

NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM

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NEXT STOP: SECOND AVENUE SUBWAY

Exhibition now on view at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn

In celebration of the Second Avenue Subway's recent debut in New York City, the **New York Transit Museum's** exhibit *Next Stop: Second Avenue Subway* is now on view in **Downtown Brooklyn**. Tracing nearly 100 years of history, the Museum's newest exhibit explores how the Second Avenue line fits into New York's past, present, and future transportation landscapes. "The line that almost never was" began with the visionary ideas of Daniel L. Turner in the 1920s, held an actual groundbreaking in the 1970s, and was ultimately realized on New Year's Eve 2016 as part of a modern construction plan launched in 2007.

First proposed in 1919, the Second Avenue Subway was stalled after the stock market crashed. Restarted following WWII, the construction project was again delayed during the Korean War. Resurrected in the 1960s, its construction was killed by the fiscal crisis of the 1970s. The opening of Phase One, running from 63rd to 96th Street, is truly a momentous occasion, improving transportation on the East Side of Manhattan and relieving congestion on the Lexington Avenue line. When the project is completed, its route will go from Lower Manhattan to East Harlem with a connection to the Metro-North Railroad at 125th Street.

Through historic maps, objects, and numerous images from the New York Transit Museum's collections, *Next Stop: Second Avenue Subway*, illustrates the multiple steps and massive amounts of backbreaking work needed to bring the Second Avenue Subway to life. Exhibit guests will have the opportunity to view conceptual models of the Phase One stations, a cutting disk from the 485-ton Second Avenue Subway Tunnel Boring Machine and a core boring sample used to analyze types of rock present and potential fracture patterns in previous construction projects. Samples of station artwork allow visitors to see, up close, some of the techniques used

to bring works of fine art to the new stations on the line. These latest works of art join the rich history of public art in the transit system and are the most expansive permanent public art installations in the history of New York.

"The engineering, the artistry, the planning and the civic perseverance that went into making the Second Avenue Subway a reality are all cause for celebration," said Museum Director Concetta Bencivenga. "The Transit Museum is honored to bring this exhibit to the public to share the history of this moment and incredible journey that was nearly a hundred years in the making."

Next Stop: Second Avenue Subway is open to the public through September 3, 2017 at the New York Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn. The Transit Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and is closed Mondays, major holidays and for special events. General admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 2-17 years old, \$5 and free on Wednesdays for senior citizens 62 years and up, and free for museum members. For more information on hours, admission and directions, please visit nytransitmuseum.org/visit.

Next Stop: Second Avenue Subway is generously supported by AECOM and Skanska. Additional support is provided by Walsh Construction Company. Exhibitions at the New York Transit Museum are made possible, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

ABOUT NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM:

The [New York Transit Museum](http://nytransitmuseum.org) is the largest museum in the United States devoted to urban public transportation history and one of the premier institutions of its kind in the world. The Museum explores the development of the greater New York metropolitan region through the presentation of exhibitions, tours, educational programs and workshops dealing with the cultural, social and technological history of public transportation. Since its inception forty years ago, the Museum – which is housed in a historic 1936 IND subway station in Downtown Brooklyn – has grown in scope and popularity. As custodian and interpreter of the region's extensive public transportation networks, the Museum strives to share through its public programs this rich and vibrant history with local, regional, and international audiences.

What: Next Stop: Second Avenue Subway

When: January 14 – September 3, 2017

Where: New York Transit Museum
Corner of Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street
Downtown Brooklyn

Images: Please email Chelsea.Newburg@nyct.com to request a press kit.

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