

# THE SCOOP

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

## Additional Grant Received To Fund Removal Of Bearden Mural

Yet another grantor has bestowed a generous gift that will help with the restoration of a well-known mural located in Port Authority's Gateway T station.

The Pennsylvania Council on The Arts pledged \$5,700 towards the removal of Romare Bearden's "Pittsburgh Recollections" that is currently located on the platform level of the Gateway T station.

Once restored, the mural will be reinstalled in the new Gateway T Station which is scheduled to be open in 2011.

The mural, which stands 13-feet tall and spans 60-feet wide, depicts Pittsburgh's social and cultural history and covers the far platform level wall in the station. It will be removed from its current location as crews close the current Gateway T Station in mid 2009 to make way for a new and improved subway station as part of the North Shore Connector Project.

Pittsburgh Recollections was created using 780 ceramic tiles fabricated by Bennington Potters, Inc. of Vermont. Each fired clay tile was applied with glazes in the colors and patterns of Bearden's design and mounted to the wall surface.

The Romare Bearden mural has called the platform level of the Gateway T Station home since 1984. The mural will be once again on display in the new Gateway T Station when the North Shore Connector opens in 2011.

The original cost of Pittsburgh Recollections was approximately \$90,000 and was part of Port Authority's Public Art Program in its Downtown subway stations undertaken in the early 1980s. The Public Art Program was funded by the National Endowment for the Arts, Benedum Foundation,

Federated Investors, Hillman Foundation and the PPG Industry Foundation.

The mission of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA) is to foster the excellence, diversity and vitality of the arts in Pennsylvania and to broaden the availability and appreciation of those arts throughout the state.

The PCA is governed by a Council of 19 members—15 private citizens and four members of the General Assembly. Citizen members are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. The Council sets the mission and goals for the agency, evaluate the PCA's progress toward these goals, formulate policy, and makes final decisions on the use of funds.

Approximately \$665,000 is needed to remove and restore the mural. Port Authority also received a \$250,000 grant from The Heinz Foundation and a \$45,000 grant from The Fine Family Foundation earlier this year toward the mural project.



# Observation Windows Offer a View of Connector Construction

Ever want to see for yourself what's going on behind the construction barriers? Now's your chance to get a glimpse of crews working on the new Gateway Station as part of the North Shore Connector project.

In late January, three Plexiglas observation windows were installed in the construction barrier wall along Stanwix Street next to Fifth Avenue Place, allowing people to see firsthand the construction underway on the new Gateway T Station.

"This will allow folks a chance to watch the construction of the new station from the ground up," said Gateway Station Construction Project Manager Liza Fuller. "If you are in the neighborhood, we encourage you to stop by and see the progress for yourself."

The three 4-foot by 2-foot windows allow observers to witness the excavation work and in the near future, the actual construction of the new subway station.

"We are still doing a lot of the preliminary work associated with the new station," said Ms. Fuller. "We are currently placing large steel beams into the ground, called 'piles,' to get the area ready for full-scale excavation."

Crews are preparing to begin injecting jet grout into the soil, a process that involves installing concrete approximately 60 feet below ground level, which prevents ground water from seeping into the excavated area.

"We should start the brunt of the station excavation sometime in the spring," said Ms. Fuller. "As the weather warms up, people that are walking to work or to lunch can take the opportunity to get a behind the scenes look at the construction going on below ground."

The new station will be open and ready for service in 2011.



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## Slurry Plant Comes Down

A fixture on Pittsburgh's North Shore is in the process of coming down.

With the tunnel boring work complete, the slurry plant located across Mazerowski Way from PNC Park is being disassembled. The facility provided slurry for the tunnel boring machine (TBM) as it mined twin tunnels under the Allegheny River.

Slurry, a material made of water and clay, was pumped to the cutter head of the TBM to facilitate the tunnel boring process. Material removed from the earth along with the slurry was transported back to the slurry-separation plant where the earthen material was separated and the slurry was reused.

Disassembling the plant began in January and will take two-to-three months to finish. Each piece of equipment are being loaded on to flatbed trucks and taken to a local storage facility.

"North Shore Constructors, JV leased the plant from the manufacturer (Herrenknecht AG of Germany)," said Tri Gold Construction Manager Steve Minassian. "It will be returned to them now that the tunneling is finished."

Crews can be observed working on disassembling the plant on a daily basis as truckloads of equipment is hauled away from the site.

"We're getting closer each day to having the plant removed from the site," said Mr. Minassian.

As with the tunnel boring machine, all the slurry plant components may be refurbished and the plant may be used by Herrenknecht AG for another similar project in the future.

Baseball fans attending PNC Park this spring and summer will also be pleased to know the current site of the slurry plant will be restored and be available for parking.

"We should have the site cleared and ready to go for Opening Day for the Pirates (Monday, April 13, 2009)," said Mr. Minassian.





LOCATION	ACTIVITY	START	COMPLETION
<b>Stanwix Street:</b> Closed between Fort Duquesne Boulevard and Penn Avenue.	Construction activities related to building of new Gateway T station.	January 2009.	Will reopen to traffic in late summer 2009.
<b>Stanwix Street:</b> Closed between Liberty and Penn avenues.	Construction of new Gateway T station.	August 2008.	Will remain closed until station construction is completed in 2011.
<b>Penn Avenue Extension:</b> Closed inbound and outbound.	Construction of new Gateway T station.	January 2009.	Will reopen to traffic in late 2009.
<b>Liberty Avenue:</b> Periodic nighttime closures at the intersection with Stanwix Street	Installation of support piles related to construction of Gateway T station.	February 2009.	Through March 2009.
<b>Reedsdale Street (Eastbound lanes):</b> Closed between Allegheny Avenue and Tony Dorsett Drive	Utility work related to construction of station structure. Access to parking lots maintained and Reedsdale Street opened to traffic on special event days.	September 2008.	Will remain closed through 2010.
<b>Reedsdale Street (Eastbound lanes):</b> Closed between Sproat Way and Allegheny Avenue	Demolition of Miller Print building.	October 2008.	Spring 2009.

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**

# North Shore Connector Project Benefits

- The North Shore Connector will effectively and efficiently link North Shore attractions and destinations to those in Downtown Pittsburgh and Station Square.
- The North Shore Connector will serve and enhance the approximately \$1 billion of new development that has been completed or is planned for the North Shore, including Del Monte and Equitable Resources headquarters, PNC Park, Heinz Field and Marriott Springhill Suites, while also serving current destinations such as the Carnegie Science Center, Community College of Allegheny County and other cultural, business and residential destinations.
- Residents and visitors will have a fast and efficient way to access the many restaurants, hotels, entertainment complexes, cultural attractions, employment centers and residential developments in Downtown Pittsburgh, Station Square and North Shore.
- North Hills commuters can park-and-ride from the 924-space North Shore garage at parking rates lower than those in the Golden Triangle and travel Downtown on the T by accessing the North Side Station underneath the garage.
- South Hills residents can park at any park and ride lot along the T for a traffic-free ride to the many attractions and destinations in Pittsburgh's North Shore and North Side communities.
- The ability to store light rail vehicles (LRVs) on the tail track, located just west of Allegheny Station, will enable Port Authority to quickly and efficiently serve high volumes of passengers following the conclusion of events taking place on the North Shore.
- With the 1.2-mile extension of the T to the North Shore, Port Authority will improve the efficiency of bus service through techniques such as trunk and feeder system for North Hills bus routes. Buses traveling from the North Hills could terminate at Allegheny Station and transfer riders onto the T to continue their trip into Downtown Pittsburgh.
- This trunk and feeder service design would not only reduce bus congestion in Downtown Pittsburgh and provide a traffic-free ride into the CBD, but also enable Port Authority to increase average bus operating speed, allowing for more trips on a route, without increasing service hours and cost.
- Enables future expansion of the T to the Airport Corridor, the North Hills, Strip District and other areas within Allegheny County.
- Supports hundreds of local jobs and provides millions of dollars in revenues to local businesses.

# Shoppers Can Easily Find Serendipity

Those with a sharp eye for the latest in fashions can find what they are looking for at Serendipity, located on the first floor of Two PPG Place in Downtown Pittsburgh.

Serendipity co-owner Pete Coppola, who owns the store with his wife Kimberly, said those looking to accessorize their wardrobe can find what they need at his establishment.

“We offer anything and everything that can help add to someone’s wardrobe,” said Mr. Coppola. “Especially for those looking to dress outside the box, we have just what they are looking for.”

Serendipity, whose slogan is “Accessories to Express Yourself,” offers everything from jewelry to scarves to watches to sunglasses to other items that can accentuate the special look a fashionista is looking to achieve.

“All trends, colors and color palates are available here,” said Mr. Coppola. “We can help those with the keenest of fashion sense develop a special look via our colorful accessories.”

Serendipity moved into their current location last June. They were previously located in Oxford Centre three years prior to the move to Two PPG Place.

Mr. Coppola said he and his wife sell items in a diverse price range.

“It all depends on what you are looking for,” he said. “You can find prices on purses between \$48 and \$3,000.”

The Coppolas travel the country looking for the best in fashion items to pass on to the people of Pittsburgh.

“We select a wide array of accessories that are sure to please,” said Mr. Coppola.

Serendipity is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For more information, please call 412-325-1122 or log on to [www.serendipityaccessories.com](http://www.serendipityaccessories.com).

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## 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

**Completion of Construction:** Scheduled for 2011

**Current Status:** Construction is progressing on schedule

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).

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.

## C&C News & Snax

2 PPG Place

**Mix & Match Deal**  
25 cents off any purchase of:

1 Candy Bag or  
1 Candy Bar or  
1 Large Popcorn

PLUS

1 Tea or  
1 Soda or  
1 Water

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated locations.  
Source: Scoop up the savings

## Chocolate & Chances

400 Stanwix Street

**Mix & Match Deal**  
25 cents off any purchase of:

1 Candy Bag or  
1 Candy Bar or  
1 Large Popcorn

PLUS

1 Tea or  
1 Soda or  
1 Water

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated locations.  
Source: Scoop up the savings



**Buy any Toasted Wrap combo meal at regular price get a Toasted Wrap for only .99**

Coupon valid at both locations PPG food court and 963 Liberty Avenue.  
[www.fernandoscafe.com](http://www.fernandoscafe.com)  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



## Hair Fashions by Howard

Open for business during street construction

625 Stanwix Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222  
412.232.0044  
412.471.1333

# TALL GIRL

Fifth Avenue Place - 1st Level

**10% off any regular price purchase at Tall Girl.**

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated location.  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



Fifth Avenue Place - 2nd Level

**10% off entire purchase.**

Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated location.  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



Fifth Avenue Place, PPG Place Food Court and 441 Smithfield Street.

**10 percent off any food purchase at any Downtown Pittsburgh location**

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated locations.  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



107 Fifth Avenue Place

**10 percent off any wrap or panini sandwich, \$1 off any salad.**

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 3/27/09. Valid only at indicated locations.  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings

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.

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Restrictions apply. Valid through 3/27/2009.