

Purple Line Extension Construction Updates

Welcome Elsie & Soyeon, the Purple Line Extension's Twin TBMs

Last week, a ceremonial naming and unveiling was held for the tunnel boring machines (TBMs) that will dig twin, four-mile subway tunnels under Wilshire BI for the first section of the Purple Line Extension.



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Now that the TBMs have been named as tradition, here's what will be happening next:

- Beginning in July 2018, assembly of the two TBMs begins at their temporary home in Riverside. It will take about 8 to 10 weeks to assemble them.
- The two TBMs are then trucked to the Wilshire/La Brea Station Yard in 80 pieces, the heaviest piece weighing 330,000 pounds.
- The TBMs are anticipated to launch in mid-September 2018 and begin chewing their way east to the Wilshire/Western Station.

Century City Leads the Way in Section 2 Construction

Currently, the design-builder for Section 2, Tutor-Perini/O&G (TPOG), is busy constructing the sound walls for the staging yard on Century Park East. TPOG plans to begin demolition in May at 1940 and 1950 Century Park East to create space for the construction staging yard, as well as removing trees from the public right-of-way on Constellation Bl between Avenue of the Stars and Century Park East.

Towards the end of the month, TPOG will begin preparations for the 15-month closure at Constellation Bl and Century Park East to create the launch box for the tunnel boring machines. During the closure, there will be no public access to the driveway on the north side of Constellation Bl.



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For more information about the 15-month closure at Constellation BI and Century Park East, [click here](#).

K-Rail Set-up on the South Side of Wilshire BI in Beverly Hills

Stage 4 of advance utility relocation (AUR) for the Wilshire/Rodeo station will start on May 29. This work will require K-rail to be placed on the south side of Wilshire BI between Crescent Dr and Reeves Dr. As a result, Wilshire BI will be reduced to 2 lanes in each direction through July 2018. For detailed traffic control and turn restrictions, [view the construction notice](#).

Bus Stop Relocations in Westwood

Advanced utility relocation (AUR) has begun in Westwood and is anticipated to take 2 years to complete. During the utility relocation, nighttime bus routes will be relocated to accommodate the construction activities around Wilshire/Westwood. Metro Bus Lines 234, 602, and 734 will be rerouted through Kinross Av and Veteran Av from 9pm to 6am, Monday through Thursday, and from 9pm, Friday to 6am, Monday.



Metro Bus Operations has worked diligently with seven other transit agencies to ensure accessible bus connections for all our riders. Proper signage and details will be provided via construction notices.

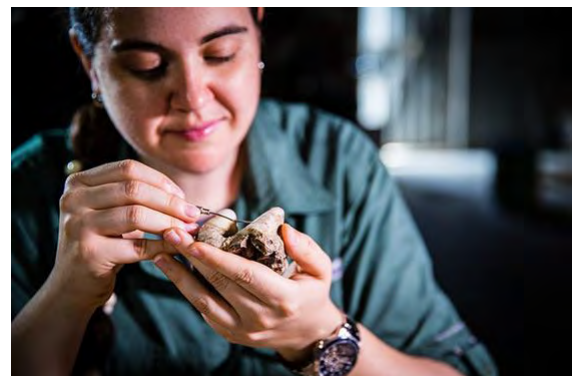
For the bus information visit metro.net/advisories or call 323.GO.METRO.

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Bounty of Fossil Discoveries Continue, Why Does it Matter in Modern LA?

Part 2 of 2

Dr. Ashley Leger, the Paleontological Field Director for Cogstone Resource Management, leads a team that works closely with the project team to identify and preserve fossils found during construction of the three new stations. Leger and team have found pieces of Ice Age animals ranging from a giant ground sloth to a duck-sized bird—several thousand years old—many from the excavation of the Wilshire/La Cienega Station, where the expectation of finding fossils was low.



In Part 2 of this question and answer with Leger, the Purple Line Extension asks why these discoveries are important and why fossils and bones are so rare.

I know that you are eager to find a carnivore in the next round of discoveries. Why does that matter

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Carnivores are important because they are rarer. If you think how many antelope live in Africa and how many lions live in Africa, there are considerably more antelopes and gazelles than lions, because the lions have to have enough food to keep eating animals. So, statistically, there must be more prey animals than predators. Finding a carnivore would tell us more about the history of the Ice Age—what was eating all these animals we are finding—and it paints a picture for everyone: scientists, staff working underground, anyone studying the history of Los Angeles. When we paint a picture of the Ice Ages—bisons, mammoths, camels, horses—your brain images a calm scenario. As soon as I mention the saber-tooth cat or dire wolf, it completely changes the dynamic in your mind. It puts stalking-type animals in the background of this scene—you can imagine an animal that is going to run down and attack. From a paleontologist's perspective, who doesn't want to find a saber tooth skull with those beautiful teeth?

Is it unusual to find this wealth of fossils and bones in a dense urban area?

It's unusual to find a dense grouping of bones anywhere, especially a place that is a concrete jungle. One reason why this is so unusual is that, how often do you get to dig an 80-foot-deep hole in Los Angeles?

Do colleagues from other cities tell you they are jealous of what you are finding?

Around the world. Colleagues from the Netherlands and Sweden, for example.

I know that one of the reasons these finds are so special is that approximately one percent of animal bones are discovered. That's the estimate.

The bones are exposed to weather and water, and water is great for eroding everything. And they are exposed to predators. Predators chew on them and fight over them and break them apart to get at the marrow. Once you have broken apart a bone, it will erode even more rapidly. This is seen globally with road kill. Those bones very shortly disappear.

Eat Shop Play Local



New Eat Shop Play Business Partners in Century City

#EatShopPlay #Century City is proud to be partnered with [Habanero Grill](#) and [The Shave Place](#) conveniently located at Century Park Towers. [Habanero Grill](#) offers handcrafted Mexican cuisine creating flavorsome, traditional dishes using fresh, local ingredients. While [The Shave Place](#) offers a unique male spa experience with an upscale twist, specializing in the art of straight razor shaves and men's haircuts.

Please continue to support local businesses impacted by Metro construction. Visit metro.net/riding/eatshopplay/ for the entire list of businesses to support!

Metro News

Tunneling machines for Purple Line Extension given names and artwork

A ceremonial naming and unveiling was held Wednesday morning for the tunnel boring machines that will dig twin four-mile subway tunnels under Wilshire Boulevard for the first section of the Purple Line Extension. Tunneling is expected to begin later this summer.

[More from The Source](#)



Introducing Draft Metro's Vision 2028 Plan

In L.A. County, mobility is everything. Our ability to get around is directly related to our region's future, its economic and social promise and our quality of life. Now is the public review period for the draft Metro Vision 2028 Plan.

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Golden Valley High School students traveled to prom in style

More than 500 students and chaperones from Golden Valley High School in Santa Clarita took Metrolink to their prom this past Saturday. The prom train traveled from Santa Clarita Station to Union Station, where the students then boarded the Metro Red Line to complete their trip to Hollywood/Highland.

[More from The Source](#)



Upcoming Events

Section 1 & 2: La Cienega Station and Rodeo Station Monthly Update Meeting

Wednesday, May 2 | 6:30pm - 8pm | Beverly Hills Public Library

Section 2: Construction Community Meeting

Thursday, May 24 | 6:30pm - 8pm | Century Park Towers

Section 3: Pre-Construction Community Meeting

Thursday, June 21 | 6:30pm - 8pm | Westwood United Methodist Church

[Event Details](#)

Stay Connected

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