



**Notice of Public Hearing
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
Proposed Vent Shaft Modification
to Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail Station
Washington, DC
Docket R25-01**

Purpose

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority on a proposed Vent Shaft Modification to Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail Station, in Washington, DC as follows:

Open House 6:00 p.m.

Hearing No. 665
6:30 p.m., Thursday, January 9, 2025
Henry Benson DC Gallery
707-709 7th Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Please note that these dates are subject to each facility's cancellation policy. In the event of a cancellation, Metro will post information about a new hearing on <https://wmata.com/plansandprojects>

The locations for all Metro public hearings are wheelchair accessible. Sign language interpretation will be provided. Any individual who requires special assistance or additional accommodation to participate in these public hearings, or who requires these materials in an alternate format, should contact the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary at 202-962-2511 or TTY: 202-962-2033 as soon as possible in order for Metro to make necessary arrangements. For language assistance, such as an interpreter or information in another language, please call 202-962-1082 at least 48 hours prior to the public hearing date.

For more information, please visit <https://wmata.com/plansandprojects>



In accordance with Section 62 of the WMATA Compact, Metro will conduct public hearings at the locations listed in this notice. Information on this hearing will be provided in Metrorail stations, Metrobuses, at area libraries and online at wmata.com.

HOW TO REGISTER TO SPEAK AT THE PUBLIC HEARING

All organizations or individuals desiring to be heard with respect to this docket will be afforded the opportunity to present their views, make supporting statements and to offer alternative proposals. Public officials will be allowed five minutes each to make their presentations. All others will be allowed three minutes each. Relinquishing of time by one speaker to another will not be permitted.

Individuals can provide testimony at the hearing in one of three ways:

In person: Individuals wishing to provide testimony in person during a hearing are encouraged to pre-register by emailing speak@wmata.com or calling (202) 962-2511 by 12 p.m. the day of the hearing at which you wish to testify. Please submit only one speaker's name per request. Individuals can also sign up at the hearing to provide testimony; advance registration to provide in-person testimony is not required.

By videoconference: Individuals wishing to provide testimony via videoconference are required to furnish, in writing, their name and organizational affiliation, if any, via email to speak@wmata.com by 5 p.m. the day prior to the hearing at which you wish to testify. Please submit only one speaker's name per request.

By telephone: Individuals should call (206) 899-2028 during the hearing and enter Meeting Code 529 975 140#.

HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY NOT AT A PUBLIC HEARING

Testimony about this proposal may be submitted at <https://wmata.com/plansandprojects>. This website will open by 9 a.m. on Saturday, December 7, 2024, and will close at 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2025. The website will also provide the opportunity to upload documents and submit freeform comments. This is in addition to your ability to speak at a public hearing. For those without access to computers or internet, testimony may also be mailed to the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary, SECT 2E, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, P.O. Box 44390, Washington, DC 20026-4390. All comments must be received by the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary by 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, to be included in the public record. Please reference "Gallery Place Vent Shaft" in your correspondence.

The comments received by the Office of the Board Corporate Secretary, along with the survey results and public hearing comments, will be presented to the Board and will be part of the official public hearing record. Please note all statements are releasable to the

public upon request, and may be posted on WMATA's website, without change, including any personal information provided.

For those who do not have access to computers or internet, note that copies of the docket in its entirety can be requested from Metro's Office of the Board Corporate Secretary by calling 202-962-2511, and are available for inspection during normal business hours at Metro's Headquarters at 300 7th Street SW, Washington, DC 20024. Please call 202-962-2511 in advance to schedule an appointment.

WHAT IS PROPOSED

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) proposes to modify a vent shaft of the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail station (Proposed Project), which serves the Capital One Arena and Chinatown neighborhood of Washington, DC. The vent shaft modification for the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail Station would allow for future construction activity over the existing vent sidewalk grate.

Vent Shaft Modification

The proposed project is located within the construction perimeter of the Capital One Arena Modernization project that includes the Gallery Place Expansion. WMATA's Gallery Place – Chinatown Metrorail Station is within the vicinity of this project. The WMATA vent shaft is proposed to be modified, however there will be no significant changes to the operational aspects to the vent shaft system of the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail station.

The relief vent shaft for the WMATA tunnel is to be extended towards the east, to allow for future construction activity over the existing vent sidewalk grate. Rather than the existing sidewalk grate to discharge the air from the vent shaft, there will be a sidewall louver at the face of the building. The construction of the vent shaft extension will take place while the existing relief vent is active, and it is anticipated there will be no down time to the system.

REFERENCE MATERIAL AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

The docket consists of this Notice of Public Hearing, an environmental report, and general plans for the Vent Shaft Modification to the Gallery Place-Chinatown Metrorail Station. These documents are available online at <https://wmata.com/plansandprojects> and may be inspected during normal business hours at the following location:

WMATA, Office of the Secretary
300 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024
202-962-2511
(Please call in advance to coordinate)

You can also request to have these materials mailed to you by calling the Office of the Secretary at 202-962-2511.

WMATA COMPACT REQUIREMENTS

WMATA's Compact requires that the Board, in amending the mass transit plan, consider current and prospective conditions in the transit zone should the project be built. The transit zone includes DC and considerations include, without limitation, land use, population, economic factors affecting development plans, existing and proposed transportation and transit facilities, any dislocation of families or businesses; preservation of the beauty and dignity of the DC Metro Area; factors affecting environmental amenities and aesthetics, and financial resources. The mass transit plan encompasses, among other things, transit facilities to be provided by WMATA, including stations and parking facilities, and the character, nature, design, location and capital and operating cost thereof. The mass transit plan, in addition to designating the design and location of transit facilities, also provides for capital and operating expenses, as well as "various other factors and considerations, which, in the opinion of the Board, justify and require the projects therein proposed" all as more particularly set forth in WMATA's Compact.

The environmental report and general plans for the project are available for public review at the locations identified in the reference materials section above.

The work and changes depicted in this information package constitute the proposed amendment to the mass transit plan for purposes of the WMATA Compact.