Underground metro digs deeper

Works are continuing behind the Central Station Metro hoarding as excavation continues to build the new Sydney Metro underground platforms.

A concrete traffic deck has been built at ground level to allow more than 40 trucks to access the site every day and remove the excavated materials.

At the same time, excavation is taking place, digging 27 metres below Central Station to build the Sydney Metro underground platforms.

Up to 4,000 tonnes of earth is currently being excavated each week and loaded onto trucks.

A 135 tonne crane was installed in July. It will be used for excavation and lifting steel modules into place for pedestrian tunnel changes later this year. A second crane will also arrive on site before the end of the year as works continue.

To enable ongoing excavation, changes have been made to some of the pedestrian tunnels below Central Station. New pedestrian pathways will be available to ensure 270,000 daily customers can continue to make their way around the station.

Sydney Metro is Australia’s biggest public transport project. Services started in May 2019 in the city’s North West with a train every four minutes in the peak. Metro rail will be extended into the CBD and beyond to Bankstown in 2024. There will be new CBD metro railway stations at Martin Place, Pitt Street and Barangaroo and new metro platforms at Central.

In 2024, Sydney will have 31 metro railway stations and a 66 km standalone metro railway system – the biggest urban rail project in Australian history. There will be ultimate capacity for a metro train every two minutes in each direction under the Sydney city centre.

Laing O’Rourke is delivering the new Sydney Metro platforms under Central Station as well as the landmark Central Walk - a new underground pedestrian concourse to help customers get around Sydney’s busiest railway station.
A look at Central’s past and present

Work to build the new underground Sydney Metro platforms at Central Station has uncovered a glimpse of the area’s history as part of detailed archaeological investigations.

In the 1800s, the area where Central Station now stands was the Devonshire Street Cemetery. In December 1900, the area was chosen to be the site of the new Central Railway Station.

Despite many of the graves being removed prior to the construction of Central Station in 1901, over 70 grave sites and seven vaults have been uncovered.

A team of specialised archaeologists are on site undertaking the excavation activities including, hand excavating, surveying and drawing the graves and sifting through the sands to recover finds.

All graves sites and any human remains are managed as part of the Central Station archaeological program.

Artefacts including coins, rings and coffin fixtures have been identified as well as sandstone vaults, gravesites and fragments of human remains. Structures that were part of the original Central Station have also been uncovered.

Did you know?

A new concourse will be built to reach the new metro platforms. The concourse will run north to south between the existing lower Northern Concourse and the new Central Walk Concourse. The metro platforms will be accessible from the North-South concourse by new lifts and escalators.
Three-month lookahead

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity (subject to change)</th>
<th>October</th>
<th>November</th>
<th>December</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Excavating within the metro site</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Completion of traffic deck within metro box</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Piling and excavating 20-28 Chalmers Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. Relocating Customer Service Attendant and stand-by guard rooms on all Platforms 16-23</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. Constructing concrete edge beams on Platforms 17, 21 &amp; 22 for Central Walk</td>
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<td>6. Removal of roof canopy within the upper Northern Concourse</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. Installing new power and communication cables</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. Demolish first stage of the Southern Baggage Tunnel</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. Suburban Tunnel diversion implemented</td>
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<td>●</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Installing hoarding on Platform 16-17 for Central Walk works</td>
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<td>●</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Central Station Metro design and construction update

Central Station is Sydney’s transport gateway and this upgrade to provide Metro services will make it easier for customers to use the station and connect to public transport services.

Construction is now underway for the Central Station Metro works, which includes:

- Excavation and construction of the new underground Sydney Metro platforms at Central
- Construction of Central Walk - a new 19-metre wide underground concourse
- An upgrade to the Northern Concourse, with transformed pedestrian thoroughfares and a feature roof
- Installation of new escalators and lifts directly to Platforms 12 to 23 for the first time.

A Station Design and Precinct Plan for the Central Station Metro works has been prepared, outlining how the design of the metro platforms and Central Walk has been developed. The draft plan will be available online for feedback later this year at https://centralstationmetro.com/documents.

Community information sessions will be held to provide an update on the design and construction activities underway within the station and at 20-28 Chalmers Street.

Central Precinct Renewal

Separate to the Central Station Metro works, Transport for NSW is exploring opportunities to revitalise the wider Central Precinct. Planning is underway following the Central Precinct being nominated as a State Significant Precinct because of its social, economic and environmental importance.

If you would like to join the Central Precinct mailing list and receive project updates, please email projects@transport.nsw.gov.au. Find out more about the Central Precinct Renewal Program at transport.nsw.gov.au/projects.

Want to stay in touch?

If you’d like to receive project updates via email, please contact us at centralstationmetro@transport.nsw.gov.au to be added to the distribution list.

Contact us

For more information, enquiries or complaints, please contact us at:

- 1800 171 386 24-hour community information line
- centralstationmetro@transport.nsw.gov.au
- sydneymetro.info
- facebook.com/SydneyMetro
- Sydney Metro PO Box K659, Haymarket NSW 1240
- If you need an interpreter, please call TIS National on 131 450 and ask them to call 1800 171 386.