



## About Penn Station Access

Penn Station Access is a critical transportation equity project which will improve reliability, reduce travel time, and expand mass transit options throughout the region. By bringing Metro-North service to/from Penn Station and constructing four new accessible stations in an underserved area of the East Bronx, and providing significant improvements to railroad infrastructure, Penn Station Access will bolster equity and improve regional connectivity.

The project will use Amtrak's existing Hell Gate Line to access Penn Station, maximizing the potential of existing infrastructure, while minimizing impacts on the surrounding community. It will bring the Hell Gate Line into a state of good repair, improving reliability and on-time performance for intercity passengers.



Above: Map of Penn Station Access Project corridor in relation to existing Metro-North network



Above: Map of Penn Station Access Project elements, including 19 miles of track work, 4 bridge rehabilitations, 4 new interlockings, 1 reconfigured interlocking, and 5 new and 2 upgraded substations.

## Project Approach

Penn Station Access exemplifies MTA's new approach to project delivery—building better, faster, and cheaper, and moving capital projects efficiently through the project lifecycle. Penn Station Access successfully advanced conceptual engineering and environmental review during COVID, receiving its Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) from the FTA in the Fall of 2021. On December 29, 2021, the MTA awarded a Design-Build (DB) contract to Halmar International, LLC/Railworks J.V., and the design-builder was given a Notice to Proceed in January 2022. With a Design-Build approach, an experienced Project Executive, and a co-located field office, Penn Station Access is promoting innovation and collaboration. Work is now underway and the new service is expected to be operational by 2027.

# What is Design-Build?

Under a Design-Build contract, a single firm or consortium is responsible for both the design and construction of a project. This approach produces competition among bidders and establishes incentives for faster project completion, resulting in lower costs, and minimized impacts on local communities and commuters. MTA identified a shortlist of Design-Build teams, and worked alongside these pre-qualified groups, through a series of one-on-one meetings, to collaboratively reduce risks and foster innovation to drive down project cost and schedule.



## Meet the Project Executive: Tom McGuinness

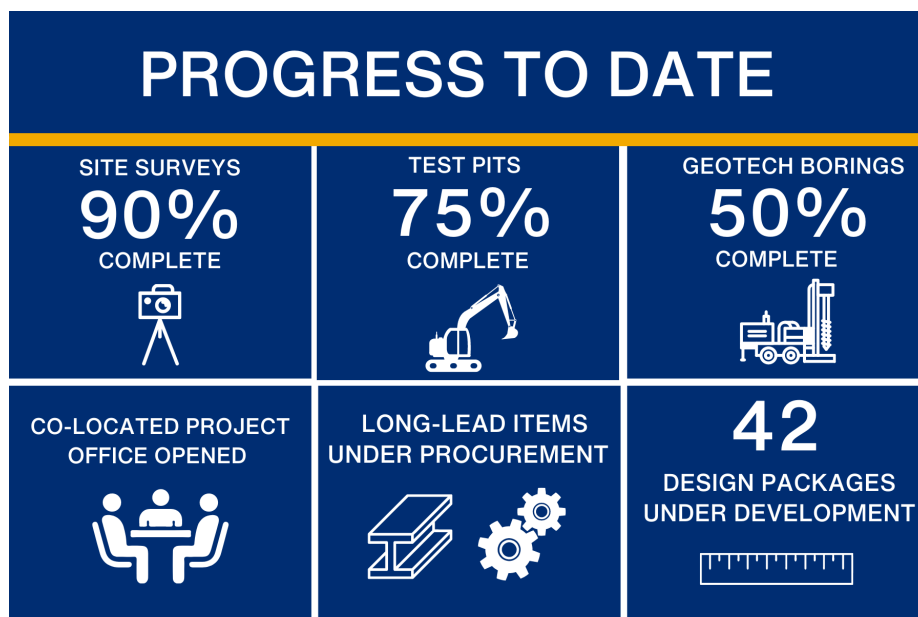
Tom McGuinness has extensive project management and transportation industry experience. He's bringing the successes and lessons learned from his previous leadership roles on large-scale projects including the LIRR Third Track to deliver Penn Station Access on time and on budget.

You can watch Tom's remarks about the Penn Station Access Project at the May 2022 MTA Capital Program Committee meeting [here](#).

*Right: Tom McGuinness (left) with MTA President & CEO Janno Lieber (right). Trent Reeves, 2020.*



## Project Status



## UP NEXT IN 2022



SITE MOBILIZATION, LAYDOWN AREAS,  
AND PERMANENT FIELD TRAILERS



CLEARING, UTILITY RELOCATIONS,  
AND ACCESS ROADS



RETAINING WALLS, OVERHEAD CATENARY  
FOUNDATIONS, AND SITE GRADING



EARLY WORK TO FOCUS ON AREA OF  
HUNTS POINT AND LEGGETT INTERLOCKING

HUNTS POINT AND PARKCHESTER STATIONS TO BEGIN IN 2023

## Community Corner

The project's robust community engagement program continues. Here's a snapshot of the 2022 outreach activities to date:

- May-June 2022: The team provided a project update to four community boards in the Bronx. To view the presentation slides from the meetings, click [here](#).
- June 7, 2022: MTA held a Job Information Event in partnership with the Building and Construction Trades Council of Greater New York and the Apprenticeship Readiness Collective. Over 200 participants attended the Job Information Event to learn about pathways to middle-income jobs within the construction industry and employment opportunities with the [MTA operating agencies](#), and FDNY.
- June 22, 2022: MTA conducted a public hearing on the proposed property acquisition for the project, pursuant to the New York State Eminent Domain Procedure Law (EDPL). For the full list of properties, click [here](#).



We are looking forward to reconvening the Bronx-Westchester Community Council in Fall of 2022. The team will continue engaging the public and keep residents informed of construction activities for the duration of the project.



## Contact Us

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