

Westside WEEKLY

ISSUE 39 15 - 21 MAR 2019

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:

Paradise Circus is closed in both directions 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.

The lower section of Pinfold Street is only open to vehicles accessing Victoria Square House car park whilst work is completed to connect the existing Metro line with the track of the new extension.

Ongoing works to futureproof the utility infrastructure are taking place outside of the Reflex nightclub.

The Broad Street Canal Tunnel has reopened to canal and towpath traffic following the completion of strengthening works (see news story for more details).

One lane is closed on Broad Street near the Brasshouse pub, while one lane is also closed on the Five Ways underpass leading into the city centre, to allow utilities work to take place.

Permanent traffic signals are now operational at the junction of Bath Row and Islington Row Middleway.

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

Concrete has been poured for the base of the track and more excavation works have taken place this week.

Pinfold Street

Works for the base of the track have continued with the pouring of concrete, while waterproofing has progressed as planned.

Victoria Square

The gas main diversion works, which are being carried out by Cadent Gas, have continued as planned this week.

Paradise Street

Track has been installed in Paradise Street this week, making the total to date of 220m of twin track laid, and more second stage concrete has been poured for the base of the track in both the Wolverhampton and Edgbaston direction.

Broad Street

Tree pits and concrete slab have been installed at the corner of Bridge Street ready for the completion of paving works in this area. Meanwhile, plans are being drawn up to reverse the traffic on Gas and Berkeley Street and install a mini roundabout in an effort to reduce congestion and ease traffic flow. More details will follow in the coming weeks.



Canal tunnel reopens on schedule

Another major milestone has been reached with the reopening of Broad Street Canal Tunnel two days earlier than planned. We completed essential strengthening works to the canal bridge in just 12 weeks and the tunnel reopened to canal and towpath traffic on Thursday 14 March 2019.

Our team worked tirelessly to ensure it was completed on time, particularly Graduate Assistant Project Manager Dan Colley and Charlotte Parker, Assistant Construction Manager.



Support for construction workers

Westside BID got creative last week and showed support for supporting construction workers carrying out utility works on our behalf along Broad Street.

Elaine Weir, Business Liaison Manager, provided lunch for the men and photographed them as they took a well-earned break reminiscent of the famous 'Lunch atop a Skyscraper' image and 'walking into the weekend like the Beatles'.



A hat-trick of nominations in construction awards

The Midland Metro Alliance has been shortlisted in categories celebrating collaboration, innovation and people development by the judging panel of the 2019 West Midlands Celebrating Construction Awards.

The awards, promoted by the Chartered Institute of Building West Midlands and Constructing Excellence Midlands, recognise the excellence of local organisations in working in the built environment sector.

The Midland Metro Alliance has been recognised in the Innovation, Integration and Collaborative Working and People Development categories.



How can I get further information?

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

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