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GLEN ROCK SHORTLY WILL TAKE TITLE TO 2 ERIE-LACKAWANNA STATIONS

\$9,500 Purchase Will End 2 Years of Borough-Railroad Negotiations.

Nearly 2 years of negotiations and red tape will be ended here, when the Borough takes title to the Main Line and Bergen County stations of the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad.

The railroad property, including two tracts of land and two waiting stations, was first offered to the Borough in November 1961. In a letter recently received by the Borough, the railroad has accepted the bid and outlined terms of transfer at a price of \$9,500.

At the Bergen County station, in front of the Municipal Building, the Borough will acquire a strip of land 28 feet wide, running from Rock Road to Maple Avenue along West Plaza. The property includes the Crowell Taxi office and the station waiting room on 23,500 square feet of land.

On a contract with the railroad, the Borough will continue operation of the waiting rooms.

At the Main Line station, the Borough will acquire a triangular piece of land 92 feet on Rock Road, stretching south along the west side of the railroad 400 feet. This tract embraces 22,000 square feet of land.

The Borough will pay \$8,000 for the Main Line tract and \$1,500 for the Bergen County line.

The Council has already authorized preliminary engineering plans to provide 39 additional commuter parking spaces at the Bergen County station, primarily for Borough residents. The Council has on several occasions noted that parking facilities near the stations have been utilized to capacity.

No definite plans have been made for additional parking at the Main Line station, but parking on property leased from the railroad will be allowed.

The deeds and conditions of transfer of the properties are now being examined by the Borough's legal and engineering departments, and money has already been appropriated for the parking improvements. Arrangements remain to be made to relocate the railroad telegraph wires at the Bergen County station.

The Council's announcement of transfer says if everything goes on schedule, work on the additional parking spaces should be completed in the spring.

Several commuters interviewed as the 7:12 p.m. commuter train came in on time last night, said they would be happy to see the additional parking, but added they will believe it when they see it.

Meanwhile, the old pot-bellied coal stove in the Bergen County Station waiting room will probably see a lot of action this winter in the old stucco and frame structure. Another straggling commuter (who apparently missed his ride home) was overheard saying to himself: "A few renovations of the old waiting room might help brighten these cold autumn nights."

This action marks the first successful purchase of an Erie-Lackawanna Railroad Station in West Bergen.

Wyckoff Township was successful in purchasing its local station from the New York, Susquehanna & Western Railroad. And in Midland Park, a similar station was purchased from The Suskie by a private interest. The Wortendyke station is now a gift shop.

The Chambers of Commerce in Mahwah and Ramsey were both unsuccessful in their bids to buy local stations from the Erie-Lackawanna Railroad.