

# NYU study offers alternatives to ease impact of L train shutdown

POSTED 5:21 AM, AUGUST 25, 2016, BY [ALLISON KADEN](#)



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WILLIAMSBURG, Brooklyn – A commuting nightmare for L train riders is a few years away but anxiety is already growing.

Hundreds of thousands of people rely on the L train daily. It is a vital connection between Manhattan and Brooklyn and when the MTA announced it would shut the line entirely in Manhattan and partially in Brooklyn for 19 months of repairs -- people started to panic. A new study from New York University takes a look at this 2019 planned construction.

It needed to make repairs on damage from Superstorm Sandy. And while commuters and businesses -- especially on the Brooklyn side are thing about how New Yorkers will be able to cross the river -- NYU's Rudin Center for Transportation examines this as well.

Recommendations to the MTA include increasing subway service on connection and nearby subway lines. High speed bus service including a rush hour bus lane on the Williamsburg Bridge. More bike and car shares near the bridge and a public-private partnership with ridesharing companies like Uber and Lyft. Other options include increased East River Ferry service and new modes of transportation like a gondola over the East River and a scooter share.

L train ridership has skyrocketed over the past few years as new apartments, restaurants and nightlife has been developed in Brooklyn. An MTA spokesperson told the [Wall Street Journal](#) this week it's committed to a partnership and community engagement as it develops plans to minimize the impact.