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Press Release

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Metro-North

IMMEDIATE

Metro-North Railroad to Begin Construction to Replace Two New Haven Line Train Bridge Spans in Port Chester

Construction Enhancing Safety, Reliability and Vertical Clearance of Bridges

Click [Here](#) for Renderings of the Future Bridges

MTA Metro-North Railroad today announced major construction will begin in July to replace two New Haven line bridges over Willet Avenue and Highland Street and one retaining wall located near US-1 and Boston Post Road in Port Chester. Prep work to transform the bridges began at both sites in March ahead of construction to replace the nearly 130-year-old bridges.

"We continue to invest in Port Chester's infrastructure and know the benefits this construction will have on our rail lines and what this means to the village," said **Catherine Rinaldi, Metro-North Railroad President**. "Our priority to make improvements to these bridges is part of our ongoing commitment to safety, our customers and the overall community."

Port Chester is pleased with Metro-North's continued investment in its infrastructure in the village as the new bridge spans will improve the overall appearance in the downtown area," said **Mayor Richard A. Falanka of Port Chester**.

Funding for the project is coming from the 2015-2019 MTA Capital Plan and a \$26.3 million contract was awarded to DeFoe Corp., a contracting firm based in Mount Vernon.

The construction will transform both bridges by making both safety and aesthetic improvements. Work on the bridges will improve the safety and reliability of the railroad by bringing the existing bridges in line to current design standards. Additionally, replacement of both bridge spans will improve the vertical clearance of the bridges for traffic and emergency vehicles below.

The open deck bridges will be replaced with ballast deck bridges, which will improve the noise made when trains go over the spans making it quieter for residents nearby. The stone bridge abutments, which support the bridges, will be cleaned to improve the overall look of the bridges and surrounding areas.

The bridge spans on the northeast corridor are for railroad use only and carry the Metro-North New Haven Line, Amtrak and freight. Of the 4 tracks on the corridor one track will be taken out at a time to complete the bridge replacements. There will be no impact to customer travel times.

The replacement of the bridges and retaining wall will add to the enhancements already completed by the Metro-North Railroad in the Port Chester Station which included new entrance signage and LED lighting, new kiss and ride canopy and plaza, a replaced and striped parking lot, and a raised crosswalk providing safer and easy travel from the kiss and ride to the sidewalk on Broad Street.