

# Dulles Metro is Coming

November 2011



**SILVER LINING CONNECTIONS:** Tunnel connecting two of the four Metrorail stations in Tysons Corner take on a silvery look as work progresses. Crews will soon begin laying track here. *Photo by Frank Jenkins, Dulles Transit Partners*

## It's the Silver Line - Officially; Metro Picks Color for Dulles Line

It's official. The 23-mile Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project will be called the Silver Line.

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (Metro) board approved the color for the new line last month after several months of debate.

Metro is now developing a new official map, which prompted lots of debates - and even a poll - to determine what to call the line which will run from East Falls Church to Ashburn when both phases of the project are completed in 2017. There had been talk

of calling it the Cherry Blossom Pink Line or even calling it some form of the Orange Line. However, Metro said more people favored the Silver Line.

Unofficially, the rail extension had been referred to by many, including the media, as the Silver Line for several years.



**A HIGH-FLYING VISITOR:** This Red-Shouldered Hawk seems to be enjoying the ever-changing Tysons Corner landscape from this perch on the scaffolding stairs at the Tysons East Metrorail Station on the northwest side of Route 123 at Colshire Drive. The station will be the first stop on the westbound rail and is in easy walking distance of the Gates of McLean, Northrup Grumman, Mitre Corp. and commercial properties owned by CityLine. *Photo by Chuck Samuelson, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project*



**MOVING WEST ALONG ROUTE 7:** Dulles Transit Partners' (DTP) crews continue to build bridges for the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project in the median of Route 7. This photo captures construction near dusk with the Sheraton Tysons in the background. A huge bright yellow horizontal crane is being used by DTP subcontractor Rizzani, an Italian company that has done bridge-building around the world. *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](http://www.dullesmetro.com) or call (703) 572-0506.

## Tysons Traffic Delays Easing as Holiday Shopping Begins While Work Continues

### Tunnels Almost Ready for Track Work; Late-Night Spring Hill Road Closings Planned

With the holiday shopping season just around the corner, drivers taking advantage of the two major malls and other stores, restaurants and hotels for holiday parties should know that traffic delays caused by Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project construction will be far less than during the past two holiday seasons.

That is because a lot of the roadwork and other construction impacting roads is beginning to wind down. In fact, lane closings along Route 7 during daytime hours are minimal, and road work on Route 123 related to rail is infrequent.

However, drivers will encounter some late-night closings, the most significant of which will be on Spring Hill Road at Leesburg Pike. Here, some full closures at the intersection will be scheduled late at night between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Detailed information about these closures and accompanying detours will be announced as soon as they are finalized. Businesses and residents of that area will be given details of the work as soon as possible. Traffic alerts will be issued as needed. If you want to sign-up to get traffic alerts by email, visit [www.dullesmetro.com](http://www.dullesmetro.com) or email [outreach@dullesmetro.com](mailto:outreach@dullesmetro.com).

Meanwhile, the project is about to celebrate another major milestone. Construction of the tunnels that connect two of the stations in Tysons Corner is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Then the inbound and outbound tunnels will be turned over to the track subcontractor who will begin laying rail in each one.

Already track is being set in many parts of the 11.6-mile Phase 1 alignment, including atop some guideways (bridges) and in the median of the Dulles Connector Road.

Each of the five stations, all well under construction, continue to make significant progress. Large cranes lift massive, 30-ton concrete beam supports into place at the Tysons East and West stations, while complex, multi-level excavation and slabs are

#### TRAFFIC ADVISORY SIGN UP

Keep up to date on construction. Please visit [www.dullesmetro.com/info/signup.cfm](http://www.dullesmetro.com/info/signup.cfm) to sign up for our traffic advisory/construction notification email blasts.

#### WANT TO KNOW MORE?

To set up a briefing for your homeowners association, civic group, professional or business group, or business, please email [outreach@dullesmetro.com](mailto:outreach@dullesmetro.com) or call (703) 448-5550.

#### CONSTRUCTION HOTLINE

For construction-related emergencies, call the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project Hotline at 877-585-6789.



EXTREMELY VISIBLE: Construction continues on the Wiehle Avenue Metrorail Station in the median of the Dulles International Airport Access Highway/Dulles Toll Road, just west of the Wiehle Avenue overpass. Photo by Chuck Samuelson, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project

poured at the Tysons Central 123 and Central 7 stations. The Wiehle Avenue Station is the farthest along - the first escalators have been delivered.

The two large bright yellow and blue horizontal cranes (trusses) that have been so visible in Tysons Corner all year continue their marches toward completion of aerial bridges.

On Route 123, the truss has crossed the main entrance of Capital One Drive and will continue constructing bridge spans toward the east side of I-495. When that work is completed, that truss will be disassembled and reassembled in the median of the Dulles International Airport Access Highway near Route 7 to begin work there.

The truss currently in the median of Route 7 is moving west toward the Tysons West Station, being built west of Spring Hill Road. The truss now is working between Westpark Drive/Gosnell Road and Spring Hill Road.



MAKING THE CONNECTION: Crews continue to fine-tune connections between the Silver Line and the existing Orange Line. Photo by Chuck Samuelson, Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project