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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

MTA NYC Transit Installs ADA Elevators at 135th St. (Lenox Avenue) on 2 and 3

A major subway stop in Central Harlem is receiving a long-awaited upgrade with the installation of two accessible elevators and a number of other important features valuable to seniors and the mobility impaired, MTA New York City Transit officials announced. The 135th Street/Lenox Ave. station on the 2 3 line serves Harlem Hospital, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and a major residential development.

This Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Project was funded by the Federal Transit Administration. The elevators connect the street with the subway level on both uptown and downtown platforms. Located at the northeast and southwest corners of the intersection, the elevators feature closed-circuit television and emergency talk-back systems. As part of this project, the station also received repair and modification of platform edge strips, the fare control area, lighting and handrails, all contributing to increased accessibility. The installation of Braille/Tactile signage and TTY public telephones was also included in the more than \$18 million project.

"We should always be looking for ways to make our subway more accessible and inviting for residents and visitors alike. The installation of these ADA elevators at the 135th Street stop now makes the subway system available to a population who, in the past, would have found it difficult or even impossible to travel around the City and State. The neighborhood's variety of rich cultural attractions and major health care facilities are now within reach of everyone," said Governor David A. Paterson.

"Our efforts to improve customer service extend to all our customers," said Elliot G. Sander, Executive Director and CEO of the MTA. "While resources for ADA improvements are limited, we are greatly appreciative of the Federal Transit Administration under Administrator James S. Simpson for stepping up and funding this project, and we are glad to see the improvements to the 135th Street station, which is so important for so many people.

In addition, I would like to thank Congressman Charles Rangel, Assemblyman Keith Wright, Senator Bill Perkins and New York City Councilmember Inez Dickens for their continued support of the MTA's capital program. Without their active support, improvements like this would not be possible."

"This installation of these elevators is a much-needed improvement to a station that is just steps away from one of the city's major health-care facilities as well as an important cultural center," said NYC Transit President Howard H. Roberts, Jr. "We at MTA New York City Transit are committed to installing and maintaining infrastructure that makes it possible for everyone to take advantage of the subway system."

The elevators are, of course, included in NYC Transit's lift-net monitoring system so that technicians will be informed immediately in the event of an elevator breakdown, ensuring faster response and repair.

The completion of this project brings the number of accessible stations to 64 and NYC Transit continues to invest millions of dollars installing and maintaining elevators so that the subway system can be accessible to as many people as possible. Last year alone, 16 ADA elevators were installed in six stations. So far this year, five ADA elevators have been installed in three stations and 12 more are planned for completion in another four stations.

As a reminder, NYC Transit operates the largest accessible bus fleet in the world, with 4,500 vehicles being equipped with either lifts or a combination of low floors and ramps. Additionally, more than 300,000 trips are provided by NYC Transit's Access-A-Ride paratransit service each month.