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Press Release

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IMMEDIATE

B-Roll & Photos: Governor Cuomo and Chairman Prendergast Celebrate On-Time Opening of Second Avenue Subway With Inaugural New Year's Eve Ride

East Side Neighbors, Workers Who Built the Line, Dignitaries, Elected Officials, Leading NY Cultural Institutions Join First Ride; Festive Celebration Features Local NY-Made Food & Beverages, as well as Performance by an MTA Music Under New York Band

Earlier this evening, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo celebrated the on-time arrival of the Second Avenue Subway – the system's first major expansion in more than 50 years – with the line's inaugural ride. The new line's first ride and celebratory party were cohosted by MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast and attended by Second Avenue Subway and MTA workers, local community members, dignitaries, local elected officials and members of President Obama's Cabinet. Attendees rode to each of the new stations and rang in the New Year with a celebratory countdown and toast at the 72nd Street station.

The inaugural ride, in a train specially wrapped with Second Avenue Subway logos, included celebratory stops at the new 86th and 96th Street stations, which were [previewed to the public at open houses last week](#). At each of the new stations, participants of the inaugural ride were greeted with the words "Excelsior" and "E Pluribus Unum," permanently displayed on beams there as New York's message to people who ride the subways. Guests also had an opportunity to view the public art in each station, part of the largest public art installation in New York State history.

B-ROLL of the inaugural Second Avenue Subway Ride are available on YouTube [here](#) and in TV quality (h264, mp4) format [here](#).

PHOTOS of the ride will be available on the Governor's Flickr [page](#).