

## **Abstract**

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The Metropolitan Transportation Authority New York City Transit (MTA NYCT), is proposing to implement improvements to the 68th Street/Hunter College Station located at Lexington Avenue and East 68th Street in Manhattan. The improvements would provide accessibility for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990 (as amended), and would add necessary circulation improvements throughout the station. New York State designated the 68th Street/Hunter College Station as an ADA Key Station. The proposed project would make the subway station accessible for persons with disabilities and improve pedestrian circulation, reduce pedestrian congestion within the station and at street level, and foster efficient passenger access to trains and efficient occupancy of trains.

The proposed improvements can be summarized as follows:

- Installation of three ADA-compliant elevators and related improvements to bring this Key Station into compliance with ADA.
- Reconstruction and/or relocation of three of the four existing street stairs—at the southeast, northeast, and northwest corners of East 68th Street and Lexington Avenue.
- Installation of a new street stair on the south sidewalk of East 69th Street west of Lexington Avenue. This street stair would connect to a new subway mezzanine and platform stair serving the southbound platform.
- Installation of a new street stair in a retail space at 931 Lexington Avenue on the east side of Lexington Avenue, approximately mid-block between East 68th Street and East 69th Street. This street stair would connect to a new subway mezzanine and platform stair serving the northbound platform. Pending confirmation of availability of the space at 931 Lexington Avenue, MTA NYCT would retain the option for a street stair at the south sidewalk of East 69th Street east of Lexington Avenue as an alternate entrance location to the northbound platform.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project has been prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended). The EA has been prepared in accordance with regulations for implementing NEPA, as issued by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) (23 C.F.R. § 771) in conformance with the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) (40 C.F.R. § 1500). The purpose of this EA is to provide information regarding the Proposed Project's potential impacts on the human and natural environments. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is a funding agency for the Proposed Project and is the lead federal agency for the NEPA environmental review process.

Based on the analyses presented in the EA and after considering public comments, the FTA will determine whether or not the Proposed Project would result in any significant adverse environmental impacts. If applicable, the FTA will issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) if there are no significant environmental impacts.