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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

First Phase of 88 St and 104 St A Line Station Renewals Completed

Queens-bound Stations Re-open After Five Months of Work

Beginning at 5:00 a.m., Monday, September 29, [A](#) Line customers will once again have access to the Queens-bound sides of the 88 St and 104 St stations along the Liberty Avenue Line in Queens. The five-month station renewal project is part of a major \$39 million capital project that will see the complete renewals of five stations along the Liberty Avenue [A](#) Line.

Back on May 12, 2014, the Queens-bound sides of the 88 St and 104 St stations were the first two platforms to close for renewal work. During the closures, customers were able to take advantage of free shuttle bus service to nearby open stations.

“For these stations, originally opened in the early 1900’s, these improvements will create significantly better conditions for our customers,” said NYC Transit President Carmen Bianco. “We appreciate the community’s patience and understanding while we carry out this important work.”

Improvements at both the 88 St and 104 St stations include repairs to staircases, mezzanine floors, doors, windows, and interior and exterior walls. Each station was painted and canopies, windscreen panels and railings were replaced. In addition, there were structural steel repairs to the girders supporting the subway platforms at both stations, as well as ADA improvements which consisted of repairs to the tactile warning strips at the platform’s edge. Aside from the component improvements, customers will also benefit from new lighting in the mezzanine and artwork to be installed at the completion of construction.

MTA Arts for Transit & Urban Design commissioned five artists to create durable, vibrant metal artworks that will fill the platform windscreens for all five Liberty line stations. At 104 St, sculpted steel artwork, titled “On the Right Track,” by Artist Beatrice Coron, include imagery, similar to a giant deck of cards, which represents positive and uplifting moods that passengers may relate too. Viewed from the moving train, the cards will appear as an unfolding hand of cards. At 88 St, Artist Haresh Lalvani’s piece titled, “MORPHING88” consists of laser cut steel stainless panels depicting patterns with morphed shapes. The unique geography of the station creates the distinct patterns within the panels.

Following the completion of this phase of the project, the Manhattan-bound platforms at 88 St and 104 St are slated to close for approximately 14 weeks, between October 2014 and January 2015 for renewal work. During this period, Manhattan-bound [A](#) service will be suspended at these two stations. Free shuttle buses will be available for service to nearby open stations.

Service notices will be posted in all stations along the Liberty Avenue line prior to the commencement of work and announcements will be made on trains. Brochures are also available at station booths.

The construction contracts were awarded in December 2013 as a joint venture to Forte Construction Corp and Emis Construction Group.

Customers may log on to www.mta.info and click on Planned Service Changes for the most up-to-date information. Remember that TripPlanner+ provides travel information that takes all service diversions into account. In addition, customers can receive customized alerts via e-mail or text message by signing up here: <http://www.mymtaalerts.com>