## Newsletter July 2022



We are excited to introduce quarterly newsletters for the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Park Avenue Viaduct (PAV) Replacement Project. In these newsletters, we will provide updates on public outreach and project milestones in recent months.

The PAV Replacement Project focuses on the elevated steel structure that carries four tracks along Park Avenue between East 110th Street and the Harlem River Lift Bridge. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority's Construction & Development (MTA C&D) and Metro-North Railroad (MNR) team will replace or repair major segments of the PAV between East 110<sup>th</sup> Street and the Harlem River Lift Bridge.

## **STEM Events**

MTA C&D has created a program to introduce students to STEM (Science Technology Engineering & Mathematics) concepts by relating them to major projects within the local community, its purpose, and its importance to the city. The program was adopted as part of the MNR PAV Replacement Project.

The PAV Replacement Project outreach team partnered with two schools to host two STEM events. In winter 2021, Mosaic Preparatory Academy invited the outreach team to join their STEM Day and provide a hands-on bridge building activity. MTA MNR and C&D staff helped



teach students strategies on engineering planning by assembling and testing homemade bridges.

This spring, the outreach team collaborated with Success Academy and NYC Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to host a Family STEM Event for Success Academy students and families at La Marqueta's La Placita. Over 40 K-2 students engaged with outreach staff to design bridges using a variety of materials. Students also learned about the essential techniques for designing resistant bridges.





## **Community Pop-Ups**





The outreach team has been setting up pop-up booths in the community to answer questions and provide community members information about the project. The first pop-up was held at Uptown Grand Central's Fresh Food Box on May 18 and subsequent booths were located at NYCHA Johnson Houses on June 17 and MTA 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Subway Community Information Center on June 30.

The next pop-up booth will be located outside of the NYCHA Johnson Houses on Tuesday, July 19. Feel free to let your community members know about the next pop-up event.

## **Past and Upcoming Community Meetings**

As part of the team's ongoing efforts to keep the community apprised of the project, virtual meetings were held with the Manhattan Community Board 11 on February 10, 2022 and Friends of La Marqueta on February 11, 2022. During these meetings, the PAV team presented on project details and current schedule, interim viaduct repairs, and planned outreach. The first stakeholder meeting was held on April 7 where the team unveiled new project materials, including the new MTA project webpage.

We look forward to providing project updates at the next stakeholder meeting at the end of this summer.

For more information about the project, please visit the project webpage <u>here</u>. If you have any general project queries, please email <u>payoutreach@mtacd.org</u>.