

Dulles Metro is Coming

October 2013



Silver Line Changes Come to Tysons Corner



DIFFERENT LOOK: Dulles Rail Project photographer Chuck Samuelson captured the changing landscape of Route 7 near the Spring Hill Station from atop the Sheraton Hotel.

Substantial Phase 1 Completion Anticipated in November

Have you been to Tysons Corner lately where the evidence of the coming opening of the Silver Line dominates?

From atop the six miles of aerial bridges, or guideways, that support the tracks and stations, the face of old Tysons, like the low-slung suburban offices, meets the Tysons of the future; high-rise development is under construction adjacent to the Metrorail stations.

This is clearly evident along Route 123 at the Tysons Corner Metrorail Station near The Galleria and Tysons Corner Center where high-rise offices, a residential structure and a hotel are being built. Along Route 7, between Spring Hill Road and WestPark Drive/Gosnell Road, a high-rise apartment building towers above the Container Store.

The four Tysons station structures are complete and finishing touches, including painting, lighting and signage installations, are taking place. Wiring is in place awaiting the arrival of the automatic fare card collection machines. Escalators and elevators are being tested and test trains can be seen traveling through stations during the on-going testing.

Work continues on the pedestrian bridges that will allow users to cross busy Routes 7 and 123 to enter the stations and allow pedestrians who simply want to cross the streets safely to do so. Escalators and elevators are in place in the pavilions that provide street side access to those bridges.

The story is much the same near the Wiehle-Reston East Metrorail Station, the fifth and last station in Phase 1.

There is still a lot to be done, according to project officials who now say the project is on track to meet the recently adjusted timeline of reaching substantial completion in November. The project had forecasted a September scheduled completion but announced a two-month delay. Now work is on target.

Last month, the project reached a major milestone when a small part of the existing Orange Line was successfully switched to the new train control system that has been built for the Silver Line.

“This is the first time that the equipment we use is operating trains on the Orange Line,” said project Executive Director Patrick Nowakowski.

Still there is work to be done and conditions that must be met

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DAZZLING LIGHTS ON ROUTE 123: Car lights, traffic signals and lights within the pedestrian bridge at the Tysons Corner Station illuminate this busy road. Photo by Chuck Samuelson, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project

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

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before the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority turns the Silver Line over to the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to operate as part of the regional transit system.

Nowakowski said stations still need finishing work, certificates of occupancy must be obtained for the stations from Fairfax County, and there is plenty of additional testing to be done throughout the system.

Airports Authority officials, WMATA and the Phase 1 design-build contractor Dulles Transit Partners continue to work together to complete the project and turn it over to WMATA as soon as possible.

WMATA continues to train the necessary personnel that will be needed to run the expanded system and to perform safety certifications. Once the turnover takes place, WMATA has 90 days to accept the new line and start service. WMATA's current budget anticipates starting service in January of 2014.

Utility Location and Geotechnical Testing for Phase 2 Starts on Greenway

Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project Phase 2 is more and more visible these days as preliminary construction work for the second segment of the Silver Line moves forward.

Crews in early October expanded survey and geotechnical testing work to the Dulles Greenway in Loudoun County.

Capital Rail Constructors' crews, already a familiar site at Dulles Airport and on the Dulles International Airport Access Highway and Toll Road, this month began using survey equipment, utility locator vacuum trucks and geotechnical boring drill rigs along the Greenway.

The work is taking place in the median and on or near the shoulders of the roadway where occasional lane closures may be required.



SAMPLES: Capital Rail Constructors crews perform geotech borings for pier locations along Saarinen Circle at Dulles Airport. Photo by Scott Evans, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project

Drivers are urged to use extreme caution and to pay close attention to sites in work zones.

Lane closures will be announced as needed.

For specific information about construction impacts, contact leslie.pereira@capitalrailconstructors.com.

NEW MAP SHOWS ALL OF SILVER LINE

Metro has released a revised map of the regional transportation system. The map now shows both Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Silver Line. The re-design of the original Metro map was done by Lance Wyman, a New York-based graphic artist who led the effort to design the original. The map can be found at <http://www.dullesmetro.com/documents/FINAL%20SYSTEM%20MAP-SEPTEMBER%202013.pdf>



ALONG THE DULLES ACCESS HIGHWAY: Crews prepare for bridge abutments near Centreville Road. Photo by Scott Evans, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Be Careful on Route 7 Each Night

Drivers using Route 7 in Tysons Corner should pay close attention to traffic signs and flashing lights as the on-going repaving of Route 7 continues this month.

While much of this work is being done at night to lessen the impact on drivers, there are still significant impacts along Route 7 from the Dulles Toll Road to Route 123 and at the cross streets including Gosnell/WestPark, Spring Hill Road and Westwood Center/Tyco.

Some ramps may be closed and turning patterns may change, causing detours.

Two Websites Offer Rail Project Information

There are now two websites that provide information on the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project. The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority's www.dullesmetro.com provides detailed information about the project, construction, traffic alerts, station locations, photos, maps and Phase 1 and Phase 2 details.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metro has launched a website, www.silverlinemetro.com, to provide additional information on the Silver Line in preparation for its opening of rail service in 2014.

The site will be updated frequently with new service details, destinations, and partner information. If you have additions to suggest or links you would like Metro to include, you can email your comments to externalrelations@wmata.com.

Set up a Briefing!

If you are curious about the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, visit www.dullesmetro.com to contact us.

In addition, rail project officials will be glad to visit your civic group, professional or business group or your homeowners association to update you on Phases 1 and 2 of the Silver Line. Email us at outreach@dullesmetro.com or call 703-572-0696 or 703-572-0506.