

# **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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##### **CATS to Temporarily Close LYNX Blue Line and CityLYNX Gold Line for**

##### **Annual System Maintenance**

**Charlotte, N.C.** - Charlotte Area Transit System will temporarily close the LYNX Blue Line and CityLYNX Gold Line for annual rail system maintenance during the weekend August 25-26. Rail service for both lines will operate a normal schedule on Monday, August 27.

CATS, in conjunction with the Charlotte Department of Transportation and Charlotte City Engineering & Property Management, will make repairs and upgrades to the rail system. Work that will occur on the LYNX Blue Line will include track maintenance, adding ballast, painting, landscaping and grade crossing work. On the CityLYNX Gold Line, work will include track and signal work, signal maintenance and tree trimming.

“Regular maintenance is essential to preserving our transit system,” said CATS CEO John Lewis. “CATS’ goal is to perform all necessary repairs and upkeep at once. This will ultimately extend the life of our system and minimize disruptions to riders.”

To mitigate the effects of the closures, CATS will provide bus service in place of rail service. Each station will have signage directing customers to the nearest bus stop. A bus-bridge will provide service to each LYNX Blue Line rail station. Passengers should board buses with the *LYNX Connector* headway sign at bus stops that also state *LYNX Connector*. CityLYNX Gold Line streetcar stations will be accessible via CATS local bus service on routes 9-Central Avenue, 15-Randolph Road, and 27-Monroe Road.

Riders will still be able to purchase a ticket from LYNX station ticket vending machines to ride the *LYNX Connector*. Riders can also use the CATS Pass mobile payment app, a pass, transfer or have exact change to board the bus. CityLYNX streetcar service is free; therefore, customers boarding at the bus stops within the Gold Line service area will ride free of charge.​

More information on the temporary closure and bus bridge service is available on the [CATS website](http://charlottenc.gov/cats/rail/Pages/track-work.aspx), via electronic rider alerts, and by contacting CATS Customer Service at 704-RIDE (7433).

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