



Transport for
West Midlands



Midland
Metro Alliance

Westside WEEKLY

ISSUE 73 22 - 28 NOVEMBER 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, which is being designed and delivered by the Midland Metro Alliance on behalf of Transport for West Midlands (TfWM).

Phase One
track
installation
complete



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.

Five Ways underpass is closed to traffic 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.

Bus services 9, 10, 12, 12A, 13, 13A, 126, X8, X10 will not stop along Broad Street until spring 2020. Services 23 and 24 have also been diverted travelling out of the city. Cars, taxis and delivery vehicles will be able to access Broad Street between Sheepcote Street and Gas Street.

The direction of traffic on Pinfold Street and Navigation Street has been reversed, in advance of the Metro coming into operation. Traffic marshalls will be in place 24-7 to assist drivers.

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

Victoria Square

Coping stones have been installed to the retaining wall to protect it from water damage.

Paradise Street/Paradise Circus

Good progress has been made on the paving works in Paradise Street. Meanwhile, road surfacing works in Paradise Circus have been completed.

Broad Street

A base layer of concrete has been poured to the tram stops and footpaths to level off the surface.

Five Ways Underpass

Drainage and ducting installation has continued this week.

Driver route familiarisation begins on new line

Another milestone has been celebrated on the project with the handing over of the tramway to West Midlands Metro.

This allowed for driver route familiarisation to begin on Monday together with further testing and timetable simulations, ahead of next month's opening.

It means that you will now see the trams operating from Grand Central to Centenary Square as this phase of testing takes place.

Don't forget that you can still view our safety videos featuring useful tips for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians during this change in tram movement, at: <https://lnkd.in/g47uuJd>

Ahead of passenger services beginning, the Midland Metro Alliance will continue to be busy with finishing works, including paving in Centenary Square and adding cladding to the retaining walls.



Black Sabbath honoured with new hoarding

New hoarding paying homage to Birmingham band Black Sabbath has been installed in Broad Street as work to build the West Midlands Metro extension to Edgbaston rolls on.

The Midland Metro Alliance has erected new panels depicting the heavy metal band members – Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi, Geezer Butler and Bill Ward – to help mark their 50th anniversary year and in recognition of a commemorative bench from Westside BID which normally sits in the area. Fans are being encouraged to pose alongside the images and share their selfies using #BlackSabbathSelfie.

The bench has been safely stored away to allow for essential strengthening works to the top of the bridge. These works are expected to last approximately four weeks and follows the successful completion of strengthening works to the underside of the bridge in March.

Mike Olley, Manager of the Westside BID, said: "The Black Sabbath hoarding panels are a fantastic way to continue to honour the band while the bench is temporarily in storage. We are hoping that lots of fans will take up the opportunity to have their selfie taken against these special hoarding designs and share them using #BlackSabbathSelfie. Broad Street has such a lively and vibrant atmosphere and it is great to see the businesses promoted as being open as usual while the construction takes place, in such an innovative way."



How can I get further information?

For further information or to view past issues of the newsletter please visit:
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