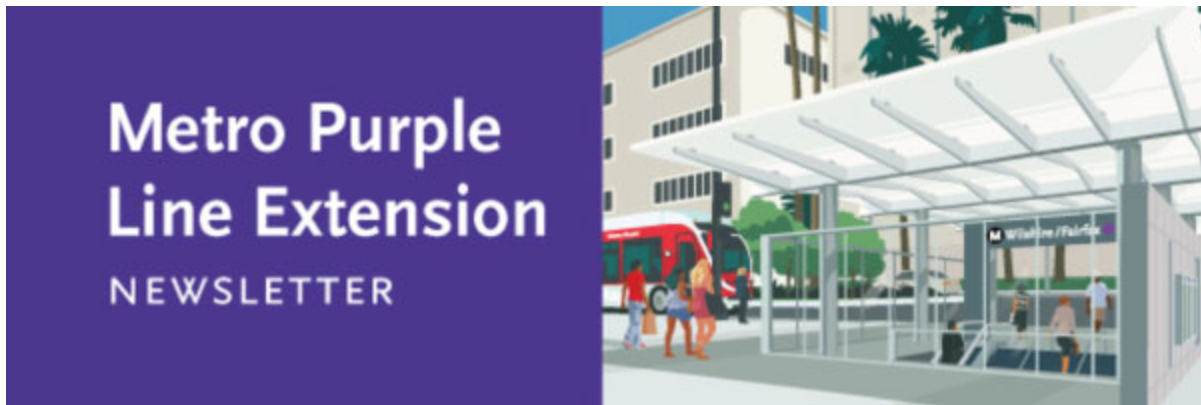


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## Tunnel Boring Machines: How They Work

While the giant cutter heads slowly spin at the front of the two tunnel boring machines (TBMs)—boring through the soil pressed against them—hydraulic arms at the rear of the machines are simultaneously building the twin tunnels connecting the Wilshire/Western Station and the new stations at Wilshire/La Brea, Wilshire/Fairfax, and Wilshire/La Cienega.

The TBMs accomplish this by inserting concrete segments into the newly mined tunnel. First, hydraulic arms press the segments into place. When the segments are placed (five segments create a “ring,” a complete circle), the TBM pushes against the ring to propel itself forward to grind away at the soil facing the cutter head—the TBMs have no other method of movement.

As the TBM pushes against the new ring, the machine’s operator injects grout through ports in the TBM to fill the void between the TBM and the ring.



*Photo Credit: Crossrail. Example of a TBM setting concrete tunnel segments from the Crossrail Project in London, England.*

Making this process more amazing is the number of tunnel segments required to complete the almost eight miles traveled by the twin tunnels in Section 1. Approximately 35,000 concrete tunnel segments will be pressed into action by the TBMs.

Each segment weights approximately 8,500 pounds, approximately the weight of three adult male African elephants. During one its 20-hour days, each TBM places an average of 40 to 45 segments. Because the Purple Line Extension Project uses a one-pass lining system, those concrete segments placed by the TBMs are the final tunnel lining.

[To learn more about the Purple Line Extension TBMs, click here.](#)

## Purple Line Extension Construction in Beverly Hills

The construction zone on Wilshire Bl west of La Cienega Bl will be removed early this month. As a result, the parking lanes on the north and south side of Wilshire Bl between La Cienega Bl and Robertson Bl will be restored.

Westbound 720 Metro riders will also be pleased to hear that they will be getting their stop back at Wilshire Bl/La Cienega Bl in front of 8501 Wilshire Bl

as a result of the construction zone removal and street restoration.

Over near the future Wilshire/Rodeo Station, advance utility relocation (AUR) is anticipated to be completed later this month.

## Century City/Constellation Temporary Bus Layover

Now that the full closure of Constellation Bl at Century Park East has been implemented, construction of the temporary bus layover can move forward. The temporary bus layover will be constructed in the median of Santa Monica Bl between Avenue of the Stars and Century Park East. Work is anticipated to start on October 15 and will take approximately 5 weeks to complete. Intermittent lane closures on Santa Monica Bl will be implemented throughout construction.



## Advance Utility Relocation for Purple Line Extension Continues into Fall Semester

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) has issued a "Letter of No Prejudice" (LONP) for Section 3 of the Purple Line Extension Project. This action by the FTA allows Metro to proceed with preliminary construction activities while awaiting federal grants to fully fund Section 3.

Metro expects to receive a \$1.3 billion grant in early 2019. The LONP also allows Metro to proceed with current tunneling bids, which could save an estimated \$130 million. The FTA's approval is an exciting step towards receiving a Full



Funding Grant Agreement for Section 3. Advanced utility relocation will continue through April 2020 and tunneling will begin shortly thereafter.

## Eat Shop Play in the Community

Eat Shop Play started the Fall season with a bang, making appearances all along the Purple Line Extension construction corridor, from Miracle Mile to Century City.

This last month, Eat Shop Play participated in the Tarfest Arts and Music Festival to promote local businesses. The campaign provided community members with new walking maps, making supporting local businesses more accessible.



Eat Shop Play not only participates in local events throughout the year but also holds spontaneous pop-up events! On September 20, Eat Shop Play held an event at Century Park and gave away Metro TAP Cards, freebies and construction information about the Constellation BI closure.

If you would like Eat Shop Play to make an appearance in your community contact us at [purplelineext@metro.net](mailto:purplelineext@metro.net).

## Metro Headlines

### Business Interruption Fund

### spotlight: Lashes by Shigeru

More from The Source >



### Fresh pics: scenes from Purple Line Extension's Wilshire/La Brea Station

More from The Source >



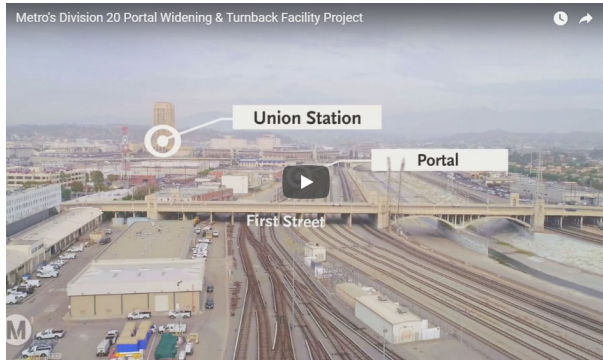
### A whale of a find in downtown Los Angeles at the Regional Connector project

More from The Source >



### Final study released for project to improve subway turnaround times at Union Station

More from The Source >



Construction is a dynamic process and information is subject to change without notice. For the latest construction updates visit our [project website](#).



# Upcoming Meetings



## [Section 1 & 2: La Cienega and Rodeo Station Update Meeting](#)

Wednesday, October 3 | 6:30pm - 8pm  
| 2nd Floor Municipal Gallery at Beverly Hills City Hall

## [Section 1: Construction Community Meeting](#)

Thursday, October 18 | 6pm - 7pm |  
LACMA Brown Auditorium

## [Section 2: Construction Community Meeting](#)

Tuesday, November 13 | 6:30pm - 8pm  
| TBD

## [Section 3: Pre-Construction Community Meeting](#)

Thursday, November 15 | 6:30pm - 8pm  
| TBD

[Vist Our Webpage >](#)

[Eat Shop Play Local >](#)

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**Bus & Rail Transit Information**  
323.GO.METRO (323.466.3876)  
6:30am - 7pm (Monday - Friday)  
8am - 4:30pm (Saturday/Sunday)

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