

# Campus Announcement

September 18, 2018

## **Elevators in 17 Lex (Field Building)**

To the Baruch College Community,

I deeply regret the inconvenience that students, faculty, and staff alike have experienced with regard to the elevators in 17 Lex (the Lawrence and Eris Field Building).

Yesterday, around 5:45 pm, there was a serious problem when service was unexpectedly reduced to only one working elevator. Earlier in the day, two additional elevators had periodic service but without doubt, the situation was far from ideal. As a result, students and faculty encountered extreme delays and inconvenience. We apologize for this disruption.

Elevator mechanics have been onsite yesterday and today. At this point, we have repaired the two elevators that had gone offline yesterday. We await a part for a third elevator and expect it to be repaired either today or tomorrow. Fortunately, there are no classes today and tomorrow.

The bottom line is that the elevators in the building are old, obsolete, and must be replaced. It is no longer even possible to get many of the parts for them when they break down. As a result, in those cases, a part must be fabricated when an elevator breaks. This is expensive and time consuming.

Establishing sufficient and reliable elevator service in 17 Lex is the major priority of the building's current renovation project, which is managed by Facilities Planning and Construction at CUNY. Below is a broad timeline of events:

- Our goal is to have four working elevators at all times.

- Two elevators are fully offline to undergo a major renovation and modernization.
- These two will be returned to service, fully refurbished, by the end of the calendar year.
- At that point, another two will be taken offline for modernization, and following that, the remaining two will be repaired.
- By the end of 2019, all six elevators should be fully renovated and functioning.

Once again, I apologize for the inconvenience and ask for your continued patience. Please continue to bring any concerns about 17 Lex elevator service to the attention of the onsite public safety officers.

Sincerely,

Katharine T. Cobb  
Vice President, Administration & Finance

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