

NEWS



NEWS

**Office of the Managing Director
Camille Cates Barnett, PhD., Managing Director**

**Emergency Management
MaryAnn E. Tierney, Deputy Managing Director**

www.phila.gov/ready

Contact: Joan Przybylowicz, 215-686-1105
November 3, 2009, 4:45 p.m.

For Immediate Release:

City Activates Emergency Operations Center for Evening Rush Hour

PHILADELPHIA, PA – The City of Philadelphia has activated the City's Emergency Operations Center this afternoon to monitor and coordinate the City's planning and response efforts due to SEPTA service interruptions in Philadelphia during this evening's rush hour. Representatives from the Philadelphia Police Department, Philadelphia Fire Department, Streets Department, Fleet Management, Philly 3-1-1, Philadelphia Office of Emergency Management, Philadelphia Parking Authority, Pennsylvania State Police, Delaware Valley Health Council, and SEPTA are staffing the EOC.

For the latest information regarding the SEPTA Service Interruption or for SEPTA's full Service Interruption Guide and other related information please visit www.septa.org/sip. To reach SEPTA Customer Service call 215-580-7800 (TDD/TYY 215-580-7853). Extended hours will be in effect beginning at 6:00 a.m.

The City of Philadelphia has relaxed some parking restrictions during this transportation emergency. See attached list and map for the [relaxed parking restrictions](#). Residents can also download this information at www.phila.gov/ready.

Normal parking regulations will be suspended in these locations only for the duration of the transportation emergency. All other regulations will be strictly enforced, except that vehicles will be permitted to stop briefly in bus zones to pick up or discharge passengers.

Shuttle bus service from several remote parking lots and pedestrian pickup points to the Municipal Services Building is available for City employees (with City identification), employees of various Authorities and jurors. The parking sites for City employees opened at 6:30 a.m. These sites include Delaware and Spring Garden, 8th and Poplar, and

Belmont and South Concourse Drive. Passenger transport vehicles will start at 6:30 a.m. and stop at 9:30 a.m. Evening pick up will start at 3:00 p.m. and stop at 7:00 p.m. There will be 12 vehicles at Delaware and Spring Garden; six will go up Spring Garden and six will Go Up Broad Street. Eight vehicles will be at Memorial Hall or Belmont and South Concourse Drive. Five vehicles will be located at Poplar Street.

Mayor Nutter encourages residents to be cautious and patient when traveling. Residents should consider car pooling. The Mayor's Office of Transportation and Utilities and the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia also encourage bus, subway and trolley riders travelers to bike instead of drive during the duration of the transit strike. Cutler urges bikers and drivers to show respect and consideration to each other and pedestrians. To facilitate bike commuting the Bicycle Coalition of Philadelphia and the City of Philadelphia have set up the temporary bicycle parking at the north end of Dilworth Plaza, in the shadow of City Hall. Free coffee, bike maps and safe bicycling handouts will be provided by the Bicycle Coalition of Greater Philadelphia.

To get the latest information during the SEPTA service interruption, sign up for text alerts from ReadyNotifyPA at www.phila.gov/ready or following the Office of Emergency Management on its social media networking sites: Twitter, MySpace, Facebook, LinkedIn, or Blogspot also at www.phila.gov/ready.

###