

COMMUNITY UPDATE

EAST SIDE ACCESS PROJECT

March 2009

Park Avenue Plenum and Gratings

The MTACC'S East Side Access project, which will bring Long Island Rail Road trains into a new station under Grand Central Terminal, is currently under construction. The new connection will increase the LIRR service capacity into Manhattan, and dramatically shorten travel time for Long Island and eastern Queens commuters traveling to the east side of Manhattan.

The work at 37th Street and Park Avenue is currently in its second phase, which began in January 2009 and will continue until November 2009. The work will include excavation and lining of three air shafts, excavation and construction of an air plenum, completion of utility work, installation of sidewalk gratings and restorations of street and sidewalk.

Completed Construction Activities:

- Re-routing the majority of utility lines
- Drilling for support of excavation holes and pilot holes

Construction Activities Currently Underway (late March '09 - early June '09):

- Install vertical and horizontal supports for the excavation
- Preparation of plenum for Raise Bore Machine (RBM) support frame



- Construct the support frame for the RBM drill rig
- Transport and install RBM on-site
- Commence drilling with the RBM
- Excavation for raise bore machine operation

Upcoming Construction Activities:

- Complete the construction of the air plenum
- Install precast concrete lining in tunnel shafts
- Install sidewalk gratings
- Replant two sidewalk trees south of gratings

- Complete remaining utilities
- Restore street, sidewalk, Union League Club canopy and flagpoles

The East Side Access team, along with the New York City Department of Transportation and several utility companies, are committed to completing the required construction as quickly as possible with the least amount of inconvenience to residents and business in the neighborhood.

East Side Access is committed to maintaining a work site that is safe and clean. We appreciate the patience and understanding of the residents of this neighborhood as this work has progressed. While dust, noise and heavy equipment are common elements of construction, we have taken and will continue to implement measures to minimize and mitigate these impacts as much as possible. One of these measures was that Con Edison and Verizon completed extra work to enhance services to the community during utility relocations, preempting future disruptive construction activities.

Schedule

The typical construction schedule, except for the raise bore operation, will be as follows:

- Days: Monday – Friday
(Saturday and Sunday on limited occasions)
- Time: 7 am – 10 pm

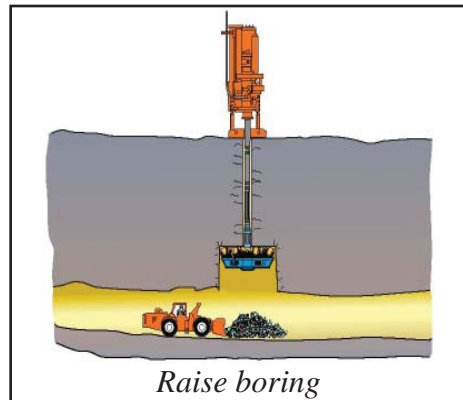
As previously noted, the raise bore operation will be Monday-Friday, 24 hrs per day.

Temporary Lane Closures

At times, it will be necessary for the contractor to occupy the parking lane and one traffic lane on Park Avenue between 36th and 37th Streets as well as the intersection of Park Avenue and 37th Street. Pedestrian access along sidewalks will be via a 5-foot wide walkway. Access to building entrances will be maintained at all times.



Drilling holes for support of excavation (now completed).



Raise boring