

Manhattan Community Board 8

December 18, 2012 – Answer to question regarding assisted egress from Second Avenue Subway Stations in the event of an emergency.

The Second Avenue subway is being constructed with emergency exits at both ends of the platforms which are separated from the platform by fire/smoke doors. The areas just inside the doors at the base of the stairs serve as an area of refuge which will allow persons who cannot navigate the steps a place to safely remain until help can arrive. The areas of refuge are equipped with Safety Point Intercoms and CCTV which will allow anyone in there to communicate with New York City Transit and Emergency Service personnel.

In addition, the Second Avenue Subway will be provided with station and tunnel emergency ventilation which will help maintain a tenable environment. The emergency exit stairs will be pressurized to prevent smoke from migrating into them.

The design of the Second Avenue Subway expressly addresses the needs to those customers who would have difficulty evacuating a subway during an emergency.