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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

Park Avenue Bridge in Mount Vernon Opens after \$10 Million Replacement Project

The century-old Park Avenue Bridge in Mount Vernon, which carries vehicular traffic over the MTA Metro-North Railroad's New Haven Line, reopened Wednesday after a 16-month replacement project.

Trucks, school buses and emergency vehicles, which had been banned from the old bridge because it could not bear the weight, will now be able to use the new, three-span bridge, improving traffic flow and reducing emergency response time in the city.

Mount Vernon Mayor Clinton I. Young, Jr. stated: "The Park Avenue Bridge is a major conduit in our city that connects many residents and commuters to our downtown business district. The reopening of the bridge marks a crucial step towards strengthening our infrastructure. I commend Metro-North and the New York State Department of Transportation for partnering with us to bring this project to fruition."

"This new bridge will protect the railroad tracks below as well as restore normal traffic patterns to the city and eliminating the need for detours over adjacent bridges," said Metro-North President Howard Permut. "It's good for the city and good for the railroad."

A new superstructure was erected and the substructure was rehabilitated. Sidewalks and fences were replaced and drainage was installed to protect the tracks below. A water main and telephone conduits were replaced and new electrical conduits were installed. Telephone and electrical work was paid for by private utility companies while the water main was replaced as part of the project.

Work was done by DeFoe Corporation of Mount Vernon. Construction supervision was provided by WSP Sells of Briarcliff Manor.

Funding for the project was from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act through the New York State Department of Transportation.