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.

Metro extension work this week

- Pinfold Street
  - Forty metres of track has been installed and welded along Pinfold Street.

- Victoria Square
  - Excavation works for bin foundations have taken place, while gas diversion works have continued to progress.

- Paradise Street
  - First stage concrete has been poured on Paradise Street, across Suffolk Street Queensway and into Paradise Circus. Paving works have also taken place between the rails, towards the Metro stop area. Meanwhile, rails and sleepers have been installed and welded across Suffolk Street Queensway.

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.

Five Ways underpass will close to all traffic from Monday 3 June until 2021 as works continue for phase two of the Birmingham Westside extension. The roundabout, which runs above the underpass, will remain open as usual throughout the closure as will pedestrian and cyclist access through the Five Ways concourse.

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

Teaching children about the risks of construction sites

Dozens of children gathered at Birmingham Library to learn all about the risks of playing on or near construction sites.

With the help of Considerate Construction Scheme mascots Ivor and Honor Goodsite, our dedicated Stakeholder Liaison Officers Amy Walker and Shervorne Brown spoke to children about spotting construction hazards.

The children also took part in a hunt the hazard competition for the chance to win a prize. The winner will be announced shortly.

Meanwhile, you can catch Amy and Shervorne at our weekly pop-up event on the exhibition vehicle, which will be outside Morrisons, Hagley Road on Thursday 25 April from 10am until 3pm.

ICYMI: Five Ways underpass to close in June

Almost 2,000 people who live, work or travel along Hagley Road and Broad Street have responded to a survey by Transport for West Midlands ahead of major road and tram developments.

The results of the survey, which closed on Monday 15 April, will be used to identify the most popular times and ways people travel, helping TfWM develop journey planning solutions to give people more choices during disruption.

This comes as preparations get underway for the next stage of the Metro extension to Edgbaston with the closure of Five Ways underpass on Monday 3 June and the introduction of bus priority measures along Hagley Road in the summer.

Investigation work will also begin shortly for the new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route, Sprint which will connect the Hagley Road with High Speed Rail (HS2) at Curzon Street, Birmingham Airport and the NEC, by 2026.

To keep up to date, visit www.networkwm.com/fiveways

Business networking event

Westside BID will be holding a business networking event so you get to know your local business community.

It will be hosted on a narrowboat on Wednesday 8 May which will leave from Gas Street Basin at 12:30pm, returning at 2:30pm. Professor Carl Chinn will give a historical talk on the area and local canal network.

Please RSVP Elaine.weir@westsidebid.co.uk by Tuesday 30 April.

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

or email: communications@metroalliance.co.uk

Alternatively, you can follow:

- company/midland-metro-alliance
- @midlandtram
- Midland Metro Alliance

How can I get further information?

Wishing you all an eggcellent Easter! There are easter eggs hidden somewhere on this page. Westside Weekly will return on Friday 3 May.