



Train line designated in red is to be the East Side Access line.

LIRR East Side Access to Grand Central Terminal

New York, NY

The proposed Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) East Side Access will provide increased capacity for the commuter rail lines of the Long Island Rail Road and direct access between suburban Long Island and Queens and a new passenger terminal in Grand Central Terminal in east Midtown Manhattan. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) is the lead agency for this project.

The East Side Access (ESA) connection will be achieved by constructing a 4,600-foot tunnel from the LIRR Main Line in Sunnyside, Queens to the existing tunnel under the East River at 63rd Street. LIRR trains would use the lower level of this bi-level structure. A second 5,000-foot tunnel would carry LIRR trains from the 63rd Street Tunnel under Park Avenue and into a new LIRR terminal in the lower level of Grand Central Terminal. As part of this project, a passenger station would be constructed at Sunnyside Yard to provide access to the growing Long Island City business district; this station would not provide a direct connection to Grand Central Terminal.

Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers (MRCE) is performing geotechnical and foundation engineering services for the new yard facilities in Queens and underpinning and foundation design for new columns in Grand Central Terminal including excavation support and column relocation at entrances and vent structures.