

Welcome to the Penn Station Access quarterly newsletter. MTA's Penn Station Access Project will bolster equity, regional connectivity, and reliability by upgrading Amtrak's existing Hell Gate Line and providing four new accessible stations in the East Bronx. Read on to learn more about recent progress, community engagement, and upcoming work. For past newsletter issues, click [here](#). For updates on specific areas along the project corridor where work will take place, sign up [here](#).

Progress to Date

Since you heard from us last in August, PSA crews have making steady progress along the Project corridor. We've continued demolition and construction activities at the four bridge sites, including the erection of two new spans at Bronxdale Avenue Bridge in Parkchester. We've also advanced the station entrance foundations for each of the four new stations. At Leggett Interlocking near Hunts Point, signal testing is ongoing and the interlocking is on track to be commissioned in the coming months, improving construction efficiency along the entire Hell Gate Line.

Leggett Interlocking

INSTALLED NEW TIES, TRACKS, AND INTERLOCKING COMPONENTS AT TRACKS 1 & 2

.....
DRAINAGE STRUCTURE: 87% COMPLETE

.....
SIGNAL TESTING AND COMMISSIONING WORK ONGOING

Station Sites

FOUNDATIONS IN PROGRESS

HUNTS POINT (SOUTH)

.....
PARKCHESTER/VAN NEST (MAIN)

.....
CO-OP CITY (WEST)

MICROPILES IN PROGRESS

MORRIS PARK (NORTH)

.....
MORRIS PARK (SOUTH)

.....
CO-OP CITY (EAST)

Power System Upgrades

HUNTS POINT & MORRIS PARK: CAISSONS IN PROGRESS

.....
VAN NEST
CAISSONS: 93%
COLUMNS: 63%

LEGGETT
COLUMNS: 97%
PORTALS: 87%

.....
CO-OP CITY SUBSTATION: MICROPILES UNDERWAY

HG-01 SUBSTATION: VAULT WALLS INSTALLED

Bridges

BRONXDALE AVE
NEW CENTER PIER COMPLETE TRACK 2 & 4 GIRDERS COMPLETE

.....
PELHAM LN
WALL AND FOOTING INSTALL COMPLETE
BEGAN DEMO OF EXISTING SPAN

.....
BRONX RIVER
EAST ABUTMENT DEMO COMPLETE

.....
EASTCHESTER RD
PHASE II TO COMMENCE Q4 2025

Penn Station Access: Photo of the Day

In August, crews installed two of four new steel spans at Bronxdale Avenue Bridge. To minimize impacts to the community, this complex task was accomplished during a single 55-hour weekend road closure.



Crews erect new steel spans at Bronxdale Ave Bridge, August 2024

Meet the Team

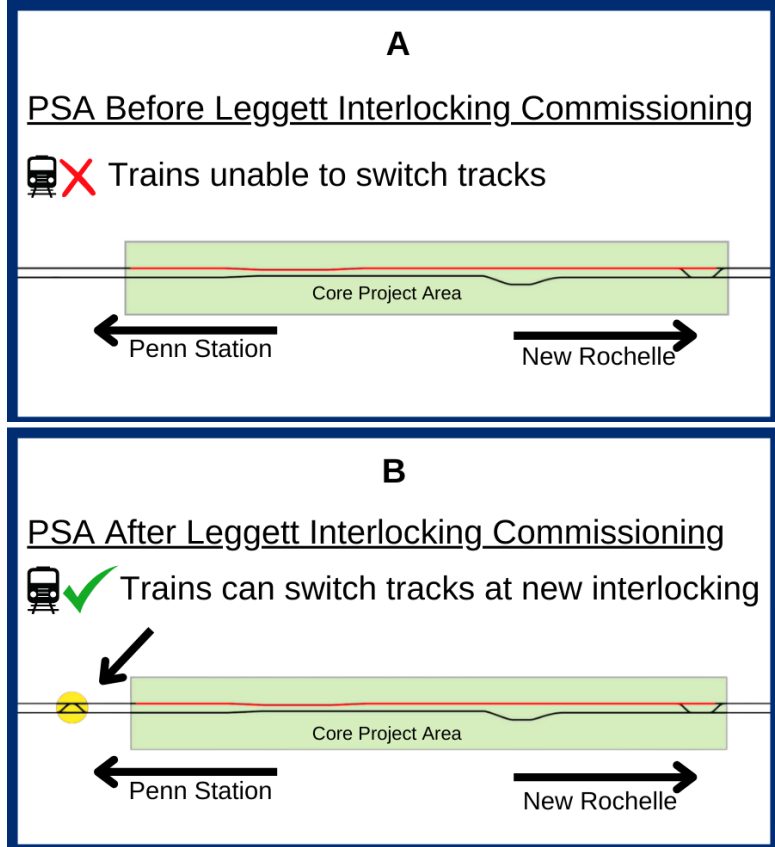
Jim King serves as the Safety Manager for the Halmar International, LLC/ RailWorks Joint Venture. Jim brings over 28 years of construction and project management experience to the PSA project. This includes overseeing MTA's Dey Street Pedestrian Walkway project and Fulton Street Station project. He also played a key role in delivering the Moynihan Train Hall-Phase One project and NYCDEP's Catskill/Delaware UV Filtration Plant project. In his role as the Safety Manager on the PSA project, Jim oversees a team of safety coordinators, supporting the construction crews working along the project corridor and providing essential coaching and training while overseeing safety procedures. Jim values working alongside his dedicated team and has found throughout his career that the people he works alongside every day make his work truly rewarding.



Jim King, Safety Manager

Milestone Spotlight: Leggett Interlocking

It's full steam ahead to commission Leggett Interlocking, a critical part of construction strategy for the project. An interlocking consists of signal systems, switches, and overhead contact wiring, and allows trains to safely switch between tracks. Commissioning Leggett Interlocking near Hunts Point will allow for trains to be diverted around work zones along the alignment, enabling crews to perform the necessary track work without taking Amtrak trains out of service.



Community Corner

The Community Outreach Team strives to keep the public informed on the status of the Project. We have continued to meet with Bronx Community Boards 2, 9, 10, and 11. In September 2024, we hosted our third meeting of the Bronx-Westchester Community Council and delivered our first briefing to the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC). NYMTC is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for the 10-county region that includes New York City's five boroughs.



PSA Team presents at the New York Metropolitan Transportation Council (NYMTC) at the Hunts Point Produce Market, September 2024

What's Next

Work is ramping up at the site of the future Parkchester/Van Nest Station. Concrete foundation work, including walls, pile caps, grade beams, and elevator foundations, is ongoing and expected to be completed by the end of the year. Crews will also continue to progress drainage, caissons, and signal work north of Track 1 near the station site. The next phase of work at this location includes utility installation and pouring the concrete slab for the station entrance. Later in 2025, crews will commence steel erection and begin work on the station house walls. At Leggett Interlocking, signal, communication, and testing are underway with commissioning planned for the coming months.



PSA crews progress site preparations at site of future Parkchester/Van Nest Station, August 2024



Contact Us

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