

Protest



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9:03 UTC

Israel Tactical: Protest denouncing Light Rail service disruptions slated at Jerusalem’s Mahane Yehuda station at 17:00 on March 10; maintain heightened vigilance

Current Situation:

- A protest is scheduled to take place at Jerusalem’s Mahane Yehuda light rail station at 17:00 (local time) on March 10.
- Protesters will reportedly denounce several weeks of frequent disruptions, infrequent service, along with other issues including lack of seating and increasing fares.



Source: [Kol Hair](#)

Assessments & Forecast:

1. The latest calls for protest follow severe disruptions to the Light Rail services on March 9 due to an inauguration ceremony at the Hadassah Ein Kerem Hospital station for the extension of the Jerusalem Light Rail Red Line by government officials. This drew criticism due to the delays it caused on the day. Critics also voiced concerns over the absence of journalists at the ceremony, suggesting that the government may have deliberately restricted their presence to avoid scrutiny regarding long-standing issues with light rail services.
2. **FORECAST:** The latest protest is likely to garner a turnout in the low-to-mid dozens. Organizers have reportedly called for protesters to bring signs, megaphones, trumpets, and masks for the demonstration which will have a Purim theme. Purim is a Jewish festival in which individuals wear costumes. The protest is likely to transpire peacefully without major disturbances, although anti-government sloganeering is likely. Given that the protest is slated at a Light Rail station, security forces are likely to be present and may intervene if protesters are deemed as being unruly or disrupting Light Rail operations. Limited traffic disruptions can be expected.

Recommendations:

Those operating or residing in Jerusalem during the late afternoon hours on March 10 are advised to maintain heightened vigilance in the vicinity of the Mahane Yehuda light rail station due to the slated protest and the associated risk of unrest.