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Press Release

September 24, 2012

[MTA Headquarters](#)

IMMEDIATE

### MTA Awards Contract to Build 55th Street Vent Plan

#### *Key Behind-the-Scenes Component of East Side Access Project*

The Metropolitan Transportation Authority today announced that it had awarded a contract to build a ventilation facility on East 55th Street in Manhattan, between Park and Madison Avenues a joint venture of Schiavone Construction Co. and John P. Picone, Inc. The contract is for \$56 million, and is due for completion in April 2015.

The facility will provide critical ventilation for the new tunnels that will carry Long Island Rail Road trains to Grand Central Terminal, as well as Grand Central's new LIRR passenger concourse. Unlike most other ventilation facilities, this one will be built entirely underneath the street's pavement; it will not have an above-ground component.

As part of East Side Access, ventilation facilities are also being built between Park and Madison Avenues at 37th Street, 44th Street, and 50th Street, and along 63rd Street at York Avenue and Second Avenue.