Get Ready: Dulles Rail Construction Coming

Since January 2008, drivers through and to Tysons Corner have watched as crews worked to relocate more than 21 different utilities in preparation for the actual construction of the long-awaited 23-mile extension of Metro’s Orange Line. The extension will eventually provide a one-seat ride from Dulles Airport to downtown Washington. In fact, the estimated trip time between Dulles and Capitol Hill is 55 minutes.

Utility work will continue through 2009 and will overlap with general construction beginning next month along the Phase 1 alignment.

Phase 1 will serve Tysons Corner with four stations and Reston with one station at Wiehle Avenue. Phase 2 will run from Wiehle Avenue to Route 772 in Ashburn, including six stops along the way including Dulles Airport. (See map on reverse).

Last month, the U.S. Department of Transportation forwarded the project’s $900 million Full Funding Grant Agreement to Congress with a positive recommendation.

Phase 1 will be completed in 2013.

Station Designs Moving Along

Station designs are being fine-tuned as construction nears. A Fairfax County Planning Commission public hearing on the stations was postponed because of ice on January 28. That session will now be held on February 18. A hearing before the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors is slated for February 23. The county planning staff is recommending approval of the applications for the five phase 1 stations.

To see the latest designs, visit www.dullesmetro.com.

Frequently Asked Questions

What’s the status of Phase 2?
The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, the project manager, is committed to construction of Phase 2. A start-up date has not yet been set.

Will the rail project cause long-term lane closings on Route 123?
Rail construction will not require long daytime lane closings on Route 123. There will be some closings at night. Those closings will be communicated in traffic advisories and advertising as needed.

What does Phase 1 cost?
The cost is $2.6 billion.

Who will operate the completed system?
The extension will be turned over to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority.

If I catch a train in Reston, will I have to change trains anywhere to get to downtown, say Metro Center?
No, you will be able to ride to Metro Center and on to the Stadium Armory station without changing trains.

Can I get from Dulles to National Airport?
Yes, but you will have to change trains at the Rosslyn station.

How can I get a job with this construction project?
The design-build contractor is Dulles Transit Partners. For information on contracting and employment, please visit www.dullestransitpartners.com and follow the links in the boxes on the right.

For more information on the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, please visit our website at www.dullesmetro.com or call (703) 572-0506.