CONSTRUCTION HITS 86 PERCENT COMPLETE

Numbers time gain!
Overall, construction of Phase 2 of the Dulles Metrorail Project is 86 percent complete as of the end of August.

This number includes construction of aerial guideways, tracks, stations and pedestrian bridges, which are included in Package A of the project being built by Capital Rail Constructors, and construction of the 90-acre rail yard along Route 606, which is being built by Hensel Phelps.

Work continues on all six stations in Phase 2 and on the pedestrian pavilions at those stations and related bridges and support facilities such as traction power substations that will control the flow of power to the tracks.

Old Meadow Road Traffic Study Finished; New Plan Coming

A traffic study on a proposal to completely close Old Meadow Road at Route 123 during work to realign Old Meadow has been completed.

Test results show it will not be feasible to completely close Old Meadow because of heavy traffic flows during prime rush hour.

Details of the study are now being analyzed and new design plans are expected in a few weeks.

Work Continues On Route 7 and 123 in Tysons

Contractors completed pipe cleaning repairs on Routes 7 and 123. Additional work in these areas began mid-September. Drivers should pay close attention to signage on both.

Testing, Testing All Along the Tracks

What is an Amberg IMS 5000?

Workers constructing Phase 2 of the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project recently rolled out a strange-looking piece of equipment called an Amberg IMS 5000, not exactly a name that rolls off the tongue or alludes to any visual inference.

The tool, which somewhat resembles a yellow scooter, has been employed by the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) and purchased by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) to survey and assess project data on Phase 2 of the Silver Line.

The equipment was manufactured in Switzerland by Amber Technologies AG. One person maneuvers the three-wheeled trolley along the track alignment as a multidimensional scanner and computer system mounted on top records the position of an object based on pre-determined orientation points.

In unofficial terms, it tells you how the location of one object compares to the location of another object. And then another object. And another. The process continues until all relevant object locations have been assessed to produce a report comparing the location of one object, such as a Metrorail train car, to another object, such as a wall or a hanging
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sign.

On the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, these orientation points have been placed by Capital Rail Constructor crews on track walls, safety walk troughs and other stable locations.

“This equipment will provide detailed reports about the project to better guarantee a safe environment,” said John Kearney, construction manager for the project. “For example, the equipment has the ability to tell us that the Metrorail train car will pass safely underneath an overhead road sign, through a station or passed a train moving in the opposite direction.”

Transportation enthusiasts should start gearing up for more project accomplishments. This is one of the early steps in the process that will allow crews to begin placing railcars on the track for testing, project officials said.

WMATA is the first institution in the United States to obtain the Amberg IMS 5000 for surveying railways and surrounding structures. Permission to geek out granted!

Contact the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project’s Communications and Outreach Office at 703-572-0506 or outreach@dullesmetro.com. To report construction concerns, call the Project Hotline at 1-844-385-7245.