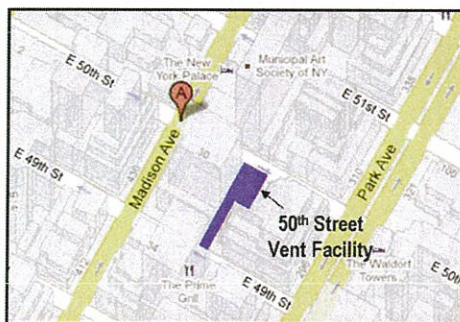


50th Street Vent Facility

The MTACC's East Side Access project, which will bring Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) trains into a new station under Grand Central Terminal, is currently under construction. The new connection will increase the LIRR's capacity into Manhattan and dramatically shorten travel time for Long Island and eastern Queens Commuters traveling to the east side of Manhattan.

The 50th Street Vent Facility will support train operations and passenger spaces that will be located at the new LIRR terminal at Grand Central Terminal. Five buildings will be demolished followed by excavation for the ventilation building and shafts and a new reinforced concrete loading dock will be built. Most of the construction will occur underground. A new landscaped public



plaza with seating and water fall feature will also be created.

Completed Construction Activities

- Completed the erection of temporary stair tower within the site
- Completed the breaking of rock in northwest corner of the site
- Completed line drilling for vent shaft
- Excavation to basement level of facility

Construction Activities Currently Underway

- Continue installation of ground monitoring instrumentation
- Continue rock excavation using mechanical methods within building site and beneath deck structure on 50th Street
- Continue installation of rock support and installation of initial wall and floor linings within excavation site
- Coordination of various work activities

- with 300 Park Avenue building
- Continue installation of crane deck
- Commence controlled production drill and blast for the excavation of vent shaft with in site
- Roadway closure scheduled for 49th Street between Park Avenue and Madison Avenue (11/12-2011 – 11/13/2011)

Upcoming Construction Activities: (December 2011-January 2012)

- Continue rock excavation activities using drill and blast excavation and hoe ram machine.
- Commence installation of permanent concrete foundation slab and walls of vent facility

Work Schedule

The typical surface construction schedule, will be as follows:

- Days: Monday – Friday
Time: 24 hours
- Days: Saturday
Time: 7am - 5pm

Temporary Lane Closures

It will be necessary for the contractor to oc-

cupy traffic lanes during work hours in order to conduct construction activities.

- Days: Monday – Friday (one lane)
Time: 7am – 8pm
 - Days: Monday – Friday (two lanes)
Time: 8pm – 5am
 - Days: Friday – Monday (all lanes)
Time: 8pm – 5am
- (Limited number of full lane closures expected)

This phase of excavation, which began in December 2010, utilizes mechanical means (drilling and hammering) to excavate to the foundations of the ventilation building will continue through the month of October 2011. The second phase of the project, excavation of the vertical ventilation shaft will also require drilling and hoe ramming. This will continue in October 2011, concurrently with similar excavation methods beneath the 50th Street deck structure. Beyond the first 10 feet, the shaft will be excavated using a combination of drilling and hoe ramming and controlled drill and blast methods. The intensity of use of machinery will continue to diminish significantly until all excavation activity is completed in March 2012.

Controlled drill and blast is a well established excavation method and closely regulated by the New York City Fire Department. This method is successfully being used in various locations along the alignment. The most current technology will be used to minimize the size and impact of each blast.



Preparing for Next Blast in the Shaft