

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Release 07-13 July 21, 2007

NEW YORK CITY OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCES NORTH SIDE OF 42ND STREET OPEN TO **BUSINESSES AND PEDESTRIANS**

The City's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) announces that as cleanup efforts progress in the aftermath of the steam pipe explosion, the north side of East 42nd Street is now open to businesses and pedestrians.

The City continues to reduce the restricted area as streets and buildings are cleaned and certified as free of contaminants. The frozen zone has been reduced to the four square block area bounded by the north side of 40th Street, the south side of 42nd Street, the west side of Third Avenue and the east side of Park Avenue.

Business outreach

The Department of Small Business Services (SBS) Business Outreach Team and the Grand Central Partnership (GCP) remain on site to assist businesses with any issues they might encounter as they proceed with the reopening process.

- Tenants of buildings within the frozen zone are urged to contact the building owner/manager for up-to-date information as to the reopening of the building.
- If a retail business is having difficulty contacting their building manager, they may call 3-1-1 and ask to be connected to SBS or GCP for further assistance.
- SBS and GCP will be working with businesses to help them apply for emergency loans.
- Commercial customers may contact Con Edison's claim department at (212) 460-3221 for additional information about business reimbursement.

CONTACT: Andrew Troisi 718-422-4888