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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

Castle Hill Av & Middletown Rd 6 Line Stations To Close for Seven Months for Renewal

\$109 Million, Five-Station Project Begins on the Pelham 6 Line

MTA New York City Transit announces the beginning of a major \$109 million renewal project at five stations on the Pelham 6 line. The project calls for station renewals at Castle Hill Avenue, Middletown Road, Buhre Avenue and Zerega Avenue and station component repairs at the Pelham Bay Park station. For these stations, originally opened in 1920, the improvements will create significantly better conditions for customers, including the installation of new lighting, better platforms and enhanced safety features.

Each station, with the exception of Pelham Bay Park, will be closed for a period of seven months. The first two stations to close are Castle Hill Avenue and Middletown Road beginning on Saturday, October 5, 2013. The stations will remain closed in both directions until early May 2014. Buhre Avenue and Zerega Avenue stations are slated to close between July 2014 and February 2015. The construction contracts were awarded in May 2013 to Yonkers Contracting Company for \$62.7M.

Customers using the Middletown Road station may take the **Bx8** or **Bx24** to travel to/from Westchester Square-East Tremont Avenue station. Castle Hill Avenue customers may take the **Bx4** to travel to/from the Parkchester station. Customers transferring between the **Bx4** and **Bx22** will have an additional free MertoCard transfer to the 6 train at Parkchester station. There will be increased **Bx4** service between Parkchester and Castle Hill Avenue and increased **Bx8** service between Middletown Road and Westchester Square-East Tremont during the morning and evening rush hours. Special **Bx4** and **Bx8** shuttle buses provide alternate service through the night.

Improvements at the four stations slated for renewal will include replacement of floors, walls, ceilings, street and platform stairs, reconstruction of the platform edges including rubbing boards and new ADA boarding areas. Customers will also benefit from new lighting in the mezzanines, a bird deterrent system, and the incorporation of new artwork. Canopies, windscreens and railings will also be replaced. There will be a full structural steel replacement at the Castle Hill Avenue station. Middletown Road and Buhre Avenue stations will also receive new platform lighting and public address speakers.

The station component work at Pelham Bay Park will consist of the reconstruction of the bridge over the tracks, installation of a bird deterrent system, replacement of the platform rubbing board and tactile warning strip, the addition of new platform canopies and painting of the control buildings and windscreens.

Service notices will be posted in all stations along the Pelham 6 line and announcements will be made on trains. "Take One" brochures are also available at station booths. Customers may log on to www.mta.info and click on Planned Service Changes for up-to-date information.

Remember that TripPlanner+ provides travel information that takes all service diversions into account. In addition, customers can receive customized subway diversion e-mails delivered to their inbox by signing up for the E-mail Subscription Program. Just log on to the NYC Transit homepage at <http://www.mta.info/nyct> and click on the **Know Before You Go banner**.
