



ASTRO
AGGREGATES

Rail Siding: 5613 Maspeth Ave, Maspeth NY
Rail Siding: 497 W. John Street, Hicksville NY

Rail Siding: 325 Marcus Blvd, Deer Park NY
Rail Siding: 340 Norwich Rd, Plainfield CT

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Phone (631) 242-2567 Fax (631) 242-3081
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December 2, 2025, Hicksville, New York — Astro Aggregates, LLC, today announced the arrival in its Hicksville, Long Island, loading facility of the first delivery of construction stone by rail car from Benson Mines, Inc., in upstate New York. Astro Aggregates signed a multi-year strategic partnership with Benson Mines in December 2024.

The delivery of more than 500 tons of stone aggregates marks the vision of the two companies' founders (Marc Furman, President of Astro Aggregates, and Stuart Carlisle, President of Benson Mines) to deliver material from Benson's 75 million tons of quarried waste rock via rail cars to the New York City, New Jersey and Connecticut markets. The roughly 350 mile journey from Benson's site in Clifton to Astro Aggregates' loading yard in Hicksville is serviced by Genesee Valley Transportation, CSX, and New York & Atlantic Railway.

Marc Furman, President of Astro Aggregates, said, "We are excited to see this partnership with Benson Mines reach this important milestone. We see the relationship benefiting our asphalt and ready-mix customers in the boroughs of New York City and Long Island. As we continue to grow our market presence in the Long Island market and adjacent states, we will continue to market the NYSDOT certifications of the Benson stone and pursue additional state certifications. This material will be used to build the skyscrapers of New York City and pave the roads of all of Long Island. We see the volume of stone being shipped increasing from this initial load to using 500 cars per year and then steadily increasing thereafter."

Stuart Carlisle, President of Benson Mines, said, "It has been nearly 50 years since the last railcars carrying iron ore concentrate from Benson Mines travelled to the Pennsylvania steel facilities of Jones & Loughlin. This represents a partnership that leverages the rail and logistics expertise of Marc Furman and puts a marker on the map for what we expect will be a multi-decade commitment to bring our stockpiled waste rock to the metropolitan New York market. This also marks the realization of our long time commitment to expand the production capabilities at our site and revitalize the local economy by bringing jobs to the community."



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Astro Aggregates plans to bring to the Benson Mines site a mobile crushing unit to efficiently work through the existing stockpiles and then develop a static plant that can produce higher volumes and load railcars directly from the conveyor. The company will be in search of multiple local employees, operators, diesel mechanics, and managers to maintain and run the facility.

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Astro Aggregates, headquartered in Deer Park, Long Island, is a provider of construction stone and other aggregates to the New York City, Long Island and New Jersey markets. The company supplies ready mix concrete and asphalt plants with NYSDOT- and ConnDOT-approved clean single-source virgin materials for project site development.

Benson Mines, Inc., located in Clifton, New York, is a provider of construction stone and other aggregates and timber to St. Lawrence, Lewis, and Jefferson Counties. Founded in 1883 by Byron David Benson, the company was formerly one of the largest iron ore mines in North America, with production capacity of 1.8 million long tons of magnetite and hematite concentrates.

For Further Information:

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