

MILEPOSTS

A Newsletter for MTA Metro-North Railroad Customers



March 2018

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Metro-North's New President: Catherine Rinaldi



Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) Chairman **Joseph J. Lhota** has appointed **Catherine Rinaldi** as the sixth President of MTA Metro-North Railroad. She becomes the first woman to serve as this railroad's president.

Rinaldi had served as Acting President of Metro-North since July 2017, and previously was Metro-North's Executive Vice President, starting in 2015.

She has also served as General Counsel for the MTA between 2003 and 2007 before taking on that role at the Long Island Rail Road, through 2011. In that year, she became Chief of Staff for the MTA, a position she held until 2015.

Rinaldi graduated summa cum laude from Yale and earned her law degree from the University of Virginia.

She was born in Brooklyn, raised in Huntington, Long Island, and now resides in Westchester County with her husband and son, and she rides Metro-North to work.

"Cathy is the best person to continue to push forward the progress that Metro-North has made in renewing the railroad and enhancing the confidence of its

customers," Chairman Lhota said. "She brings 15 years of dedicated service to the MTA, a disarmingly calm management style, a razor-sharp intellect, and an uncanny ability to break problems down into their component parts to quickly find a practical solution."

"Everyone who has had the good fortune of working with Cathy knows she inspires confidence in those around her through a mixture of leadership by example, evenhandedness and commitment to core principles," said MTA Managing Director Veronique "Ronnie" Hakim. "She never loses sight of concern for customer experience."

"I'm honored and humbled to serve as president of Metro-North and deeply appreciative of the confidence that Joe and Ronnie have placed in me," Rinaldi said. "Over the past three years I've seen real progress throughout the organization to affirm and strengthen our commitment to safety and improve customer service, and I look forward to working with everyone at the railroad to continue that progress."

The Rebirth of White Plains Station Is Getting Underway

White Plains Station, our third largest, will be getting a significant makeover

that will make it safer, sleeker, more accessible, and technologically up-to-date for those of you who travel from and to there.

Starting this spring as part of a \$135 million Metro-North Station Improvement Initiative funded through the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Capital Program, construction is expected to continue to December 2020.

The project has been planned in phases to minimize disruption of your commute and enable you to move as easily as possible around the station and platforms.

Major changes to the station include:

- New side platform with radiant heat flooring for snow/ice control;
- New replacement heated stairs from side platform;
- New elevator at main entrance to side platform;
- New bathrooms, ticket office, and food vendor space;
- New and larger, glass-enclosed waiting area;
- Upgraded main entrance;
- New, expanded lobby, artwork, and newsstand;
- Upgrades to the Main St. and Hamilton Ave. entrances as well as the Mott St. tunnel;
- New platform canopies with wood ceilings;
- Addition of Wi-Fi, USB charging ports, electronic messaging, LED lighting, security cameras, and speakers throughout station.

Minimal impact on your commute

Service will continue throughout the duration of this three-year project.

See [our next story for details](#) on the [March 18 train schedule](#) that accommodates construction during off-peak and weekend periods.

Peak and reverse peak schedules will not change.

Track and platform assignments for departing and arriving trains will change as the work progresses. In addition, some portions of the main platform will be closed briefly during construction.

While this important work is occurring, customers should allow for extra travel time to access the open section of the platforms.

Temporary closures of the entrances to the platform from Main St., Hamilton Ave. & Mott St. tunnel will occur in phases during the project to provide sufficient access to the station with appropriate detour routes. **Access to the main station entrance will be provided throughout the project.**



Please listen for announcements and please signage directing customers to the proper platforms and tracks for boarding trains during each phase of this project.

We will communicate with you throughout the construction.

If you have any questions or concerns please **Contact Us** or call us at 511 and say "representative" to speak with a Metro-North customer service representative.

Connect with Us!



Visit mta.info/mnr
Click on
Contact Us



Call 511
From Connecticut
877-690-5114



At Grand Central Terminal
and local ticket offices



or go to <http://web.mta.info/social/>

Text or Email Alerts www.mymtaalerts.com/

We appreciate your patience as we undertake these significant improvements.

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New Schedules Effective Sunday, March 18

Our schedule change went into effect on Sunday, March 18.

And as we mentioned in the previous article, off peak and weekend changes on the Harlem Line accommodate the three-year project to refurbish and enhance the White Plains station.

During the White Plains station project, one of two tracks will be removed from service between Scarsdale and North White Plains (a five-mile segment), during off-peak and weekend hours to reduce the construction period and allow crews to access the platforms and perform their work safely.

White Plains station is in the busiest two-track segment of the railroad:

210 trains travel this area on weekdays, 131 on Saturdays and 114 on Sundays. That translates to up to 8 trains per hour during off-peak hours on weekdays and weekends.

We cannot sustain this level of service with trains operating in both directions on a single track, especially with trains stopping at White Plains, Hartsdale and Scarsdale stations.

In addition to the work at White Plains station,

track work will take place between Scarsdale and Hartsdale to renew the railroad's infrastructure, ensuring the continuing safety and reliability of the Harlem Line. The work will cover track and drainage improvements, including tie and rail replacement, new stone ballast, and general cleanup of the area along our tracks.

We are also replacing four track switches and associated third-rail between Brewster and Southeast on weekends for three months this summer. This work will require single-tracking for 10 miles between Goldens Bridge and Southeast.

All of this work means changes will occur on our Harlem Line on weekdays during the off-peak and on weekends.

There are no changes to peak and reverse-peak train schedules. Also, service levels are not affected on trains operating between Grand Central Terminal and Crestwood.

Here is what to look for on the Harlem Line:

[Weekday Off-Peak and Nights](#)

[Weekends](#)



- Ten midday and four night-time local trains to and from North White Plains will no longer operate between Crestwood and North White Plains.
- Some trains to and from Southeast that currently operate express between White Plains and Harlem-125th Street will add stops at Hartsdale, Scarsdale and/or Crestwood to preserve half-hourly service to those stations, and to provide connecting service to and from the Crestwood local trains.
- Up to four minutes of running time has been added to accommodate speed restrictions and to operate at reduced speed safely past track workers and station-construction workers as required.
- Up to four minutes of running time has been added to some northbound local trains at Scarsdale to allow southbound trains to clear the single-track area between North White Plains and Scarsdale.
- 28 Saturday and 20 Sunday local trains to and from North White Plains will no longer operate between Crestwood and North White Plains.
- The northbound schedule for most trains is revised to allow trains to pass each other at the ends of the single-track segments.
- To accommodate the projects at White Plains, Hartsdale and Scarsdale, service between Grand Central and Southeast is reduced to hourly except inbound in the morning, and outbound in the late afternoon/evening.
- Shuttle trains between Wassaic and Southeast will replace the one through-train each way on Saturday and Sunday between Wassaic and Grand Central Terminal. Overall travel time between Wassaic and Grand Central will be about 10 minutes longer.
- Up to four minutes of running time has been added to accommodate speed restrictions and to operate at reduced speed safely past track workers and station-construction workers as required.

For Harlem Line Yankees fans:

there will be no direct game day service to Yankee Stadium. See [our story below](#) for options providing frequent service.

Also look for these minor changes...

On the New Haven Line: Weekdays

On the New Haven Line, all weekday inbound trains will make stops at Rye, Harrison and Mamaroneck one minute earlier to support track work in the area.

On the Hudson Line: Weekends

On the Hudson Line, northbound weekend trains to Poughkeepsie will depart Grand Central Terminal two minutes later and trains to Croton-Harmon depart one minute later in order to support infrastructure improvements.

Be sure to pick up a new timetable

in Grand Central and at outlying stations to check for possible adjustments to your train's schedule. [Schedules are also available online](#) or on your tablet or smartphone via our free [Train Time](#) App.

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Travel Like a Pro to Yankee Stadium!



We don't mean in a limo! (*No one really takes the "team bus."*)

Take a **Metro-North "Train to the Game"** and avoid the triple play of parking, tolls and traffic.

Our Game Day service to Yankee Stadium

starts Opening Day, April 2, when the Bronx Bombers take on the Toronto Blue Jays.

Hudson Line
fans enjoy direct service from Grand Central Terminal, Harlem – 125th Street Station and outlying Hudson Line stations to Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station.

For New Haven Line fans,
there is direct service from select stations for the 7:05 PM weeknight and holiday games. At other times, you can transfer to Hudson Line trains or special game-day shuttles at Harlem – 125th Street Station for service to the Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station.

For Harlem Line fans,
station and track improvements at White Plains means there is no direct service from the Harlem Line to Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station.

But you can take frequent service to Yankee Stadium via a transfer at Harlem – 125th Street Station

for a 4-minute shuttle ride to and from Yankees-E.153rd Street Station. As an alternative, fans can also drive to stations on the Hudson and New Haven Lines (where weekend parking is free at Metro-North-controlled parking lots) for direct service to Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station.

There is plenty of train service provided before, during and after the game. Arrive when you want, leave when you want. And getting to and from the game is a one-ticket ride from all three lines.

And you can buy your tickets at any ticket office, from one of our many ticket vending machines or by using **MTA eTix®!**

Also, monthly and weekly ticket holders who normally travel to or from Manhattan (on any of the three lines) can travel to or from Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station at no extra charge!

Look for our special Yankees – E. 153rd Street Station Game-Day schedules soon at www.mta.info/mnr and in Grand Central Terminal and at outlying stations.



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Safety Rule of the Issue

Evacuation Instructions

Listen for directions from authorized personnel.	Remain inside train if possible. If not...	Go to next car through end doors. If unable...	Open side door and go out. If unable...	Go out emergency windows.

Even if you think you are familiar with what to do in the event of an emergency on your train, we urge you to take a moment to review the [emergency procedures](#).

In the meantime, here are a few quick safety tips:

- Be sure to familiarize yourself with safety signage (above) in cars so you will know how to locate and operate emergency exits.
- Remember that your best protection is to remain calm, and think clearly.
- The safest place to be is on the train. However, if you are directed to evacuate to the track level, follow the train crew's directions carefully, watch your step and stay away from the third rail or any downed wires.

We bring you this information because your safety is always our first priority.

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You "Auto" Go On Metro-North!

Forgive the pun, but don't miss out on our **discount package** to the

New York International Automobile Show

at the Javits Center March 30 – April 8. You'll save on rail fare and admission!

Preview the latest in automotive excitement from futuristic concept cars, to never-before-seen production models.

Metro-North monthly/weekly ticket holders who wish to purchase only the Auto Show admission ticket must do so at a Metro-North ticket office. The discount will not be honored by presenting your rail pass at the Auto Show.

The show is open daily from 10 AM – 10 PM, and on Sundays from 10 AM – 7 PM

For more information on the show, visit <http://www.autoshowNY.com> or call 800-282-3336.

We've got dozens of discount getaways that will "drive you wild." See a [complete listing](#).



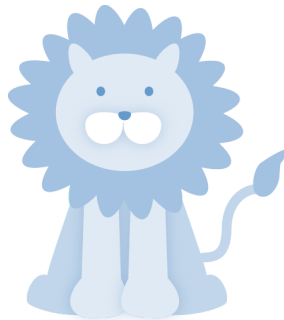
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Courtesy Corner



In honor of March, we bring you an old proverb that goes something like this: "It is better to live one day as a lion than a hundred years as a lamb."

While that may inspire you to act large, take charge, be who you want to be and eat lots of red meat, please note that it says "for one day."



But most days, you really should try to blend in and get along with your fellow commuters by:



- Keeping your feet off the seats;
- Taking your trash with you when you leave the train, and disposing of it properly;
- Respecting the **rules of the Quiet Car!**

(You should also try eating some vegetables every now and then.)

Remember, even "lions" have to lie down with "lambs" once in a while. It's the courteous thing to do!

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