



MTA Press Releases

Press Release

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Metro-North

IMMEDIATE

Environmental Assessment Now Available for Proposed Garage at North White Plains

To improve access to MTA Metro-North trains at the North White Plains Station, the railroad is proposing to build a 500-space parking garage on property it owns on the east side of the tracks where a smaller garage already exists.

The proposed, five-level parking garage would be located at 50 Haarlem Avenue and would replace an existing two-level, 109-space garage and its adjacent surface lot, a utility building and associated chimney at 50 Haarlem Avenue.

An Environmental Assessment was developed for the proposed project by Metro-North in partnership with the Federal Transit Administration and in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The assessment, which analyzed alternatives that would address access and parking needs at the North White Plains Station, is available for review at local repositories such as libraries and local government offices and online at: <http://www.mta.info/mta/planning/nwp> and www.westchestergov.com/transportation. To find out more about this study call 888-836-8301.

The findings of the Environmental Assessment show that the garage would not have any significant adverse impacts that could not be mitigated.

To mitigate potential traffic impacts, and with the approval of the City of White Plains, a traffic signal would be installed at the Route 22-Bond Street/Otis Avenue intersection. In addition, Haarlem Avenue would be converted to two-way from the corner of Bond Street approximately 200 feet south to the proposed garage entrance to improve traffic flow.

In 2003, the railroad and Westchester County proposed construction of a 1,300 space multi-level parking garage and road improvements on Metro-North-owned property west of the tracks.

In May 2009, Metro-North and the County announced that plans were being refocused on the east side of the station on property owned by Metro-North.

This option was pursued because it is smaller and less costly and can be built using the existing roadway network in order to minimize effects on the neighboring community and traffic. Metro-North intends to apply for a federal grant from the Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality program to cover the cost of design and construction.

A public information meeting on the project is scheduled for February 8, 2011 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm with a presentation at 7:00 pm at the Westchester County Center, in White Plains.

If the project gets final approval from the FTA, Metro-North will seek approval this year from the board of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority to hire a contractor to prepare a 30% design. Then bids would be sought for a design-build contractor. Construction could begin as early as 2012.