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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE



Central Av. M Station Reopens Following Rehab

Improvements Set for 3 Other Myrtle Line Stations in Queens as Well

MTA New York City Transit announces the reopening of the Central Av.  subway station on the Myrtle Avenue line. Effective 4 p.m., tomorrow, August 16, Central Av. will again be open to the public following a five-month station rehabilitation project.

"We're happy to return the Central Avenue station to the nearly 3,500 daily customers in Bushwick who once again, have access to a one-seat ride into Manhattan," said Acting NYC Transit President Carmen Bianco. "This station is vastly improved thanks to the investments of the MTA Capital Program, and we look forward to completing work at three other stations along the Myrtle Avenue Line in the near future."

"From the day Superstorm Sandy made landfall nearly a year ago, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has been hard at work to repair the unprecedented damage done to our city's transit infrastructure; and as those efforts continue, the MTA still manages a number of planned station and line upgrades. Today's Central Avenue  station reopening is more than just another service restoration or improvement. It's another mark met by the MTA and Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast in the authority's ongoing working relationship with riders to provide the best possible service that New Yorkers have come to expect. I commend Chairman Prendergast and the authority for another job well done," said Senator Martin Malavé Dilan.


"Back in March of this year, the MTA announced plans to close Central Avenue's  train station for five months to allow for station renewal and renovation," said Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz. "Today, I'm happy to say that the MTA has kept fully to this schedule. Here we are five months later and Central Avenue Station is set to reopen fully refurbished and restored. This improvement comes on the heels of the wonderful job the MTA did on its station renewal of the nearby Knickerbocker Avenue Station, also serving the Bushwick community. Once again, I commend the MTA for staying 'on-track' as it continues to provide improved  train service to north Brooklyn. It's time to get aboard the train to Brooklyn's future — and stand clear of the closing doors!"

"The reopening of the new and improved Central Avenue station will make the daily commute easier and more effective for subway riders," said Assemblyman Rafael L. Espinal, Jr. "I'm glad to see this station up and running again thanks to diligent and timely work of the MTA on this project."

"Since March of this year, riders of the Central Avenue stop in Bushwick have compromised travel time in hopes that today they would walk into a station with new staircases, and other much needed repairs," said Council Member Diana Reyna. "I am pleased to witness the revitalization of this hub that produced the largest increase in ridership in Brooklyn in just one year. It not only services the dire transportation needs of my constituency, but benefits the businesses along Myrtle Avenue with heavy foot traffic."

Work at Central Av. included:

- Entire reconstruction of the control house
- Refurbishment of the station agent booth
- Full replacement of street and platform stairs, new canopies
- Installation of new windscreens, including MTA Arts for Transit artwork (see below for details)
- Structural repairs throughout the station
- Installation of new drainage system
- Repair of column bases

The station renewal project at the Central Av. station is part of a \$47 million, FTA-funded project being performed at five stations along the  line. Renewal work at the Knickerbocker Av. station was completed in February. Component work is currently being performed at three stations in Queens (Seneca Av., Forest Av., and Fresh Pond Rd.).

The Central Av. station was closed on March 9, 2013 for this \$11 million station renewal.

MTA Arts for Transit: Entitled *Generation Dynamica*, artist George Bates has created stainless steel sculptural panels that depict larger characters encompassing smaller figures in silhouette, referencing cross-cultural and cross-historical groups in the community.

Generation Dynamica celebrates the ideas about how communities are in flux and are shaped by the contributions and aspirations of its individuals and their histories.

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