

= Flushing ? Main Street (IRT Flushing Line) =

Flushing ? Main Street (signed as Main Street on entrances and pillars , and Main St ? Flushing on overhead signs) is the northern terminal station on the IRT Flushing Line of the New York City Subway , located at Main Street and Roosevelt Avenue in the Downtown section of Flushing , Queens . It is served by the 7 at all times and the < 7 > train rush hours in the peak direction .

The Flushing ? Main Street station was originally built as part of the Dual Contracts between the Interborough Rapid Transit Company (IRT) and the Brooklyn ? Manhattan Transit Corporation (BMT) . It opened on January 21 , 1928 , completing the segment of the Flushing Line in Queens . Although plans existed for the line to be extended east of the station , such an extension was never built . The station was renovated in the 1990s .

The passenger count in 2015 for the station was 19 @, @ 082 @, @ 391 , making it the 12th busiest station system @-@ wide , the busiest station in Queens , and the busiest station outside of Manhattan .

= = History = =

The station was constructed under the Dual Contracts as part of an extension of the Flushing Line past 103rd Street ? Corona Plaza . At the time of the line 's planning in the 1910s , Downtown Flushing was a quiet Dutch @-@ colonial @-@ style village ; what is now Roosevelt Avenue in the area was known as Amity Street , a major commercial thoroughfare in the neighborhood . It was decided to build the station underground due to local opposition to the disturbances , loss of property value , and the required widening of Amity Street that an elevated line would bring . Thus , it is one of only seven underground stations on the Flushing Line , one of three underground stations on the line in Queens , and the only underground station east of Queensboro Plaza . Construction of the station and the double @-@ deck bridge over the Flushing Creek began on April 21 , 1923 , with the station built via cut @-@ and @-@ cover methods . The bridge was completed in 1927 , and the station opened on January 21 , 1928 , over a decade after the line began operation .

Following the station 's opening , Downtown Flushing evolved into a major commercial and transit center , as development sprung around the section of Main Street near the station . On April 24 , 1939 , express trains began operating to and from the station , in conjunction with the reconstruction of the Willets Point station for the 1939 World 's Fair . Due to the high level of passenger use , beginning in 1940 local residents requested an additional exit at the east end of the station , and the widening of existing staircases . A new eastern entrance was added after World War II .

Between 1999 and 2000 , the station underwent a major renovation project that had been in the planning stages since the 1970s . The renovation added an elevator near the Lippmann Plaza exit that made the station compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 . The project also added new entrances and a large entrance hall near Lippmann Plaza at the far east end of the station , beyond the bumper blocks at the end of the tracks . Prior to 1999 , the tracks went past where the current bumper blocks are , to a dead @-@ end , as the line was planned to extend eastward .

The Flushing ? Main Street station has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 2004 .

= = = Proposed extension of the line = = =

Under several expansion plans of the New York City Subway , including the Dual Contracts and the IND Second System , the Flushing Line would have been extended past Main Street , along and / or parallel to the right @-@ of @-@ way of the nearby Port Washington Branch of the Long Island Rail Road towards Bell Boulevard in Bayside . A spur line would have branched off north along 149th Street towards College Point .

== Station layout ==

The station has three tracks and two relatively narrow island platforms , due to Roosevelt Avenue 's narrow width of approximately 50 feet (15 m) . When peak @-@ direction express service operates , express trains will leave from the middle and southernmost tracks , Track M and Track 2 respectively , while local trains will leave from Track 1 . This system was instituted in November 1952 . Mosaic on the wall tiles read " MAIN STREET " ; small tiles along the platforms read " M " .

There are nine entrances at street level , leading to two separate fare control areas . The original street exit is in the middle of the platforms with a separate fare control mezzanine above the tracks , and the 24 @-@ hour station agent 's booth . Staircases lead up to all four corners of Main Street and Roosevelt Avenue . The new fare control area at Lippmann Plaza has an extremely high ceiling , approximately 40 feet (12 m) below the street level . The mezzanine is at platform level , and provides an ADA @-@ compliant elevator , three unidirectional escalators , and a stairway to street level at Lippmann Plaza . New artwork titled Happy World was installed over the row of turnstiles in 1998 . The plaza , also known as Lippmann Arcade , is a pedestrian walkway that leads to a municipal parking lot and several bus stops on 39th Avenue .

At the west end of the station platforms are the offices and dispatch tower for the IRT Flushing Line . Train crews report to the offices , while the dispatch tower dispatches trains and controls the Flushing Line . West of the station , the line rises from the tunnel via a portal at College Point Boulevard , and onto the elevated bridge across Flushing Creek .

== Bus service ==

In addition to connecting with the nearby Long Island Rail Road station of the same name , the station serves as one of the two busiest local bus @-@ subway interchanges in Queens (along with Jamaica Center) and the largest in North America , with over 20 bus routes running through or terminating in the area as of 2015 .

== Attractions and points of interest ==

The station is located in Downtown Flushing , also known as Flushing Chinatown , one of New York City 's largest Asian enclaves .

Nearby points of interest include :

Flushing Town Hall , at Northern Boulevard and Linden Place .

St George 's Church , on Main Street near Roosevelt Avenue .

Flushing Main Post Office , on Main Street between Sanford and Maple Avenues .

Queens Library Flushing , at Main Street and Kissena Boulevard , the successor to the original Queens Library branch .

Lippmann Plaza , between 39th Avenue and Roosevelt Avenue east of Main Street . Named after longtime Flushing businessman Paul Lippmann .

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