

## NEWS

## URBAN MASS TRANSPORTATION ADMINISTRATION

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Manhattan's busiest local subway station - BMT 49th Street - will get a \$2,046,000 face lifting with the help of a 50 percent capital grant from the Department of Transportation's Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

The station, built in 1919, is located under Seventh Avenue between 47th and 49th Streets in the heart of Manhattan's entertainment district. The remodeling is the New York City Transit Authority's first total effort to completely modernize a subway station and will be used as a guide for the Authority's total station modernization program.

Improvements will include new floors, walls, ceilings and rest rooms; new lighting, heating and ventilating systems; stairway snow-melting mats; and acoustical treatment to reduce noise. In addition, platforms will be extended so that train lengths can be increased from eight to ten cars.

On a typical weekday, 24,000 passengers enter this station. However, 40 percent of this volume is concentrated into the morning and evening rush hours and more than 15 percent use the station between 8 p.m. and midnight. Completion of the project will result in improved personal security and comfort for transit patrons.

The Urban Mass Transportation Administration and the City of New York are each contributing \$1,023,000 towards the cost of the project.

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