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Press Release

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Metro-North

IMMEDIATE

West of Hudson Regional Transit Access Study

Open House Set for June 12 in Orange County

MTA Metro-North Railroad will hold an Open House in Orange County to present the latest information on the West of Hudson Regional Transit Access Alternatives Analysis Study (WHRTAS). The Study Team has completed Phase 1 of the Study and is now embarking on Phase 2.

The Open House is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2012 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, at 15 Crossroads Court, Newburgh, New York just south of Route 17K. Metro-North representatives and other members of the Study Team will present the findings from Phase 1 and the goals and objectives for Phase 2.

During Phase 1, the team evaluated transit alternatives with the goal of recommending the most effective options for improving transit mobility and accessibility in the West of Hudson region. With input from stakeholders and the public, a shorter list of the most viable alternatives was recommended to be evaluated in greater detail in Phase 2.

Despite changes in economic conditions and the deferment of previously planned trans-Hudson crossings, the need to improve transit access between Orange County and New York City remains. Metro-North is committed to improving transit access in the West of Hudson region in the short term by investing in improvements to the Port Jervis Line (PJL) including signaling improvements and reestablishing a second track along the PJL.

After tropical storm Irene destroyed 14 miles of track between Harriman and Suffern, Metro-North demonstrated its commitment to continuous improvement to the Line by repairing it in record time.

The Open House, part of the extensive outreach effort, provides an opportunity for the public to review the findings from the first phase and be briefed on the goals and objectives of the second phase.

The Alternatives Analysis Phase I Screening Report, which details the findings of Phase 1, and additional information about the Study are available is available through the website: www.mta.info/mta/planning/whrtas. Those needing additional information or wishing to comment on the project can call this toll free number: 800-897-0302.