds over illegal immigrant truck drivers](#)

**MTA** 🚅🚂🚇

[Changes to MTA fares and tolls in 2025](#)

[MTA introduces \\$2 ticket activation fee for NYC commuters](#)

[Buy 10 rides, get 1 free. Starting January 4, 2026, TrainTime customers will earn a free ride after taking 10 peak or off-peak trips within 14 days. Get the details.](#)

[Metro-North breaks ridership record](#)

[MTA bus got stuck on the divider in the middle of I-95 in the Bronx, tilted onto its side. Fortunately, it wasn't in service and had no passengers, with police and first responders on scene addressing the unusual incident.](#)

[MTA bus crashes into deli in Yonkers](#)



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## New Mayor 🏛

[Zohran Mamdani swearing in took place at old NYC City Hall subway stop](#)

[Mamdani Picked Mike Flynn for DOT Commissioner + Put Him Center Stage at his Swearing In](#)

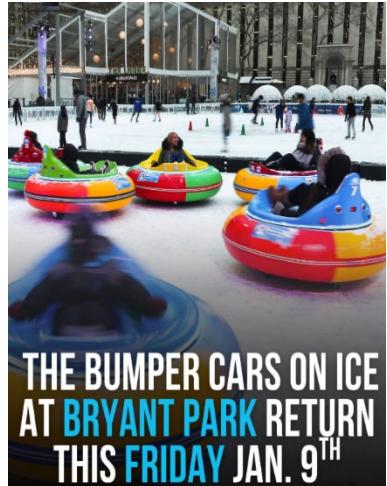
[Mamdani Commissioner Pledges to Hold App Companies Accountable for Road Safety](#)



## Bumper Cars?!? 🚗 🚗 💥

[Bumper Cars on Ice at Bryant Park NYC - Laura and Amanda- why didn't you tell us about this!!!](#)

[Running from Jan. 9 – Feb 28](#)



## NJ Roads 🚗

[Gas tax increased in New Jersey on January 1. 2026](#)

[NJ traffic deaths drop 15% in 2025, exceeding safety goals](#)

[NJ debates return of traffic cameras, starting with school bus enforcement](#)

[Is it legal to sleep at a New Jersey rest stop? What state law says](#)

## NJ Transit 🚅

[Portal Bridge replacement: How February 2026 cutover will impact NJ rail service](#)

[NJ Transit: Train crash at Montclair train station results in several injuries](#)

[NJ Transit Montclair-Boonton Line rail service resumes after collision](#)

[2026 NJ Transit Flexpass: Popular commuter ticket making a comeback](#)

[NJ Transit to start on MetLife bus terminal for 2026 FIFA World Cup](#)

[NJ TRANSIT is taking the next major step in advancing the extension of the Secaucus-Meadowlands Transitway, which, when complete, will provide environmentally friendly transit access between the Meadowlands Sports and Entertainment Complex, Secaucus Junction and Jersey City.](#)

[Fallen trees were an issue on RiverLine for 18 months before train operator was killed, report says](#)

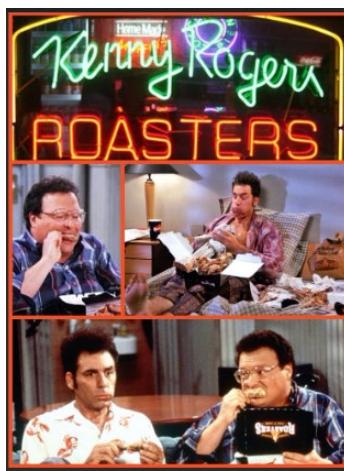
[The new NJ TRANSIT FLEXPASS will go on sale late February 2026. FLEXPASS provides 20 one-way tickets for travel between one origin and one destination station, at a 15% discount. If you're only traveling a few times a week, FLEXPASS provides the best value for you!](#)

[Low visibility left operator no chance to avoid hitting tree, says NTSB report on NJ Transit light rail fatality](#)

**THE BUMPER CARS ON ICE  
AT BRYANT PARK RETURN  
THIS FRIDAY JAN. 9<sup>TH</sup>**

## News of The Weird - Life Imitates Seinfeld Edition

[Exclusive | 'Disco ball' causing inferno on UWS block | Is life imitating the Seinfeld Kenny Rogers Roasters episode?](#)



## News of The Weird – Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee Edition ☕

[Flyer slammed for making in-flight espresso: 'My seat neighbor nightmare'](#)

[A Coffee Machine for the Dashboard? The Hertella Auto Kaffeemachine, a VW Beetle Accessory from 1959](#)

[Enjoy! Watch Comedians in Cars Getting Coffee on Netflix](#)



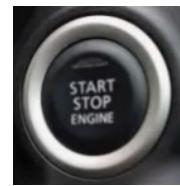
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## Auto Industry

Ford's CEO just blew up Congress's big auto affordability hearing: After Texas Senator Cruz left Tesla's Elon Musk off of the guest list, Ford's CEO, Jim Farley, balked at why he needed to attend. Cruz invited Tesla's VP of Engineering, Lars Moravy, instead of CEO Elon Musk. Ford argued that bringing in executives of different seniority levels violates longstanding congressional norms. And that if a VP is sufficient for Tesla, the same standard should apply to everyone else. Farley, through legal counsel, also pointed to a scheduling conflict, as the Detroit Auto Show kicks off on January 14. Now, the meeting is in limbo altogether.

...Start/stop engines are dying. Here's what finally killed the feature



## Electric Vehicles

Tesla Deliveries Might Drop 15% This Quarter, Analysts Estimate

Tesla Falls Behind China's BYD as EV Sales Drop for Second Year - WSJ

BYD's Sales Growth Slowed in 2025, but It Still Tops Tesla - BYD has faced increasing competition from peers like Geely and Leapmotor

VW kills its \$60K electric bus just 12 months after launch—2,600 vans 'unsellable.' The culprit? The end of US tax credits for EV buyers.

## Airport Dress Codes



Pajama resistance: Duffy faces growing backlash

## NYC Crime Statistics In Transportation and All Other Categories Published

NEW: 2025 crime stats now out for NYC. Remarkable progress in almost every category.

Traffic fatalities: -19%

Crimes on transit: -4%

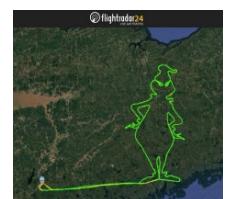
All major crimes: -2.8%

## Airport Gyms



RFK Jr., Sean Duffy have pull-up competition while touting \$1B bid to add mini-gyms, healthier food options at airports

California Governor Gavin Newsom shut down Secretary Sean Duffy over his airport workout thing



## Friendly Skies

A pilot used their plane to draw an image of the Grinch in the air, taking two hours and 30 minutes

United passenger takes six flights in one day for \$500 to make Platinum status: 'A fun challenge'

Non-passenger airport access returns with new guest pass security programs

"United airlines top international destinations by state & overall. I'd have expected Tokyo to be lower than it is."

## Unfriendly Skies

DHS won't accept a REAL ID in lieu of a passport

TSA opt-out debate reignited by Federal Department of Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy's pregnant daughter. She called TSA unconstitutional and not even good at its job after a 15 -minute wait

Fliers warn air travel is becoming unbearable as passenger seats keep shrinking. People feel 'crushed' by neighboring passengers on full flights, posts reveal

Airplane passengers spill the beans on their cramped flight experiences

Stuck at a New York airport? Here's what airlines owe you.

Doctor reveals how to avoid getting sick on holiday airplane flights this season

Flight attendant arrested ahead of boarding for tapping someone on the shoulder

JetBlue announces major change that could affect your TrueBlue points

Two suffer broken ankles on BA flight during turbulence

Boeing 767's tires blow out upon landing in Atlanta



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## News of the Weird - Twilight Zone Edition

Passengers flying first class on British Airways' Boeing 747s have expressed concerns about a redesign that includes windows in some lavatories.



One woman traveling to New York voiced her discomfort over the lack of blinds.

A flight attendant reportedly responded, *“Madam, if someone is clinging to the side of this aircraft at 35,000 feet, they’ve earned the view.”*

Did the passenger watch too many Twilight Zone episodes? Will she channel inner William Shatner and will have to warn us all about gremlins on the airplane wing?

Maybe this woman would rather switch seats with Gayle King. Anchor slams United for giving her a 'window seat without a window' on nearly 9-hour flight.



## Buses

[Hoboken Terminal Bus Operations: Select Bus Lanes reopened on December 8, 2025](#) The reconstruction of the Hoboken Bus Terminal advanced to a point that bus operations can resume at the new facility. Customers will no longer use the interim bus terminal.

## Mayor Adams gets Bronx cheer from bus riders as he leaves office

Here's where Port Authority's Manhattan bus terminal makeover stands

Deep Dive: Grand Central

[New York's Grand Central Terminal Helped Provide the Blueprint for American Cities. It Happened by Accident.](#)  
A train wreck that caused the death of more than a dozen commuters near the turn of the 20th century was the impetus behind a monumental project that changed the urban landscape

## Batteries

## The Pentagon and A.I. Giants Have a Weakness. Both Need China's Batteries, Badly.

Brooklyn Paper

**NYC Ferry to begin running revamped routes — including Staten Island-Bay Ridge connection — on Monday**

Dr. Ethan Stark Mitts

Received on December 8, 2020

## Ferries

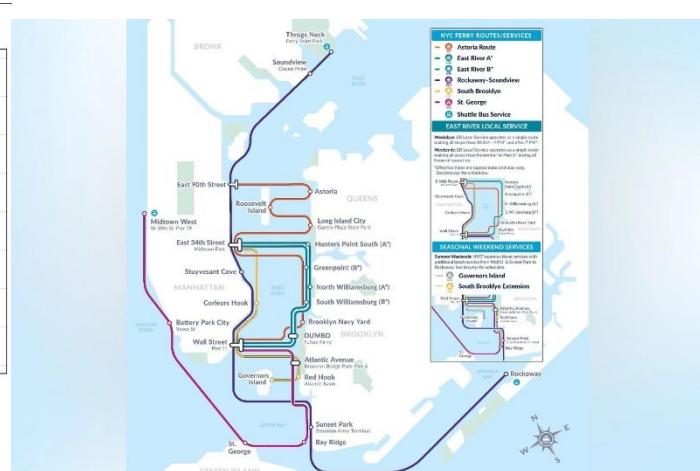
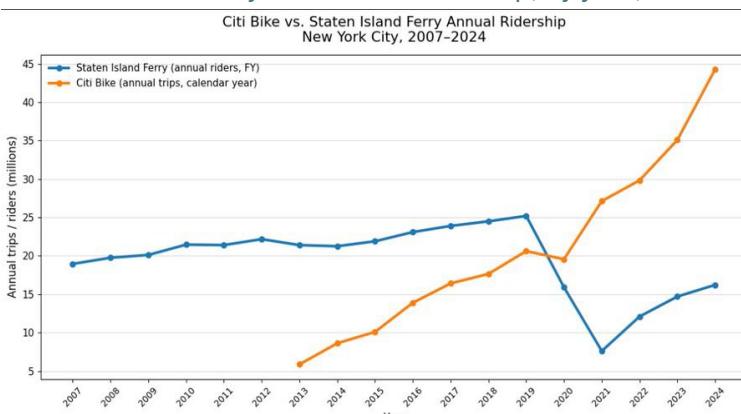
New Ferry Routes: (Zoom into the picture below right)

- ✓ ALL DAY 25-min express service from the 69th Street Pier to Wall St, w/ stop at Atlantic Ave.
  - ✓ A completely new option from Bay Ridge to the west side of Manhattan.
  - ✓ A completely new option from Bay Ridge to St. George/Staten Island
  - ✓ Preserved stops along the South Brooklyn line during summer weekends, when most people use these stops most frequently, giving access to the Rockaway Ferry line at Sunset Park, service to Red Hook & more.

The NYC Ferry will begin service on its newly-revamped routes on Monday, Dec. 8.



## Staten Island Ferry vs. Citi Bike ridership, by year, 2007-now.



## Biking 🚲

[Citi Bike prices to rise for 5th year in a row — operator cites tariff, expansion costs](#)  
[NJ Legislature Poised to Pass Victim-Blaming E-Bike Restrictions - An e-bike registration bill is speeding through the New Jersey Legislature after several crashes in which drivers killed young cyclists. New Jersey politicians want to require all e-bike riders have licenses, registration and insurance — citing several instances of drivers killing two-wheelers. Note: the crashes involved e-bike users hit and killed by drivers.](#)

[NYC Mayor Mamdani stopped by the bike path entrance to the Williamsburg bridge where DOT is addressing the “bump,” helping to smooth it for future cyclists.](#)

[Opinion: E-Bikes Are An Economic Boost That Cities Must Encourage](#)

## Check It Out!

[This Train Hub Just Might Be the Most Underrated NYC Holiday Destination](#)

## Long Stroll: Walking NJ 🚶

[Walking New Jersey \(and Staten Island\)](#)

In a state between Manhattan and LA, and the strata of the American Dream: New Jersey has pockets of Manhattan's density, but with LA's reliance on cars, so it's in a quantum superposition of the two, and that means it has two outcomes, or two different realities. For people who like it, that reality contains the best of both (Manhattan's localized variety with LA's space and freedom), and for those who don't, it contains the worst (Manhattan's crowding, with LA's traffic).

[Walking New Jersey gave me a much more favorable view of the state, providing the positive reality](#)

## Ferraris 🚗

[We Can Dream!!!! Does This Ferrari Trademark for 'HC25' Hint at a New One-Off Supercar?](#)



## Different Strokes for Different Folks

[Cop Out: NYPD bosses evade tolls with department cars, lawsuit claims](#)

[MTA exec uses expired police placard to score free NYC parking](#)

## News of the Weird - Westchester Edition 🎩

[Cops discover pair of crocodiles during routine bust in Yonkers](#)

## Good Advice!

[The airplane armrest trick flight attendants swear by for a more comfortable flight](#)

[TSA: Don't wear this 1 clothing item to the airport: Spoiler alert: No Sparkles](#)

[Driving Somewhere for the Holidays? Here's How to Make Your Road Trip Safe.](#)

[Silent' iPhone alarm causes traveler to miss flight — here's how to prevent this from happening and avoid leaving your child "Home Alone"](#)

[What to delete from your phone before you travel](#)

[Leggings are officially out and these 11 comfy pants are taking over airport style](#)

[Movies and shows you should never watch on an airplane if you hate flying!](#)

## Hospitality & Improved Customer Service - Transit Agency Edition

[NJ TRANSIT on X: Thank you for bringing this to our attention, Jim. Could you please share the bus number, the date, and the time when you observed this issue? -SG" / X](#)

## How Did That Happen? 🤔

[Man boards Heathrow flight without passport or ticket](#)



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## Long Distance Trucking 🚛

[Sikh Truckers Found Refuge In Trucking Until The Trump Administration's Crackdown](#)

## NJ Road Signs 📺 📜

['They make you laugh.' NJ drivers find humor in holiday message road signs](#)

- Ho, Ho, Ho, Please Drive Slow
- The weather outside is frightful, But safe driving is so delightful.
- There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays, Make it there safely.
- Don't be a Grinch! Let them merge.
- You'll have a Blue Christmas if you drive drunk.
- Lead Foot? Coal in your stocking.
- Have yourself a Merry Little Commute, Drive safely.
- Drunk drivers get handcuffs for Christmas.
- Santa sees you when you're texting... Put down the phone!



## NJ Highways 🚗

[Disputed NJ Turnpike project gets altered but critics are skeptical](#)

[NJ Turnpike project 2025: Jersey City expansion canceled, Newark Bay Bridge replacement continues](#)

[Opponents urge Gov.-elect Sherrill to pause \\$6.2B Newark Bay Bridge project](#)

[Driving NJ's least favorite roadways: No. 1- Route 22](#)

[How does this happen Jersey 🤯? This photo was taken as the Essex toll plaza](#)

["I'm curious too, how did that happen? It defies the laws of physics, but anything can happen here in Jersey This is on the garden state parkway at the Essex toll"](#)

[Study: NJ commuters spend almost 100 hours sitting in traffic each year](#)

[Cashless tolling to start on Atlantic City Expressway this week](#)

[Dog was running around on Route 78 today... Hopefully the little pup is ok \(Yes, he was.\)](#)

[Op-Ed: Hudson County Complete Streets urges Sherrill to focus on transportation - Hudson County View](#)

## Frozen NJ Holidays - Do You Want To Build An Inflatable Snowman? + Santa Claus Is Coming To Town

 [Snowmen: More than 20 giant inflatable snowmen have taken over Warren Place in Montclair. The tradition started two years ago with long-time resident Ann McCarthy and "snowballed" into this very unique holiday spectacle."](#)

 [Santas on Mountain Avenue in Washington Twp. create holiday spectacle](#)

[+ News of the Uplifting: Old Bridge Santa Claus 🎅 fights 🚒 fire 🔥 dressed in red suit](#)

## Newark Airport 🛬

[Record holiday travel underway at Newark Liberty International Airport](#)

[Proterra bankruptcy forces Newark Airport to abandon electric bus fleet](#)

[Anheuser-Busch selling classic NJ brewery, closing New Hampshire and California sites | New York Post](#)

## NJ - Good News!

[Toll of Commuting: New microtransit service in Passaic County called a lifeline by commuters](#)

## NJ Bridges 🌉

[The smallest lift bridge in NJ has the most dramatic history, it's closing on Jan. 5](#)

## News Of The Weird - Airport Edition 🛬

[Boeing aircraft 'lost' for 13 years turns up in airport parking bay](#)



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## News Of The Weird - Denver Airport Edition

Denver Airport Conspiracies: A Long Layover at the Most Interesting Airport in America: From the beginning, Coloradans have theorized about its secret tunnels, clues regarding secret societies, and horrifying harbingers of doom "hidden" in public artwork around the popular hub.

*Another Deep Dive With 5 Wild Theories About Denver Airport's Secrets: Denver International Airport fuels conspiracy theories with its mysterious construction cost, secret societies, and mysterious underground tunnels. The airport's artwork, including murals and the infamous "Blucifer" statue, is often interpreted as ominous clues to doomsday scenarios. Signs and marketing often play into these theories, with humorous nods to lizard people and the Illuminati.*



## American Airlines- The Good, The Bad, The Ugly

## American Airlines unveils premium upgrades to win back customers

Free Wi-Fi is coming to American Airlines. Only these flyers can get it.

## My 2-year-old gave up his seat on an American Airlines flight. Where's my refund?

## American Airlines no longer lets basic economy flyers earn miles

[When Something Goes Wrong With Your Flight, These People Take Charge - Inside a tornado-hardened office in Texas, 1,700 American Airlines employees manage the carrier's operations, responding to bad weather, plane trouble and ailing passengers.](#)

## News of the Weird - Not The Airport Edition

## The mystery of flight MH370: will a new search find the missing airliner after more than a decade?

## News of the Weird - Dangers Just Outside The Airport Edition

CBP officer opens fire at another driver during road rage incident sparked by a fender bender near JFK Airport

- JFK Airport terror as gunman opens fire in front of horrified travelers

## NYC Streets

[PlowNYC](http://plownyc.cityofnewyork.us/plownyc/): NYC has an excellent tool to see how recently any street has been plowed. Check out PlowNYC at: [plownyc.cityofnewyork.us/plownyc/](http://plownyc.cityofnewyork.us/plownyc/) Thank you to the 1000s of hard working men and women at

**Unusual Reason NYC Traffic Was Tied Up! Maduro and his wife to appear in federal court on Monday, January 5.**

BTW- Do Federal Law Enforcement Vehicles Pay Congestion Pricing Too?

Mamdani Vows To Appeal Ruling that Killed DOT's Astoria Bike Lane

## Adams Administration: Highway Pothole Repairs Up 17% - NYC M

## NYC's speed limit will drop to 20 mph in 250 areas by end of 2022

Illegal Parked Cars Delayed FDNY Response to Five-Alarm Fire

Passenger Rail

What it's really like to take Amtrak from New York to Toronto

Pedestrian Safety / /

Did America's pedestrian safety plan fail? NYC begs to differ. Vision Zero is delivering the safest streets in our history. Safer street designs and people-first policies strengthen neighborhoods and save lives — and the work must continue with urgency.



## NJ's Throws Legendary Shade

### NJ's Naughty List



### NY vs NJ

[NJ Gov-elect Mikie Sherrill slams Mamdani for taking credit for hosting World Cup — and suggests 'reverse congestion pricing' for New Yorkers. It looks like Mom and Dad are fighting.](#)

[The Keys to the City of New York Are Made in New Jersey](#)

### Tourism

[Tourists abandon US travel plans over Trump's new rules](#)

### Travel Health Risks

[Flu cases on the rise amid holiday travel, gatherings, latest CDC data shows](#)

[Newark Airport passenger may have exposed others to measles, New Jersey Health Department says](#)

### Port Authority

[Kathryn Garcia Is Named New Head of the Port Authority. Ms. Garcia, who ran for mayor of New York in 2021 after serving as the city's sanitation commissioner, would succeed Rick Cotton, who is retiring.](#)

[NJ Senate advances Phil Murphy Port Authority board nominees](#)

[Port Authority approves \\$45 billion capital plan with toll and fare increases - see how much more you'll pay.](#)

[Port Authority expects record 14.8M holiday travelers through NYC hubs](#)

[Port Authority plan to double Uber, Lyft airport fees faces driver opposition](#)

[Port Authority shelves Newark Airport PATH extension for another decade](#)



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[The Hudson River Froze For The First Time Since 2018](#)

[NJ Revolutionary War reenactor marks 50 years crossing the Delaware](#)

### Self Driving Cars

[San Francisco power outage leaves 130,000 in the dark as self-driving cars stalled in middle of streets: Tesla vehicles with Full Self-Driving wouldn't be bricked like that. FSD treats powerless intersections as all-way stops and navigates them safely, as seen in recent SF outage tests. Waymo's issues stem from software standoffs at dead lights.](#)

[Waymo has just released an official statement following the massive power outage in San Francisco this week and their robotaxis shutting down. "We want to share an account of our operations during the outage and how we are evolving to better serve the city."](#)

#### Waymo:

*The most interesting thing about the Waymo blackout mess isn't that robotaxis froze. It's why they froze.*

*The cars knew exactly what to do. Dead traffic light? Treat it like a four-way stop. Humans do this every day. But Waymo's system still asked a human:*

*"Hey... are you sure this is okay?"*

*That worked fine when it was one intersection.*

*It collapsed when it was the entire city. This is the dirty secret of autonomy (and honestly, AI everywhere): Human-in-the-loop sounds safe... until concurrency hits. Rare edge cases stop being rare when the world misbehaves all at once.*

*So this wasn't an AI problem. It was an organizational confidence problem. Google style*

*Waymo didn't trust its own system enough to let it act decisively at scale. The fix isn't better sensors. It's deciding when software no longer needs permission. Autonomy doesn't fail when models are dumb. It fails when humans can't keep up.*

[After Power Outage, San Francisco Wonders: Can Waymo Taxis Handle a Big Earthquake?](#)



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## Self-Driving Cars Are Suddenly Behaving Like New York Cabbies!

Waymo's Self-Driving Cars Are Suddenly Behaving Like New York Cabbies

NPR  'Wait Wait' for December 13, 2025: Takes On The Self-Driving Car Topic

HOST PETER SAGAL: Welcome to the show. You're going to play "Who's Alzo This Time?" Alzo Slade will read you three quotations from this week's news. If you can correctly identify or explain just two of them, you will win our prize - any voice from our show you might choose for your voicemail. Are you ready to play?

ANNOUNCER ALZO SLADE: "It's driving like a New York City taxi driver."

HOST: That was one of many people who have noticed that what kind of cars have started getting a lot more aggressive on the road?

CONTESTANT: Is it self-driving car?

HOST : Yes, it is self-driving cars. (*Sound of a Bell*) Specifically, Waymos. Waymo's driverless taxis are already operating in some cities, and customers had complained about trips being slow, because the cars were too polite, right? They stopped behind double-parked delivery trucks instead of driving around them in the other lane. They slowed down to check on the people they hit. (*Laughter*)

So - and this is true - the car's programming has been tweaked to make it a little bit more human. Nobody coming in the opposite lane? Well, drive around the truck. No other cars around? Well, just roll through the stop sign. School zone? If you say so. (*Laughter*)

So some people say, well, now it drives, like, aggressively, like a New York City cabby. As a matter of fact, many Waymo passengers have noticed the sudden appearance of, like, pine tree air fresheners on the rear-view mirror. Although, of course, it's not really a New York cabby unless the car itself says, oh, I wish Giuliani was still mayor. (*Laughter*)

ADAM BURKE, COMEDIAN: Who was complaining that they were too polite?

HOST: Passengers.

TOM BODETT, COMEDIAN: Yeah. I went through - it was actually more hilarious than unnerving was I owned a Tesla when - and it had the beta self-driving thing. And the week that they downloaded that to all of us, and our cars would actually self-drive, I was in Vermont, took my two boys out with us, and we're going to let this drive us to town, right? And it was like 10 miles. It took forever. Yeah, 'cause it's Vermont. I mean, I don't think it really knew where it was. It'd get to a stop sign and be like, whoa, what is that? (*Laughter*)

And it would inch up. And we were in tears by the time we got halfway to town. It drives like Nana. (*Laughter*)

BURKE: Did it realize it was in Vermont and just started becoming more folksy? Like, it just stopped to appreciate the sunset.

BODETT: Well, it would be going down the road, and then, you know, look, another car is coming, which is more rare there than other places. And it would just, like, whoa.

BURKE: Your Tesla somehow tipped its cap to the other person and went, Ma'am.

BODETT: Yeah, you got to have the wave. (*Laughter*)

ANNOUNCER SLADE: I can attest to the fact that Waymos are more like taxi drivers 'cause when I tried to hail one, they just went right past me. (*Laughter*)

BURKE: They were Waymo racist than you thought they were going to be. (*Laughter*)



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**Shopping – As the guy with a railroad tie, I want to know is there really a Market For Transit gear?**

**Especially NJ Transit gear?** 🛍️ 🛒

[NJ TRANSIT Shoppe - Who Is Buying This As A Holiday Gift?](#)

[Grand Central Terminal Gift Shop](#)

[Shop Wawa Apparel, Coffee, Accessories & More Online](#)



[My dad was a Delta pilot—these are the anti-theft items he told me to never board a flight without, from \\$5](#)

[Who Knew You Just Needed A Hippie VW Bus As Your Quilted Duffle Bag Of Choice? – Melovace Did!](#)

**Sidewalks** 🚶 / 🚶 / 🚶

[Falling Bricks Injure Four in Midtown: A window-washing rig swung into a high-rise at E 48th St & Park Ave, dislodging bricks that struck four people and two cars.](#)

[Fun Ideas 😊 🎨 ✨ For City Streets: When the city becomes part of the 🌈 artwork. Are we too jaded to enjoy?](#)

Property owners are responsible for clearing sidewalks. As a reminder, property owners, including restaurants w/ outdoor dining structures, may NOT push snow into the street, including bike lanes.

This impedes snow clearing operations & is illegal. Snow may be moved against the building, to the curb line, or areas on private property.

Sidewalks should be passable for all pedestrians, including a minimum 4-foot clear path, where possible.

While property owners are not required to clear bus stops, @NYCSanitation suggests that property owners clear a path from the sidewalk to the curb at the bus stop.

If the snow stops falling between:

- 7 a.m. and 5 p.m., property owners must clear sidewalks within 4 hours
- 5 p.m. and 9 p.m., property owners must clear sidewalks within 14 hours
- 9 p.m. and 7 a.m., property owners must clear sidewalks by 11 a.m.

The fine for the initial summons is from \$100 to \$150 and for every summons thereafter, between \$150 and \$350.

[New York City Council Wants To Allow Thousands More Street Vendors to Work Legally 🚗 🍔 🍔 🍔](#)

[But Mayor Adams Vetoed The Street-Vending Permits Before Leaving Office](#)

[Scaffolding collapse in Manhattan leaves pedestrian dead](#)

[Sidewalk Sheds and Scaffolding Are Good, Actually: In Defense of the Sidewalk Shed. They're annoying and ugly. I love them anyway.](#)

[The hottest clubs in NYC these days are volunteer trash pickup groups](#)

**SNL** 📺 🇺🇸 ✈️

[The Colin Jost and Pete Davidson SNL Staten Island Ferry will have bars, museum, public space, plans reveal](#)  
[Say Farewell To SNL's Bowen Yang at the Delta Lounge - Raise An Eggnog and For A Sentimental Goodbye](#)

**Tesla** 🔌 🚗

[Tesla's roof of the future could bring Starlink satellite internet directly to your car](#)

[Winter exposes Tesla Cybertruck's major design flaw: the giant windshield wiper](#)

**Thank You!** 🙏

[Hero NYPD cop saves choking baby on side of highway in rush-hour traffic: video](#)



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## The Jets

[Why Are Covering Jets Football Follies in a Transportation report? 1- They are a permanent trainwreck. 2- Their name is "Jets"... Jets cancel invite to super fan set to take \\$100K field goal challenge in honor of dad.](#)

## Uber

[NJ accuses Uber of making Uber One subscriptions hard to cancel](#)

## Time To Call Roscoe - If Snoopy Will Make Room For Another Beagle In the Skies, He's Game

[Virginia family says they were swarmed and bitten by bedbugs on flight, sue Delta and KLM airlines](#)

## Unsafe Skies

[2 helicopters collide, crash in New Jersey, harrowing video shows](#)

[2 pilots killed in Hammonton helicopter collision frequented a cafe together near the crash site](#)

## Uplifting News of the Weird - How Often Do We Have 2 Marsupial Stories In A Month?

[Rescued koala rides the bus to safety. Peri was released safely back into the wild after his ride.](#)

[Friendly wallaby escapes farm, hops through Gloucester County, NJ.](#)

## Why Can't We Have Nice Things?

[Rome opens long-awaited Colosseum subway station, with displays of unearthed artifacts- and we can't get the Second Avenue Subway and PATH To Newark Airport done?](#)

## You Read It Here First!

[That's Why Alec Baldwin Was On NJ Transit! And Why We May Continue To See Jack \(Ryan\) Donachy: Alec and Hilaria Baldwin Spotted House Hunting In Montclair.](#)

## And Finally, you were waiting for it, Harrison Ford – Not as Indy:

[Nor Blade Runner- !\[\]\(7bc6f9cdb9e101d1aad2c1e88d0164fc\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(110228b2d82a8bfbcbb7d0f76460ea6d\_img.jpg\) Nor Han Solo !\[\]\(5005860475a9e79393368ac1e41d377a\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(53d41cac8d2e74f0553b7b9a912bc938\_img.jpg\) – But as Grumpy? \(sort of\)](#)

[Is Harrison Ford starring in live-action 'Up' remake? !\[\]\(f129944d641891b03b2079f31803f924\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(fc27e5b81dd0781649822d458679767f\_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(e26b8f401eece2785622b2cb59b5ccd6\_img.jpg\) Being carried away by balloons fits with our Transportation theme...\) But that's just a rumor....](#)

[What is true and overdue? Harrison Ford To Receive 2026 SAG-AFTRA Life Achievement Award in March!](#)



Harrison Ford will be honored with the 2025 SAG-AFTRA Life Achievement Award on March 1, 2026. Photo courtesy of Apple