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Press Release

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[Metro-North](#)

IMMEDIATE

### Metro-North to Begin Major Station Improvements at Port Chester and Rye

Work begins soon to repair station buildings and platforms, install new shelters and lights, and improve canopies at Port Chester and Rye stations, MTA Metro-North Railroad announced today.

Platform work at both Rye and Port Chester, which each serve about 2,500 customers a day, call for replacement of all station amenities as well as repairs to the platforms themselves. As part of Metro-North's 2005-2009 Capital Program, a \$9.5 million contract for this work was awarded to St. Francis Construction Co. of Larchmont, NY.

The platform work is to begin next month and be finished in 18 months. Most of work will be done at night during which time both inbound and outbound trains will be boarding and

unloading on the same side in order to maintain regular train service and accommodate customers.

"This work will improve the experience of Metro-North customers and make the stations more attractive gateways to the downtowns of Rye and Port Chester," said Metro-North President Howard Permut. "We are gratified that we are able to continue to invest in the communities we serve."

"The Metro-North Station is Port Chester's main gateway to the entire NY Metropolitan region," said Port Chester Mayor Dennis Pilla. "These station improvements are an important strategic investment in our community that we are building our long-range downtown plans around."

"The City of Rye thanks Metro-North for dedicating funding to these infrastructure repairs to the station platform areas, stationhouse, and staircases. We appreciate the railroad's response to the needs of our commuters," said Rye Mayor Steve Otis.

In addition to the platform work at both stations, the red brick Port Chester Station house, built in 1890, is being restored by CNA Enterprises of Long Island City, NY at a cost of \$430,085.

The station building is structurally sound but the exterior painted woodwork is showing its age. There is significant warping and peeling paint on all doors, windows, and the roof dormer on the south side of the building. Many of the original massive wood frames are warped or damaged.

Following abatement of lead paint, all 17 wooden doors will be replaced in kind and all 38 windows will be cleaned, scraped and painted and will get new sills. Unsightly security grills will be removed. The Port Chester station building will be weather-tight when the job is done in about five months.

At Rye, the station building will get a new roof, including refurbishing the eaves and overhangs, new aluminum doors and windows in the style of the original architecture. The entire sidewalk around the building also will be replaced, including a new canopy extending from the building to the west overpass. The east pedestrian overpass will be completely refurbished with new roof, new windows, new floor and new staircases. The west overpass, which was built in 1995, will be painted.

At Port Chester the existing shelter on the inbound platform will be replaced and another added near the staircase. The stairs and ramp from the inbound platform to the parking lot will be replaced and new handrails installed. Port Chester also will get new electrical service to accommodate new canopy and platform lighting, separate building electrical service, and any future station needs.

At both stations, old concrete benches will be replaced with wire mesh benches and more of them. Additional bicycle racks will be installed. Dated fluorescent light fixtures will be replaced with attractive, downward facing gooseneck light fixtures that reduce light pollution around the station.

All aspects of the existing canopies at both stations will be improved including new canopy roofing, new gutters and leaders, paint, new lighting, new LED displays, a new public address system and bird deterrent netting.

The supports beneath the platform slabs will be repaired. Cracks, spalling and deteriorated joints on the platform surfaces will be repaired and sealed to prolong the life of the platforms. Tactile warning strips will be installed at Port Chester. Rye already has them.

Platform guardrails at both stations also will be modified to comply with Metro-North Station Standards and the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Gates and ladders for employee use will be installed at the end of each platform to prevent possible customer injury.

