

# THE SCOOP

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

## Tunnel Boring Machine To Be Disassembled

After nearly a year of mining the twin tunnels for the North Shore Connector project, the 500-ton tunnel boring machine (TBM) has successfully completed its task here in Pittsburgh—but that doesn't mean its tunneling days are over.

Built by Herrenknecht AG of Schwanau, Germany, the machine recently reached the launch pit located near PNC Park on Pittsburgh's North Shore on January 15, thus finishing the second of the project's twin tunnels mined under the Allegheny River. And with that, construction crews will begin the task of carefully disassembling the tunnel boring machine and preparing the machine for its return to Herrenknecht AG.

But first, a concrete retaining wall built to prevent the slick liquid slurry from spilling out into the work area of the launch pit when the machine "holed through" must be torn down.

"It is basically a concrete cube that is braced by several steel beams," said Tri Gold Construction Manager Mike Hebor. "The cube is in place to not only contain slurry, but ground water as well."

Once the construction crews complete the removal of the concrete cube, they can begin the process of taking apart the TBM, taking care to not damage the machine in order to preserve it for possible future tunneling missions.

"There is a specific sequence to the disassembling process," said Mr. Hebor. "The TBM is a complicated piece of machinery and it cannot just be torn apart. It will be disassembled very carefully and painstakingly taken out of the tunnel piece by piece."

Mr. Hebor said the disassembling and removal of the TBM from the launch pit site will take several months to complete. The TBM will then be returned to Herrenknecht AG and stored locally until the manufacturer decides on a final disposition of the machine.

"It may be returned to Germany or be refurbished for another project in the future," said Mr. Hebor.



# Boris Completes His Digging

The light at the end of tunnel is in sight for Boris, the cartoon badger synonymous with the North Shore Connector's "Bore to the Shore" logo.

Since arriving in Pittsburgh, Boris has worked day and night to make Port Authority's North Shore Connector, a 1.2-mile extension of its light rail system that will link Downtown Pittsburgh with the North Shore. His hard work is about to pay off handsomely as he watches the tunnel boring machine (TBM) mine its way through the final stages of excavating the second tunnel.

"What can I say? I feel like a proud parent," said the hard-working badger as he took a short break from his work. "We've truly reached a milestone by finishing the second tunnel."

Boris was there when the TBM began mining the first tunnel in January 2008. He was instrumental in helping bring the machine into Downtown Pittsburgh last summer and he was a driving force in helping to mine the second tunnel in approximately four months.

"It feels like just yesterday we went below ground and began the mining process," said Boris. "In a little less than one year, we were able to dig both tunnels under the Allegheny River. This is truly an accomplishment that the tunnel project crews should be very proud of."

Although completing the twin 2,200-foot tunnels under both the Allegheny River and urban terrain is one of the most significant accomplishments of the North Shore Connector project, there is still much work to be done before the project can be deemed complete.

"My goodness, we still have a lot of work to do," said an excited Boris. "We still have new stations to build such as the Gateway, North Side and Allegheny station facilities. We also still have track to install. Yes, we can celebrate this achievement of finishing the tunnels, but I along with everyone else involved in this project will not rest on our laurels."

Along with his physical labor, Boris is lending a hand promoting the North Shore Connector.

"Every chance I get, either at a Steelers game at Heinz Field, or when I'm taking my family of little badgers to the Carnegie Science Center, I remind people how much easier it will be to get to these destinations when the project is completed," said Boris. "Folks will be able to take to the rails to the North Shore instead of sitting in traffic or searching for hard-to-find parking spaces."

The North Shore Connector is scheduled to be open for revenue service in 2011.

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## Working Towards A New Gateway Station

If you frequent the Stanwix Street business corridor near Fifth Avenue Place and Gateway Center in Downtown Pittsburgh, you have no doubt noticed the large scale construction that is currently taking place in the area.

Crews from North Shore Constructors II JV, a joint venture of Trumbull Corporation and Obayashi Corporation, are digging deep as they construct a new Gateway Subway Station under Stanwix Street.

Initial work on the new station, including relocation of underground utilities and installation of steel support piers known as soldier piles to assist with excavation, began last fall. The work is progressing as planned according to Tri-Gold Project Manager Michael Hebor.

"We still have some utilities to relocate and finish up the support of excavation activities, but all in all, we're right where we should be with construction," said Mr. Hebor. "We are getting closer to beginning the major excavation on the project."

Crews will dig 35 feet below ground and advance approximately 350 feet from the Tunnel Boring Machine's receiving pit to the site of the new station using "cut and cover" tunnel construction technique. The cut and cover technique involves crews digging a trench and installing steel support piers and walls to support the sides of the excavation.

As the walls are completed, crews will excavate and prepare the area for tunnel and station shell construction. After the tunnel and station shell construction work is finished, the area will be covered and the roadway will be restored.

To facilitate this work, the intersection of Penn Avenue and Stanwix Street along with Stanwix Street from Penn Avenue to Fort Duquesne Boulevard was closed January 8, 2009. The closures will remain in affect through summer 2009.

Access to the parking garage located at 625 Stanwix Street will be

maintained from Fort Duquesne Boulevard throughout the street closures.

Motorists may use Sixth Street, Liberty Avenue, Commonwealth Place and Fort Duquesne Boulevard as alternate routes.

When Port Authority's new Gateway T Station is open and ready for service in 2011, residents and visitors will be greeted by an attractive new facility, complete with a glass-topped canopy that allows outside light to filter into the platform area below. The new T station will "clearly" be an attractive, yet functional, landmark in Downtown Pittsburgh.

A landscaped plaza outside the new station will be an aesthetic addition to Downtown Pittsburgh, as well. 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.





LOCATION	ACTIVITY	START	COMPLETION
<p><b>Stanwix Street:</b> Is currently closed between Fort Duquesne Boulevard and Penn Avenue.</p>	<p>Construction activities related to building of new Gateway T station.</p>	<p>Work began January 2009.</p>	<p>Will reopen to traffic in late summer 2009.</p>
<p><b>Stanwix Street:</b> Closed between Liberty and Penn avenues.</p>	<p>Construction of new Gateway T station.</p>	<p>Work began in August 2008.</p>	<p>Will remain closed until station construction is completed in 2011.</p>
<p><b>Penn Avenue Extension:</b> Around-the-clock inbound and outbound closure is scheduled to begin in January 2009.</p>	<p>Construction of new Gateway T station.</p>	<p>January 2009.</p>	<p>Penn Ave. Extension will reopen to traffic in late 2009.</p>
<p><b>Liberty Avenue:</b> Intersection with Stanwix Street</p>	<p>Utility work related to construction of new Gateway T station.</p>	<p>Work began in February 2008.</p>	<p>Periodic nighttime restrictions at intersection through January 2009.</p>
<p><b>Reedsdale Street (Eastbound lanes):</b> Between Allegheny Avenue and Tony Dorsett Drive</p>	<p>Utility work related to construction of station structure. Access to parking lots maintained and Reedsdale Street opened to traffic on Game Days.</p>	<p>Work began in September 2008.</p>	<p>Long term closure to continue through 2010.</p>
<p><b>Reedsdale Street (Eastbound lanes):</b> Between Sproat Way and Allegheny Avenue</p>	<p>Demolition of Miller Print building.</p>	<p>Work began in October 2008.</p>	<p>Demolition scheduled to be completed by spring 2009.</p>

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.

# Crazy Mocha Fits The Bill For Coffee Lovers

It is no secret that Pittsburghers love their coffee at any time of the day.

With Crazy Mocha's eight Downtown locations, a steaming cup of coffee, delicious mocha latté or light snack is close by for workers needing a boost morning, noon and night.

Crazy Mocha Owner Ken Zeff opened his first Crazy Mocha store in 2000 along Ellsworth Avenue in Shadyside. Since then, his caffeinated and non-caffeinated empire has grown to 20 shops across the region with eight located in Downtown Pittsburgh.

"We're definitely a 'pick-me up' for those who need it throughout the day," he said. "We cater to those working in downtown, college students or those just looking for a good cup of coffee."

Crazy Mocha serves the best in premium coffees along with blended drinks, teas, mochas, hot chocolate, Italian sodas, fruit smoothies (in season) and scrumptious baked goods.

"We also offer free wireless Internet access in all our stores," said Mr. Zeff. "That's definitely a plus for those who want to stay in touch with work or do schoolwork when they stop in for some refreshment."

Along with the various Downtown locations, Crazy Mocha also has shops conveniently located for T riders in the Steel Plaza Subway Station and One Gateway Center.

Mr. Zeff said a ninth Downtown Crazy Mocha location is scheduled to open at 11 Stanwix Street in March 2009.

"I'm a big supporter and big believer of the development that is taking place Downtown," said Mr. Zeff. "I look forward to enjoying the same kind of success along Stanwix Street as I have at the other locations."

Crazy Mocha's other locations are in the Allegheny Building on Forbes Avenue near Grant Street as well as in Bloomfield (two locations), Oakland (two locations), Shadyside, Lawrenceville, Sewickley, South Side Works and nearby Washington, PA.

The shop located in Steel Plaza is open between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m. on weekdays. The One Gateway Center location is open between 6:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays.

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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 Tea or
1 Candy Bar or	PLUS	1 Soda or
1 Large Popcorn		1 Water

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 2/27/09. 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 Tea or
1 Candy Bar or	PLUS	1 Soda or
1 Large Popcorn		1 Water

Taxes excluded. Limited one purchase per customer.  
Valid through 2/27/09. 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 2/27/09. Valid only at indicated location.  
Source: Scoop Up The Savings



Fifth Avenue Place - 2nd Level

**10% off entire purchase.**

Valid through 2/27/09. 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 2/27/09. 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 2/27/09. 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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