

Westside WEEKLY

ISSUE 20 12 OCT - 18 OCT 2018

Welcome

'Westside Weekly' is a newsletter designed to keep those working and living in the area up-to-date on the progress of the Birmingham Westside Metro extension.



Getting Around



We appreciate that everyone will have a different journey; the following is to assist you to plan ahead:

West Midland Metro services arriving and departing from platform one at Grand Central until summer 2019 as the process to connect the Birmingham Westside Metro extension to the existing track on Stephenson Street is ongoing.

Paradise Circus is closed in both directions until summer 2019 to facilitate the Metro construction from Victoria Square to Centenary Square. The A38 underpass remains open in both directions. Centenary Square is also closed to vehicles, while buses are diverting via Sheepcote Street and Bath Row. Traffic on Brunel Street will flow in the opposite direction for the duration of the closure.

Footpath diversions will be in place near Mooch Bar in Broad Street from Monday 15 October until Wednesday 17 October, and outside the Travelodge from Wednesday 17 October until Friday 19 October to allow for the disconnection of the existing water main. These works will also take place outside of Reflex night club and Pit Stop on the week commencing Monday 22 October.

The left-turn from Broad Street into Ryland Street has reopened ahead of schedule following the completion of water connection works.

We recommend that you plan ahead, consider using public transport, walking or cycling if possible. If you do have to travel by car, allow more time for your journey and consider travelling off-peak if possible. For travel advice, visit: www.networkwestmidlands.com/keepmoving

Metro extension work this week

Stephenson Street

As the process to connect existing track on Stephenson Street to the new line continues, work has been ongoing to install an 8m deep storm drain in the area. In addition, in preparation for the Metro construction, a gas main has been lowered.

Pinfold Street

This week in Pinfold Street, new drainage has been installed and gas pipes diverted. Meanwhile, works for the base of the track have continued with the pouring of concrete (as pictured right).

Victoria Square

Progress is continuing on the concrete and steel work for the floating track slab which eases ground vibrations during operation.

Paradise Street

Works have taken place this week to build the retaining wall for the Victoria Square Metro stop, while the installation of transition slabs, which allow for a smoother change between the heights of the tracks, has also progressed.

Broad Street

Excavation works to allow for the diversion of utilities have taken place in Broad Street this week, as well as works to divert the gas services in the area.

Award win for innovative "first-in-UK" technology

Battery technology, which is planned to be used for the first time in the UK on the Birmingham Westside Metro extension, has been highly commended at a light rail industry award ceremony.

The innovative catenary free-technology from West Midlands Metro and tram manufacturer CAF, which will power trams between Grand Central and Centenary Square when the route opens to passengers in late 2019, was recognised by judges at the Global Light Rail Awards in London on 3 October 2018.

Safety for the travelling public

With wetter weather and darker nights approaching, we have produced a leaflet for the travelling public with handy hints and tips of how to stay safe around our work sites. This can be found at www.metroalliance.co.uk.



Midland Metro Alliance updates local youth group

The Midland Metro Alliance opened its doors to almost 20 young people in order they could learn more about the Metro extensions on Saturday 6 October.

The group were members of Transport for West Midlands's Youth Forum which is set up to ensure that the region's transport network works for young people too.

During the visit, the group were updated on the progress for each of the routes being developed by the alliance and learned how our work, and that of other local infrastructure projects, is having a massive impact on the career opportunities available to young people. The group also got to test their tram driving abilities on the alliance's tram training simulator.



How can I get further information?

For further information or to view past issues of the newsletter please visit: www.metroalliance.co.uk

or email: communications@metroalliance.co.uk

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