Improvements Coming to 23rd Street: The Department of Transportation and the MTA bring Select Bus Service to Midtown South

This summer, the New York City Department of Transportation (DOT) and the MTA will introduce Select Bus Service (SBS) on the M23 route, one of most heavily utilized crosstown lines in the City. The 23rd Street route connects directly with 8 subway lines, the PATH, 14 local and SBS buses and 28 express bus lines. For the 15,000 daily riders, the trip across 23rd street is long and slow with the bus “not moving” (stopped in traffic or waiting at bus stops) 51% of the time. Select Bus Service already serves more than 250,000 riders on 9 routes, offering riders numerous benefits including faster fare collection and boarding, improved bus speeds, and quicker access to subway transfers as well as better bus stop waiting environments. Safer streets for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers along the route are an additional benefit for members of the community.

With the addition of SBS on 23rd Street, the DOT and MTA will make other adjustments including:

- A dedicated bus lane on 23rd Street that will decrease travel time and improve rider experience.
- Enhanced bus stop amenities, including off-board fare payment and information kiosks featuring real-time bus arrival information and interactive maps.
- Local M23 service will be replaced with SBS service.
- A consolidation of stops along the route. The current stop at Lexington Avenue will be eliminated. The Park Avenue South and 3rd Avenue stops are less than 500 feet away and are used by twice as many customers.
- Increased pedestrian safety with new restrictions on left turns; including onto Lexington Avenue from 23rd Street (westbound).
- The addition of left-turn bays at 3rd Avenue and 23rd Street
- The completion by the MTA of the installation of ADA-compliant elevators at the PAS/23rd Street station on the 6 line.

The DOT and the MTA will begin implementation in June and the M23 SBS line will be live by early this fall.