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MTACC Unveils Latest SAS Exhibit

Above and Below: Designing the Second Avenue Subway Debuts at the Community Information Center

MTA Capital Construction today unveiled its latest exhibit at the Second Avenue Subway Community Information Center (CIC). Entitled “*Above and Below: Designing the Second Avenue Subway*,” the exhibit gives visitors a look at what they will experience when the Second Avenue Subway opens to the public in December, 2016.

The exhibit is organized into four sections: Architecture, Engineering, Art, and Streetscape. Visitors can see renderings of what completed entrances and stations will look like; learn about Ancillary Structures and their role in station operations and the new air tempering system; see images of station artwork commissioned by MTA Arts & Design; and learn about the reconstruction and improvement of Second Avenue at the street level.

In addition to the wall installation, the center also features an interactive exhibit, presented at four stations with iPads and high-definition monitors. The interactive exhibit features photos, diagrams, and video interviews with key individuals that worked on the project. Finally, visitors can view samples of station finishes, such as floors, tiles, and ceilings that will be installed in the new stations.

“The Community Information Center has served as a window looking into the complexities of building such a massive project in the most densely populated area of the country,” said MTA Capital Construction President Dr. Michael Horodniceanu. “The center is the ‘Crown Jewel’ of the Second Avenue Subway community outreach program, which also includes public tours below ground, workshops, community presentations, construction updates, newsletters, e-mail notifications and other communications.”

The two previous exhibits, *80 Years in the Making: The History of the Second Avenue Subway* and *En Route: The Techniques and Technologies Used to Build the Second Avenue Subway*, are archived in the interactive exhibit so visitors can still access the wealth of information about the history and construction of the project. A virtual tour of the 86th Street Station and tunnel connecting to the 72nd Street during construction also is available for viewing.

Above and Below: Designing the Second Avenue Subway will be displayed at the CIC until the fall of 2015, at which time the content will be archived and a new exhibit, the fourth, will be unveiled.


About the CIC

A first-of-its-kind facility, the CIC offers rotating exhibits and programming about the construction of the Second Avenue Subway. Located at 1628 Second Avenue between 84th and 85th Streets, the center serves as a one-stop shop where Second Avenue residents, businesses, stakeholders and the general public can learn more about the project. Community Liaisons are available to answer questions and field concerns. Since opening in July 2013, the CIC has welcomed nearly 10,000 visitors, including neighborhood residents, tourists from around the nation and from foreign countries, and school and other youth groups from around the city.

About the Second Avenue Subway

Phase 1 of the Second Avenue Subway will serve more than 200,000 people per day, reducing overcrowding on the Lexington Avenue Line and restoring a transit link to a neighborhood that lost the Second Avenue Elevated in 1940.

When Phase I is complete, it will decrease crowding on the adjacent Lexington Avenue Line by as much as 13% on an average weekday. It will also reduce travel times by up to 10 minutes or more (up to 27 percent) for those on the far east side or those traveling from the east side to west midtown.

The line is being built in four phases, with the first phase providing service from 96th Street to 63rd Street as an extension of the  train. Passengers can stay on the train to travel to the West Side, Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn via the Broadway line. Three new ADA-accessible stations are being built along Second Avenue at 96th, 86th and 72nd Streets, as well as new entrances to the existing Lexington Av/63 Street Station at 63rd Street and Third Avenue. Further phases of the project will extend the line from 125th Street in Harlem to Hanover Square in the Financial District.