











Welcome to the Metro-North Penn Station Access project quarterly newsletter. Penn Station Access will bolster equity, regional connectivity, and reliability by providing a new transit option. For past newsletter issues, [click here](#). For updates on specific areas along the project corridor where work will take place, [sign up here](#).

## PSA Progress

### Long-Term Outage Overview

Since you last heard from us in [May](#), we've been advancing critical work during the current Long-Term Outage (LTO) of a single track until September 1st. In addition to installing the new CSX-E switch, removing 3 miles of decommissioned CSX track, and completing Track 2 reprofiling, we've made substantial progress with installing new foundations for the new overhead catenary system (OCS) along the project corridor.

### LTO ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

	COMPLETED CSX-E SWITCH INSTALLATION		COMPLETED TIEBACK STRUCTURES AT BRONXDALE AVE AND EASTCHESTER RD. BRIDGES
	COMPLETED TRACK 2 REPROFILING		COMPLETED 70% LEGGETT INTERLOCKING TRACK WORK AND DRAINAGE SYSTEM
	COMPLETED THE REMOVAL OF 3 MILES OF CSX TRACK 5		PROGRESSED RETAINING WALLS
	INSTALLED 100% OCS FOUNDATIONS AT LEGGETT AND 58% AT VAN NEST		COMMENCED INSTALLATION OF OCS PORTALS AT LEGGETT



*PSA construction workers install drainage system near Leggett Interlocking, May, 2023*

# Upcoming Work

Last issue we announced that the installation of caissons, the cylindrical foundations for the project's OCS structures, were underway. The project has made significant headway with the installation process, with 100% of the new OCS foundations already in place at Leggett Interlocking and 58% in place near Van Nest. More recently, we've begun to install the OCS portal structures. An OCS portal structure is a special framework that supports electrical wires, providing a reliable power supply for trains and keeping them running smoothly. With the new OCS portals in place, the project will have increased operational flexibility to construct new track, which is critical for Project phasing. In the coming months, the Design-Builder will continue to install micropiles at Eastchester Road Bridge (Morris Park) and progress Leggett Interlocking track work and signal system ahead of its commissioning in 2024.



*The existing OCS structures along the project corridor, November, 2022*



*PSA construction workers erect OCS column portal, July, 2023*

# Celebrating Disability Pride Month

Last month, the project team joined MTA in celebrating Disability Pride Month and the 33rd anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The MTA is dedicated to enhancing the accessibility of its transit system, and the Penn Station Access project is a part of that commitment. The four new stations include 2 new ramps and 10 new elevators in total. ADA-compliant sidewalks, braille signage, audio announcements, help points, and tactile warning strips along the platform edge will guide passengers throughout the stations.



*MTA Chief Accessibility Officer Quemuel Arroyo and various agency leadership commemorate Disability Pride Month. Photo courtesy of Marc A. Hermann/MTA.*

# Community Corner

The team has been proactive in maintaining public engagement and ensuring residents stay well-informed about construction activities. On May 18, 2023, project representatives joined the Greater Hunts Point Economic Development Corporation's (EDC) annual "Spring Mingle" and had the opportunity to share information with Hunts Point residents and community members. This in-person event was attended by local vendors, elected officials and community business partners who all had a shared interest – making the Bronx a better place. On July 20, 2023, the project team presented at the Hunts Point/Longwood Community Coalition briefing and provided a project overview, construction updates, and answered questions. We're looking forward to reconvening with the Bronx-Westchester Community Council and multiple Bronx Community Boards in the Fall to give construction updates. More information to come!



*NYC Councilman Rafael Salamanca Jr. (right) gives remarks and PSA project representative (left) speaks with community member at the Hunts Point EDC "Spring Mingle."*

*Photo courtesy of the Greater Hunts Point EDC*

## Meet The Team: Jason Pawell

Jason Pawell is the Assistant Project Manager and Securities and Sustainability Manager with HRJV, the Design-Builder for the project. Jason brings 15 years of experience in civil and architectural field engineering and his exceptional project management skills to the Penn Station Access project. Jason's wide range of industry experience includes collaborating with MTA New York City Transit on enhanced station redevelopment and MTA Metro-North on the Croton-Harmon and Cortlandt Stations and contributing to the reconstruction of Brooklyn's iconic Kosciuszko Bridge. Passionate about sustainability, Jason is driven by a vision to transform transportation systems responsibly, ensuring Penn Station Access maintains its commitment of bolstering eco-conscious infrastructure. Over the years, Jason has learned that helping people gain better access to transportation systems must be at the core of his work. Every day he comes to work and asks a central question: How can I help?



## Contact Us

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