

## Wok & Grill

Lunch options are a plenty in Downtown Pittsburgh, especially in the vicinity of Fifth Avenue Place.

If you are looking for an alternative to greasy fast-food, Wok & Grill, located in the second-level of Fifth Avenue Place, could be your answer to the lunchtime hunger.

Wok & Grill has been located at Fifth Avenue Place (along Stanwix Street between Penn and Liberty avenues) for a decade. The establishment specializes in Chinese cuisine sure to make your taste buds water in anticipation.

“Our food is different,” Manager Lisa Kwok said. “We specialize in homemade sauces. I believe it is a very healthy choice to have lunch or an early dinner here.”

Kwok said their beef and chicken teriyaki along with their spicy chicken dishes are the most popular choices by their customers.

“We don't use any MSG either,” she said. “Plus our vegetables are simply steamed in water and there are no additives.”

Wok & Grill is open between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sundays.

For more information, please call **412.391.3334**.

## Project Quick Facts

**Project Name:** North Shore Connector

**Length:** 1.2 miles from Downtown to the North Shore

**Cost:** \$435 million

**Location:** Downtown Pittsburgh's Central Business District and North Shore

**Three New Stations:** Allegheny, North Side and Gateway

**Projected Ridership:** Average weekday ridership is expected to reach 14,300 by 2025. The projected annual ridership for 2025 is 4.2 million.

**Completion of Construction:** Scheduled for 2011

**Current Status:** Construction is underway

STATION NAME	LOCATION
Gateway	Downtown Pittsburgh - Underneath Stanwix Street between Penn and Liberty Avenues
North Side	North Shore - Adjacent to General Robinson Street and Tony Dorsett Drive
Allegheny	North Shore - Above Allegheny Avenue and Reedsdale Street

## Have Questions, Need Info?

Submit your questions to: The Scoop - Media Relations Department/ Port Authority of Allegheny County/ 345 Sixth Avenue/ Pittsburgh, PA 15222 or online at [PortAuthority.org](http://PortAuthority.org).

# THE SCOOP

KEEPING YOU ON TOP OF WHAT'S GOING DOWN WITH THE NORTH SHORE CONNECTOR

## Pittsburgh's Newest Gateway

When Port Authority's new Gateway Subway Station is open and ready for service in 2011, residents and visitors will be greeted by a sparkling new facility, complete with a clear, glass-topped canopy which allows outside light to filter into the platform area below and commuters will enjoy a panoramic view of the Golden Triangle as they enter the station. The new T station will “clearly” be an attractive, yet functional, landmark addition to Downtown Pittsburgh.

Construction of the North Shore Connector, a 1.2-mile extension of Port Authority's light-rail system linking Downtown Pittsburgh with the North Shore, is making the current Gateway station obsolete.

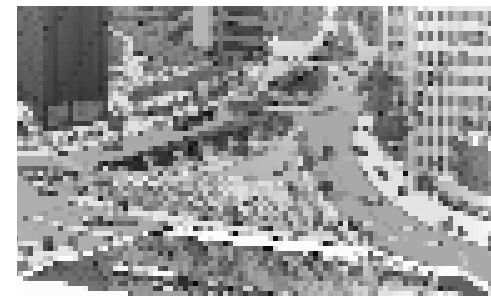
Built in the early 1980s, the current station was constructed to accommodate PCC trolleys which only have an operating cab at one end. Because Gateway Station is the rail line terminus, a track loop had to be constructed to enable inbound PCCs to turn around and travel back towards Station Square and on to the South Hills. Although this loop was beneficial to the PCC trolleys, which are no longer in operation, it created significant wear and tear on the modern light rail vehicles (LRVs). The loud screeching noise the LRVs make when traveling around the loop is a clear (and annoying!) indication that stress is being put on the vehicles.

With the PCC trolleys retired and modern LRVs in operation that have operating cabs at both ends, the loop is obsolete. In addition, the alignment of the North Shore Connector, whereby trains will travel under Liberty Avenue and turn right under Stanwix Street towards the Allegheny River and North Shore, requires the construction of a new station.

Port Authority originally pursued the option of keeping the current Gateway Station open during the construction of the new alignment and station, but with rising construction costs and passenger and worker safety concerns, it unfortunately became clear that the station had to be closed.

Construction of the new Gateway Station shell was advertised for bid in February. Bids are due back to Port Authority April 15.

An attractive plaza outside the new station will be an aesthetic addition to Downtown Pittsburgh. The plaza will include a garden area, trees and seating area. A historic rendering of the former city street grid in the Golden Triangle area will be etched to scale at the tip of the plaza triangle located opposite Stanwix Street, recalling transportation days of the past.



Another aspect of the station includes the rehabilitation and transferring of a valuable and well-known piece of art. Preservation crews will meticulously disassemble and transport the ceramic tile mural titled “Pittsburgh Recollections,” by Pittsburgh native the late Romare Bearden to the new station where commuters, residents and visitors will continue to enjoy its colorful depiction of the our region for years to come.

Pittsburgh Recollections stands 13-feet high by 60-feet wide and is anchored to a concrete wall. Workers will need to cut behind the wall to extract the artwork piece by piece.

More than \$1 million in non-traditional funding has been committed to the station plaza project. The Heinz Endowments has committed \$750,000 and the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources pledged \$200,000. The Pittsburgh Foundation also generously donated \$100,000 towards the completion of this project.

Although the closing of the Gateway Station will be an inconvenience, the new station will offer modern transportation service as well as add an attractive architectural focal point entryway to Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle.



## Allegheny Station

In just a couple of years, people en route to Heinz Field, Carnegie Science Center, and the soon-to-be constructed Majestic Star Casino will have a fast, efficient and carefree option for getting to their destinations.

The Port Authority's North Shore Connector, a 1.2-mile extension of the light-rail system, the T, will link the South Hills, Downtown Pittsburgh, and the burgeoning North Shore. Revenue service is slated to begin in 2011.

When completed, residents from Pittsburgh's South Hills will no longer need to battle clogged highways and packed parking lots when taking in one of the multiple attractions along Pittsburgh's North Shore and in the City's North Side neighborhoods. They can simply park their vehicle at one of the many available park and ride locations along the T and ride the rails to the North Shore.

One of the components of the extension will be the sparkling (literally since it will feature glass walls) new Allegheny Station located directly adjacent to Heinz Field. Allegheny Station will serve as the last stop on the line and will give riders easy access to destinations such as Heinz Field,

Carnegie Science Center, Community College of Allegheny County, North Shore Park and the Majestic Star Casino.

The above ground, open-air glass and metal-paneled station will span Allegheny Avenue near the intersection with Reedsdale Street. The station pavilion will be located 35 feet above ground near the current site of the UPMC Sportsworks.

"This station was designed with the community and neighborhood in mind," Project Manager Jerry Marinzel said. "We met with the Steelers, Carnegie Science Center, and the North Side Leadership Council. All of them had input into the final design of the station. We feel that it will be a great addition to the neighborhood."

One aspect of community input involved using glass-panels on the station to allow for a view of Mt. Washington, Marinzel said.

Final design by architecture firms Burt Hill and Zimmer, Gunsul, Frasca Partnership is slated to be completed in late March. Bids are tentatively scheduled to be advertised in early 2009 with construction slated to begin later that year.

## Geotechnical Instrumentation

Crews working on the North Shore Connector project are keeping tabs on progress both above and below ground.

While some of the project's progress is visible to people in both the North Shore and Downtown areas, much of the work taking place is out of sight, but definitely not out of mind.

North Shore Constructors has placed numerous seismographs in the vicinity of the heaviest work; near the Equitable Resources building and Sports and Exhibition Authority garage on the North Shore and on Penn Avenue Place, 625 Stanwix Tower and Garage and Gateway Center Two building in Downtown Pittsburgh.

Engineers can download information from each instrument in order to accurately monitor ground vibrations in the area. Should vibrations exceed a certain threshold, crews will be dispatched to the site for an investigation and corrective action will be taken if necessary.

However, the 500-ton tunnel boring machine will create little if any vibration that can be felt above ground. "No one should feel anything when the machine passes below them," North Shore Constructors Assistant Construction Manager John Murray said. "They shouldn't even know we are there."

The seismographs were also utilized to measure vibrations created by excavation equipment used at both the launch pit on the North Shore and the receiving pit located under Stanwix Street.

The seismograph is only one of the many types monitoring instruments being used throughout the project.

Contractors are also using observation wells to monitor any changes in the ground water table. Convergence gauges and extensometers monitor any deflection in nearby buildings. Inclinometers monitor any movement below ground and hundreds of survey monitoring points surround the project to catch any change to ground surface elevation.

Vital points surrounding the tunnel boring machine are surveyed many times a day in an effort to track unforeseen changes.

With this kind of care being demonstrated by Port Authority and its contractors, people should be able to conduct their day-to-day activities above ground without having any knowledge of what's going on under their feet.



LOCATION	ACTIVITY	START	COMPLETION
<b>Stanwix Street:</b> Closed to through traffic.	Work necessary for construction of the TBM receiving pit. Full closure (use of sidewalks and access to garage maintained)	Work began in July 2007	The street will be fully reopened to traffic in mid-April. Partial opening from Ft. Duquesne Blvd. to parking garage in February. Work activities will continue below ground.
<b>Stanwix Street:</b> Closed northbound between Liberty and Penn avenues	Utility relocation work; sewer line construction.	Work began in July 2007	Remains closed. Scheduled to open in mid-April.
<b>Penn Avenue Extension (PAE):</b> Two lanes between Stanwix Street and Liberty Avenue	Support activities for receiving pit excavation and construction.	Work began in September	Scheduled to open in mid-April.
<b>Fort Duquesne Blvd.:</b> Near intersection with Stanwix Street.	Utility work by Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority underway.	Work began in November.	North Shore Connector work complete. Periodic lane restrictions continue.
<b>West General Robinson Street:</b> from the intersection of Mazerowski Way to the entrance of the Sports and Exhibition Authority's parking lot	Duquesne Light continues utility work. Supply deliveries for tunnel boring activities.	Work began in February 2007	Temporary intermittent lane restrictions continue.
<b>Reedsdale Street:</b> between Art Rooney Avenue and Tony Dorsett Drive	Utility work complete: Support of excavation activities and construction of 1,500 feet of tunnel below Reedsdale Street and the North Side Station shell continue.  (access to parking lots maintained)	Work began in February 2007.	One lane of eastbound Reedsdale Street is open.

To sign up to receive email alerts and information about the North Shore Connector Project, contact Dave Whipkey at 412.566.5137 or [dwhipkey@portauthority.org](mailto:dwhipkey@portauthority.org).

**Construction Information 24/7**  
**Construction Hotline: 412.566.5222 Web site: PortAuthority.org**

# SCOOP Up the SAVINGS

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Source: Scoop Up The Savings

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Participation in Scoop Up The Savings is free to all businesses within the North Shore Connector construction zone. Each participating retailer is encouraged to place an advertisement or offer an incentive such as a percentage off discount, a buy-one-get-one or a free item with purchase. Scoop Up The Savings is sponsored by the Port Authority and Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership. To participate in or ask questions about the program, please call **412.566.5137**.