

Tunnel boring begins at future Great Northern Way-Emily Carr Station

October 6, 2022

The Broadway Subway Project Corporation (BSPC) is in your neighbourhood building the Broadway Subway Project. We are getting ready to launch the first tunnel boring machine (TBM) from Great Northern Way, which is a critical milestone in the project and begins the next phase of construction activity. We encourage you to check out the viewing windows installed in the fencing along Great Northern Way near Thornton Street to see Project progress.

What to Expect

Residents and businesses in the area should expect a period of elevated noise as the TBM begins boring under Great Northern Way. The noise related to boring is expected to decrease as the machine moves fully underground. People will also notice additional site noise related to the tunnel ventilation system, the movement of construction materials and equipment, the conveyor belt system, increased trucking traffic and civil works related to the construction of the future Great Northern Way-Emily Carr Station.

Measures being taken to mitigate the anticipated noise of ongoing site activities include:

- Managing the schedule to do noisier work during the daytime to reduce nighttime disruption
- Minimizing the need for machinery backing up and using white noise backup signals on equipment
- Using rubber tires on equipment where possible
- Installing noise barriers (fence panels with insulation) around noise sources
- Monitoring noisy activities so that mitigation measures can be adapted as needed

The TBMs will be tunneling approximately 15-20 metres underground. Vibrations should be unnoticeable at the surface, however minor vibrations similar to when large equipment is operating in the area may be felt at some times. As part of the preparation for tunneling, crews performed extensive geotechnical work to understand the underground conditions. In addition, a monitoring system has been implemented at key locations along the tunnel alignment.

We know that construction can be disruptive, and we are working hard to minimize impacts in your neighbourhood. Thank you in advance for your patience. Updates will be provided at broadwaysubway.ca/construction, and the location of the work can be viewed on a map at: broadwaysubway.ca/construction/maps/.

Work Hours

Tunnel boring activities will take place 24/7 for approximately the next fourteen months during excavation of both tunnels.

Contact the Project



24/7 Construction
Information Line
1-844-815-6114



Project Information
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