Visits to Metro extension works

We welcomed members of the Chartered Institute of Highways and Transportation on a tour of the Westside extension to see first-hand how this ambitious project will help transform the West Midlands.

The group were given a tour of the construction taking place in the city to see the progress that has been made since works got underway in 2017.

Alejandro Moreno, Director of the Midland Metro Alliance and Phil Hewitt, Director of West Midlands Metro discussed with them the challenges of building in the city centre, how we manage traffic management, buses and business interfaces.

Meanwhile, Civil Engineering Apprentices from the National College of High Speed Rail visited our head office to learn more about light rail construction.

During a presentation, the group were given an overview of the alliance, the nine stages of track installation and our sustainability practices, before going on a walk around the site to view the construction works taking place.

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.

The junction of Granville Street and Broad Street will be closed to all vehicles from Monday 10 June for approximately five weeks. This is to facilitate the replacement of a gas main. Pedestrian, cyclist and car park access will be maintained.

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

Metro extension work this week

**Stephenson Street**
- Paving has been installed in preparation for decorative concrete to be poured and kerbs have also been laid along Stephenson Street.

**Pinfold Street**
- Kerbing works have continued to progress along Pinfold Street, while paving is soon to be installed.

**Victoria Square**
- Track has been connected to the line in Pinfold Street with the area set to be waterproofed in the coming days. Concrete has also been poured for the base of the track and steel fixing works have commenced.

**Paradise Street**
- More progress has been made on the installation of paving at the Victoria Square tram stop, while kerbing works have taken place along Suffolk Street Queensway in preparation for road surfacing.

**Broad Street**
- Three benches have been installed in Broad Street while paving installation has moved forward.

**Flying the rainbow flag with pride**
- Our hoardings have been adorned with the colours of the rainbow in time for the Birmingham Pride celebrations this weekend.

The panels were designed to celebrate the annual LGBT festival, which promotes diversity and equality, and add a splash of colour to the construction site. They are in pride of place for the parade, which will set off from Victoria Square at noon on Saturday 25 May.

If you are travelling into the city centre by Metro on the Saturday or Sunday, please be aware that services will terminate at Bull Street during the parade.

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

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