

Gateway Eye Associates

From diagnosing and treating sight-threatening diseases and disorders to offering the latest in eyeglasses and contact lenses, Gateway Eye Associates provides comprehensive eye care for all members of the family.

Dr. Myhanh Dang and Dr. Mark Clement have a high-tech vision for diagnosing and treating their patients. The doctors are primary caregivers for patients of all ages beginning at six months, with specific emphasis on detection and treatment of eye disorders and diseases. For example, Gateway Eye Associates is the first optometric practice in Pittsburgh using Optical Coherence Tomography to detect blinding diseases such as glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetes. The doctors also do on-site testing for dry eye disease, Computer Vision Syndrome and laser corrective surgery.

Gateway Eye Associates offers the latest technology in eyeglasses and contact lenses. It is also the exclusive Pittsburgh provider of brands such as Tag-Heuer, Oakley, FCUK Vision, Juicy Couture, TRY! CHANGE and Kazuo Kawasaki.

Dr. Dang was awarded her Doctor of Optometry degree from Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia after completing her undergraduate studies at Washington and Jefferson College. Dr. Clement also graduated from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, and served as class president from 1995-97. Both doctors are active in local, state and national optometric societies.

Gateway Eye Associates offer numerous programs throughout the year to save you money and to educate you on the latest breakthroughs in eye care.

Now through December 31, 2007, Gateway Eye Associates is holding its annual holiday promotion. Save 50 percent off your second pair of prescription eyeglasses or sunglasses with the purchase of your first pair.

**Two Gateway Center Suite 150
412-471-9838**

Open Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-5:30 PM
Closed daily from 2:00 PM-2:30 PM
www.gatewayeye.com

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 - Underneath 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.

THE SCOOP

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

Boring Machine Makes Exciting Move

Progress on the North Shore Connector is picking up.

Crews working to assemble the components of the tunnel boring machine (TBM) that will be used to dig twin light rail tunnels underneath the Allegheny River between the North Shore and the Golden Triangle lowered the 500-ton behemoth November 20 into the launch pit, located near the intersection of West General Robinson Street and Mazerowski Way.

Members of the media were given an opportunity on the mild November afternoon to get a first-hand look at the machine, manufactured by Herrenknecht A.G. of Schwanau, Germany, as it was lifted by a large gantry crane. Over the course of almost five hours, the crane slowly inched along its own guideway until it was positioned over the pit and then gently lowered the TBM into the 55-foot deep pit.

Some assembly is still required on the machine, which was delivered to the North Shore in early August. The first testing phase of boring operations, which will advance the machine about 60 feet, will begin this month. After the start of the New Year, crews are scheduled to bore another 150 feet, install the remaining trailing gear, and then begin tunnel boring in earnest.

Two trailing cars will accompany the TBM as it digs its way underground and under the river. One car will contain an operating team while the second vehicle will house supplies and tools.

Tunneling from the North Shore to Downtown Pittsburgh is expected to take between five and six months to complete, at which time the TBM will be turned around in the receiving pit, located under Stanwix Street between Penn Avenue and Ft. Duquesne Boulevard, before beginning to bore the second tunnel.

The TBM will be laser-guided as it makes its way under the river. Crews will bore the tunnels in two eight-hour shifts per day, progressing about 20-30 feet per day, with the back of the machine placing pre-cast concrete rings as it progresses.



The TBM will then use hydraulic forces to push off the placed concrete rings as it moves forward. A third eight-hour shift will be used to perform maintenance on the machine.

A bentonite-water mixture called slurry will be pumped to the TBM cutting head to facilitate boring. The material removed from the ground, along with the slurry, will be pumped through pipes back to a slurry separation plant above the surface, where the extracted material will be separated and the slurry reused.

The twin tunnels will sit approximately 45 feet below the river surface and 20-22 feet below the river bed.

Penn-Stanwix Intersection Closure Cancelled

Motorists expecting to see the intersection of Stanwix Street and Penn Avenue closed for 30 days this fall due to work on the North Shore Connector's receiving pit were met with a pleasant surprise.

The aforementioned intersection was scheduled to be closed October 15 while crews worked to build cement deep soil mix walls for the receiving pit, located under Stanwix Street between Penn Avenue and Fort Duquesne Boulevard. But machinery utilized for the walls' construction failed, forcing the contractor to use a different construction method that is not expected to close the intersection.

Crews have been working to construct cement bentonite walls that form the pit, into which the tunnel boring machine (TBM), creating tunnels under the Allegheny River, will arrive. An excavator will be used to create a trench, workers will install steel soldier beams to act as reinforcement, and cement grout will be injected into the trench. Similar grout will solidify surrounding soil as the tunnel boring machine makes its way from the North Shore to the receiving pit.

The receiving pit will be 45 feet long by 50 feet wide when completed. The TBM is expected to arrive downtown next summer.

Crews on Stanwix Street also continue to work on relocating utility lines, including the relocation of a 42-inch sewer line. The reopening of this portion of Stanwix Street is expected in February.

A portion of Penn Avenue extension also remains closed due to the presence of the jet grouting plant, which produces material for soil improvement and the receiving pit's support walls.

Removal of old railroad bridge support structures in intersection of Stanwix Street and Fort Duquesne Boulevard, which began in September, is complete. There will be intermittent lane restrictions as crews perform geotechnical instrumentation work.



LOCATION	ACTIVITY	START	COMPLETION
Stanwix Street - Closed between Fort Duquesne Blvd. and Penn Avenue.	Work necessary to relocate utilities, perform jet grouting and construction of the TBM receiving pit. Full closure. (use of sidewalks and access to garage maintained)	Work began in July 2007.	Street will be reopened to traffic in February. Work activities will continue below ground.
Stanwix Street - Closed northbound between Liberty and Penn Avenues.	Utility relocation work; sewer line construction.	Work began in July 2007.	Remains closed. Scheduled to open February.
Penn Avenue Extension (PAE) - between Stanwix Street and Liberty Avenue.	Jet grouting plant to remain through February.	Work began in September 2007.	Two lanes of PAE are restricted. Set to reopen in February.
Fort Duquesne Blvd. - Near intersection with Stanwix Street.	Geotechnical instrumentation work underway.	Work began in November 2007.	Periodic east and westbound lane restrictions continue.
West General Robinson Street - from the intersection of Mazeroski Way to the entrance of the Sports and Exhibition Authority's parking lot.	Duquesne Light continues utility work. Supply deliveries for tunnel boring activities. Launch pit work complete.	Work began in February 2007.	Temporary intermittent lane restrictions continue.
Reedsdale Street - 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.

Safety Not Lost on Port Authority

Safety concerns are always prevalent during major construction projects. The North Shore Connector project is no exception.

Port Authority and its contractors working at the North Shore Connector construction site have taken measures to ensure the safety of workers as they prepare to bore into the ground from the launch pit located near PNC Park, under the Allegheny River and to the receiving pit located under Stanwix Street.

Cave-ins and accidents at the tunnel site are a potential risk. But thanks to a myriad of Port Authority precautionary measures that follow regulations outlined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, Mine Safety and Health Administration and American Society for Testing Materials, the chance of such occurrences taking place has been dramatically reduced.

All those accessing the launch or receiving pits must complete an instruction class that covers issues such as assisted breathing and escape procedures should an accident occur. Those working in the tunnel complete a much more intensive training procedure.

There is also a methane gas detection system on the tunnel boring machine. The apparatus shuts down if threshold levels of gas are detected. This will eliminate a source of ignition for the gas.

Another safety precaution is use of a ventilation system being provided during tunnel construction. The system allows for the flow of 3,600 cubic feet per minute of fresh air into the tunnel area.

Temporary tunnel lighting is also installed during construction to provide illuminated and safe work areas, and fire extinguishers will be made available every 100 yards throughout the tunnel.

Project contractors have established specially-trained mine safety rescue personnel to be available should an accident occur. Local fire, police and EMS crews are briefed on the scope of the project as the landscape of the construction process changes.



Scoop Up the Savings

The temporary inconvenience of traffic cones, construction equipment, and vehicular detours near and along Stanwix Street in Downtown and West General Robinson and Reedsdale streets on the North Shore will not stop savvy shoppers, as establishments within these corridors are open for business.

That's why Port Authority and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership are continuing Scoop Up The Savings. This program offers free advertising and encourages patrons to continue patronizing businesses within the North Shore Connector Construction Zone. If your business would like to get involved in the program, call (412) 566-5277 for more information.

As a reminder, sidewalks within the North Shore Connector Construction Zone remain open to pedestrians; a pedestrian walkway is available to permit safe crossing of Stanwix Street within the construction zone. Office buildings, restaurants, convenience stores, and beauty salons along Stanwix Street and Penn Avenue, and within Fifth Avenue Place, North Shore and the Cultural District are all open during construction.

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

SCOOP Up the SAVINGS

Whether you're shopping or dining, enjoy these great discounts from some of Pittsburgh's finest businesses and retailers.

Clip the coupons below and use them at your favorite stores. Get The Scoop on the North Shore Connector and save some green.

KING'S JEWELRY

Fifth Avenue Place - 1st Level

Free Professional Jewelry Cleaning and Inspection

One piece of jewelry per visit, per customer.
Valid through 02/1/08. Valid only at indicated location.
Source: Scoop Up The Savings

STEAKESCAPE

Fifth Avenue Place - 2nd Level

10% off entire order.

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Source: Scoop Up The Savings

TALL GIRL

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10% off any regular price purchase at Tall Girl.

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.
Valid through 02/1/08. Valid only at indicated location.
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



Hair Fashions by Howard

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625 Stanwix Street
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222
412.232.0044
412.471.1333



Fifth Avenue Place - 2nd Level

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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.