

November 1, 2023, Community Meeting Q&A

Meeting Summary:

The fall 2023 community meeting for the Northern Bus Garage Reconstruction Project was hosted virtually on November 1, 2023. The project team shared project updates and answered questions from the community. The topics covered included: team introductions/project overview and updates, environmental management update, a look ahead, and what to expect next quarter.

Project Overview and Updates

Q: Is the project subject to noise ordinance restrictions?

A: Metro complies with the District of Columbia's various noise regulations for construction. Details regarding the District's noise regulations for construction projects can be found by visiting the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA) website. Additionally, Metro posts monthly project monitoring reports, including noise and vibration, on the project's [webpage](#).

Q: Can the walkway along Decatur be open during the day since there is no heavy construction during that timeframe?

A: The walkway is temporarily closed as a safety precaution. We will continue to evaluate construction progress and will reopen the walkway when it is safest to do so. At that point, we will construct a new sidewalk for pedestrians to use.

Q: What efforts are the project team making to ensure parking is available for community members? With all the activities in the community, parking along Buchanan and the west side of Arkansas from Buchanan is becoming harder to secure.

A: We've reserved parking in Columbia Heights at the DC USA mall for all of the on-site construction workers. They are being shuttled each morning and each evening from DC USA to the project site limiting parking impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

Q: Will the budget shortfall impact the project's purchase of 150 battery electric buses?

A: We do not expect any impacts to this project related to Metro's budget gap.

Q: What are the authorized work hours and days for this project?

A: Construction work hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and on Saturday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Q: Why wasn't the site wrapped prior to demolition to contain airborne and settled dust?

A: The contractor has engaged in a standard dust control program, consistent with the Department of Energy and Environment (DOEE) requirements.

Q: Are there opportunities for local and small businesses to participate in the project?

A: Small business owners interested in participating in Metro's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program and the Small Business Program can find more information on our [Small Business Programs Office](#) webpage. Our contractor, Clark Construction, also engages the local workforce through their employment processing center.

Environmental Management Update:

Q: Is the referenced Comprehensive Site Assessment report which was submitted to DOEE among the documents available on the construction website?

A: Yes, the Comprehensive Site Assessment (CSA) report is available on the project's [webpage](#).

Q: Is there information regarding environmental surveys or assessments available for the public to review?

A: Yes, we have environmental resources available on the project's [webpage](#).

Q: What assistance is available to us to remove dust residue from our impacted properties?

A: WMATA has asked that impacted property owners complete the claim form available online. The Clark project team will review the claim with property owners to ensure all required information is submitted. Claim forms will be submitted to Clark's risk department by the team's safety manager. Claims will be assigned to an adjuster by Clark's insurance company. The insurance adjuster will contact the property owner to schedule an inspection of the reported damage.

What to Expect in 2023 & Beyond:

Q: Is the project on schedule? What are the significant milestones in 2024?

A: Yes, the project is on schedule right now. Looking ahead to 2024, the major operation that will occur beyond the cast-in-place concrete will be starting structural steel erection for the new building. This work is expected to begin late spring.