

WHY WE ARE DOING THIS IMPORTANT INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

While SEPTA has a rigorous inspection and maintenance program, the last significant capital investment in this area was made by Conrail and Amtrak in the mid-1980's, in advance of the opening of the Airport Line, and the infrastructure continues to age. Thanks to funding from Pennsylvania Act 89, SEPTA is able to continue to invest in state of good repair improvement projects to upgrade critical infrastructure. The Authority is advancing the Southwest Connection Improvement Program to:

- Replace infrastructure, some of which dates to the 19th century
- Ensure safe and reliable service for the Airport, Media/Elwyn, and Wilmington/Newark Regional Rail Lines
- Make it possible to safely increase train speeds through the interlockings
- Establish better maintenance windows for this busy section of critical Regional Rail infrastructure
- Allow Operations to continue to serve University City Station in the event of an interruption on SEPTA or Amtrak

WHERE TO FIND SERVICE INFORMATION

Please look for special printed construction timetables for Media/Elwyn, Wilmington/Newark, and Airport Lines (August 4-19, 2018 effective date), additional train service schedule to/from University City, and project information and schedule posters at stations. Directional signage to shuttle bus boarding locations will be posted at stations. Service information is available online at www.septa.org/southwestconnection. SEPTA Ambassadors and Transportation Staff will be out to provide assistance and answer service and project questions.

Installing new high speed switches and returning the track to operation is a complex effort that cannot be completed over a weekend. This combined with the challenge of establishing a work window that would not impact the 21 hour service day for the 200 weekday and 150 weekend trains that operate along this busy corridor confirmed the need for a continuous outage. Giving our construction forces and contractors the opportunity to work during a concentrated period of time will reduce the number of intermediate projects and outages required to complete the project. In selecting the August time frame for the 2018, we are working to minimize the impact of this project for the greatest possible number of customers and residents. **We thank you for your cooperation and greatly appreciate your patience while we continue our work to improve service, safety, and travel reliability for our Regional Rail riders.**

Customer Service 215-580-7800

Learn more about the
Rebuilding the System Program at
www.septa.org/rebuilding



**SATURDAY, AUGUST 4
THROUGH
SUNDAY, AUGUST 19, 2018**

The Southwest Connection Improvement Program will rebuild the mainline infrastructure on the **Media/Elwyn Line** between 30th Street Station and Arsenal Interlocking, just below University City Station, portions of which date more than 80 years. This track area also supports **Wilmington/Newark** and **Airport Line** services making it a critical rail connection for Southwest Philadelphia, Center City, Delaware County, and the economic vitality of the region. Special construction Regional Rail timetables will be in effect for the Media/Elwyn and Wilmington/Newark Line Service. The Airport Line will operate as Shuttle Bus service with a special construction schedule.

www.septa.org/southwestconnection

OVERALL PROGRAM SCOPE

- Reconfigure and replace the existing Arsenal Interlocking (area of switches)
- Remove the existing Walnut Interlocking and realign rail
- Create a new Interlocking and turn back track near University City Station
- Replace the overhead contact system and the Overhead Catenary System structures
- Repair/Upgrade retaining walls and structural elements inside Walnut St Tunnel
- Repair drainage structures

SCHEDULED WORK FOR 2018

At Arsenal Interlocking:

- Replace 3 High Speed Track Turnouts and Adjust Track Alignment
- Replace and realign Catenary Wire to match track adjustments
- Communication & Signals Prep Work (for later phases of the project)

Along Airport Line:

- Inspection and Heavy Maintenance along track area – debris removal, brush cutting, painting, and bridge inspection

Woodland Avenue Bridge Project

- On-going construction work to replace bridge spanning Media/Elwyn Line tracks

IMPACT TO SERVICE

In order to support the work taking place and maintain service, special construction timetables have been developed for the Media/Elwyn and Wilmington/Newark Line Service. The Airport Line will operate only as Shuttle Bus service also with a construction schedule. While these schedules are in effect, Express service will be discontinued, service levels will be adjusted, and most trip travel times will increase.

Service Changes at University City for All Lines

- **NO TRAIN SERVICE to University City Station for the Airport, Media/Elwyn, or Wilmington/Newark Lines**
- **Airport Line Shuttle Bus WILL NOT stop at University City Station**
- **To Access the University City Station AREA:**

Shuttle Bus	Service To/From	Hours of Operation
Non-Stop Shuttle	49th - 30th Street	AM/PM Peak Hours
Non Stop Shuttle	49th - University City Station Area	AM/PM Peak Hours
Circulator Shuttle	30th - University City Station Area	AM/PM Peak Hours
All Stop Shuttle	49th , University City Station Area, 30th St	AM/PM Non-Peak Hours/Weekends

Shuttle Bus Stop for University City Station Area at **33rd & SPRUCE STREETS**

Train Service	University City - 30th Street	Every 30 minutes
Please check the University City Service schedule for details		



Wilmington/Newark Line

- Train service will operate between Newark & 30th Street following special construction timetable
 - o **ALL** trains will arrive/depart 30th Street, from Amtrak Main Terminal **Lower Level** platform
 - o **NO** service to/from Suburban, Jefferson, or Temple University Stations
- **To Access the University City Station AREA - SEE SHUTTLE/TRAIN INFORMATION ABOVE**
- Continuing travel to Center City from 30th St: Regional Rail – take any train going towards Suburban Station; Market Frankford Line/ Trolleys - 30th Street (across from Amtrak Station)



Media/Elwyn Line

- Train service will operate between **Elwyn & 49th Street** Stations following special construction timetable
- Shuttle Buses will substitute for service between **49th & 30th Street Stations**
 - o Shuttle from 49th Street will board on Chester Ave
 - o Shuttle Buses from 30th Street will board on JFK Boulevard at 30th Street (buses will be facing towards 30th St Station)
- Alternate Travel Option to/from University City, 30th Street, Center City - **Route 11,13,36 Trolleys** (board/exit at 49th Street)
- Continuing travel to Center City from 30th St: Regional Rail – take any train going towards Suburban Station; Market Frankford Line/ Trolleys - 30th Street (across from Amtrak Station)



Airport Line

- Shuttle Buses will substitute for train service between **Eastwick, Airport Terminals, and 30th Street Station** starting August 4 and continuing through the end of the service day on August 19
 - o Shuttle Buses from the Airport Board from Zone 8 (on South Commercial Roadway)- please look for signs
 - o Shuttle Buses from 30th Street Boards on JFK Boulevard at 30th Street (buses will facing towards 32nd St)

- **To Access the University City Station AREA - SEE SHUTTLE/TRAIN INFORMATION ABOVE**

Customers should be prepared for delays on Thursday and Friday evenings when Airport Line Shuttle Buses will be traveling with road traffic heading to area beach destinations. Multiple routing options have been developed to provide the greatest service flexibility but please plan additional travel time during these high volume periods.