



Transport for
West Midlands



Midland
Metro Alliance

Westside WEEKLY

ISSUE 128 5 - 11 FEBRUARY 2021

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).



Getting Around

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

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.

Works to install kerbing and a new bus lay-by are currently underway between Gas Street and Berkley Street. During this time vehicles wishing to access Brindleyplace service area Bay C (for ICC and Symphony Hall) and Regency Wharf can continue to do so via Bridge Street and exit via Gas Street. Access and egress for Oozells Street will be maintained via Berkley Street.

Bus services 9, 10, 12, 12A, 13, 13A, 126, X8, X10 will not stop along Broad Street until later in 2021. 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 via Gas Street.

If you do need to use public transport during this time, you can get the latest updates on bus, train or tram services by visiting: wmnetwork.co.uk/networkoverview

The busiest times to travel are varying as Covid-19 measures change. Please check with public transport operators before any essential travel.

Metro extension work this week

Hyatt Regency to O Bar

Excavation works have taken place in preparation for the lighting column bases to be installed. Meanwhile, paving has been levelled around the service boxes and lighting columns.

O Bar to Jurys Inn

Works to install kerbing to the central sections have been completed and lighting columns have been erected into the recently installed bases. Also this week, good progress has been made on the installation of drainage with these works now 85 per cent complete.

Jurys Inn to Sainsburys

Paving has been laid around the Brindleyplace tram stop with these works expected to be completed in the coming days.

MODA Living to Five Ways Underpass

The construction team have completed paving works outside of the Job Centre, while paving has been stripped outside of Prysm and excavations for the drainage connections have been completed.

Morrisons to 54 Hagley Road

This week, excavation works have continued for the tram stop bases. Meanwhile, more progress has been made on paving works outside of Morrisons and Starbucks and kerbing has been installed to the front of Barclays bank.

Peak time pass restrictions lifted for those attending early morning vaccine appointments

Peak time restrictions on concessionary tram and bus passes have been lifted during the early morning rush hour to make it easier for the older citizens and vulnerable people to get to vaccine appointments.

Over 70s and those classified as clinically extremely vulnerable are being invited to get their Covid-19 jabs at a growing number of vaccine centres throughout the region. But travel under the English National Concessionary Pass (ENCTP) is normally only valid for journeys taken after 9.30am.

Transport for West Midlands has joined forces with public transport operators to remove the peak time restriction for vaccine appointments. The restriction is also lifted on the West Midlands Metro tram system, which is owned by the West Midlands Combined Authority.

This change applies to weekday peak time journeys from Monday 1 February for those who show a valid concessionary pass and are attending a vaccination appointment.

SLO in charity squat challenge

Our dedicated Stakeholder Liaison Officer for the route, Shervorne Brown, will be taking on a challenge with a difference when she completes more than 2,000 squats for charity.

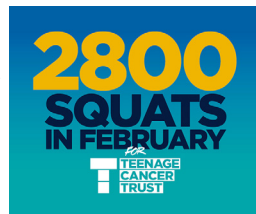
She will join thousands of fundraisers across the country tackling Teenage Cancer Trust's 2,800 Squats in February Challenge.

Shervorne has already got off to a flying start and has already completed more than 500 squats after getting started earlier this week.

The money raised will help the charity to continue to provide "world class cancer services for young people in the UK".

Shervorne said: "The Teenage Cancer Trust does some fantastic work in providing care and support for young people battling the disease. This is a great way to keep active and challenge myself during lockdown while having fun raising money for a good cause. Any contribution will make an impact, whether you donate £5 or £500. Every little bit helps!"

If you would like to support Shervorne in her charity challenge, you can do so by visiting: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/162233858997129/>



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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