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Press Release

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[NYC Transit](#)

IMMEDIATE

Castle Hill Av and Middletown Rd 6 Line Station Renewals Completed

Two Bronx Stations Reopen After Seven Months of Work

NYC Transit President Carmen Bianco, joined by MTA Vice Chairman Fernando Ferrer, MTA officials and community leaders, presided over a ribbon-cutting ceremony today to celebrate the completion of a seven month renewal project at the 94 year-old Castle Hill Av and Middletown Rd  line stations in the Bronx.

As part of a \$109 million extensive station renewal project along the Pelham Line, Castle Hill Av and Middletown Rd were the first two stations to close for renewal work on October 5, 2013. During the closures, customers were able to take advantage of free shuttle bus service. Despite the harsh winter, both stations reopened on schedule to customer service on Sunday, May 4.

“Governor Cuomo’s leadership has helped provide funding for the MTA’s Capital Plan, which helps fuel our station renewal program, here in the Bronx and throughout our system,” said NYC Transit President Carmen Bianco. “The completion of work here at Castle Hill Av and planned work at three other stations will provide a welcoming atmosphere for our customers as they enter the system or step off their trains.”

Improvements at both Castle Hill Av and Middletown Rd stations included replacement of floors, walls, ceilings, street and platform stairs, reconstruction of platform edges, including rubbing boards and new ADA boarding areas, new lighting in the mezzanines and station painting. In addition, there was full structural steel replacement at Castle Hill Av, and Middletown Rd received public address speakers and will receive new platform lighting within the next two months. Each station will be outfitted with a bird deterrent system, which is currently in the design phase.

“The reopening of these two stations is a great day for our borough. These are critical transportation hubs for the neighborhoods they serve, and my office is grateful to the MTA for being so receptive to the concerns of these communities throughout the construction process,” said Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr.

New artwork commissioned by MTA Arts for Transit will be installed in frames along the platform windscreens at each station in June. At Castle Hill Av, sculptural metal panels titled “Bronx: Heart, Homeland” by Priscila de Carvalho are a narrative of everyday life in the neighborhood. At the Middletown Rd station, sculptural steel panels titled “Cross-Bronx Waterway,” by Amanda Schachter and Alexander Levi of SLO Architecture, show the journey of the  line as it weaves through the neighborhood, and the Bronx River, using metal ribbon work to evoke water ripples in the river that is home to various forms of wildlife depicted in the artwork.

Buhre Av and Zerega Av stations are slated to close between July 2014 and February 2015. The Pelham Bay Park station will also undergo renewal work but will not close during repairs. Service notices will be posted in all stations prior to the commencement of work, and announcements will be made on trains.

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>.