



Roadheaders are being used to excavate the cavern and turnback tunnels at Hunter Street Station.

Tunnelling progress at Hunter Street Station

The NSW Government is delivering Sydney Metro West – a new underground metro railway which will double rail capacity between Parramatta and the Sydney CBD, link new communities to rail services and support employment growth and housing supply.

Sydney Metro West stations have been confirmed at Westmead, Parramatta, Sydney Olympic Park, North Strathfield, Burwood North, Five Dock, The Bays, Pyrmont and Hunter Street in the Sydney CBD.

Sydney Metro has been granted planning approval to construct twin underground rail tunnels between Westmead and Hunter Street in the Sydney CBD for Sydney Metro West.

John Holland CPB Contractors Ghella Joint Venture (JCG) has been awarded the contract to build the tunnels for the Sydney Metro West – Eastern Tunnelling Package (ETP).

Hunter Street construction activities

There has been significant progress above and below ground as part of construction works for Hunter Street Station.

Three roadheaders are operating underground to excavate the Hunter Street Station cavern and turnback tunnels. This work is in preparation for two tunnel boring machines (TBMs) to carve out the 3.5-kilometre twin metro tunnels from The Bays, finishing at Hunter Street in the Sydney CBD.

Structural demolition is underway at the Hunter Street West site, on the corner of George Street and Hunter Street. Demolition activities are continuing at the Hunter Street East site, including soft stripping inside the buildings and installing scaffolding on the outside.

Demolition works

Structural demolition has begun at Hunter Street West, with the removal of the existing buildings at 312 and 318 George Street. Demolition of the other buildings on the Hunter Street West site is expected to start in early 2024.

Hoarding has been installed around both sites and two tower cranes are supporting demolition works, while scaffolding is due to be installed to full height by the end of this year.



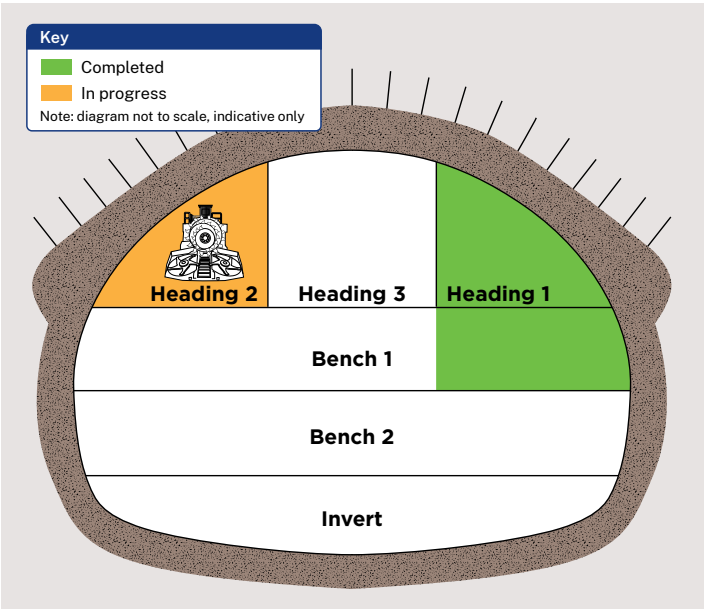
Two tower cranes are facilitating demolition works at Hunter Street.

Excavation and tunnelling approach

Excavation of the Hunter Street Station underground cavern and turnback tunnels is being done in three stages.

First stage - headings

The first stage is called the heading, which involves cutting the cavern roof using a roadheader. The machine cuts out up to 3.5 metres of rock at a height of around 8 metres before installing ground support, which includes rock bolts (metal rods) and shotcrete (sprayed concrete). Due to the size of the station cavern, the heading is split into three smaller sections which are excavated separately. This allows each section of the tunnel to be supported before the cavern is fully widened.



The stages of underground cavern excavation at the Hunter Street Station site.

Second stage - benches

The second stage is called benching and involves removing rock below the heading using a roadheader and rock hammer. For the Hunter Street Station cavern, two bench levels are required. This stage is generally completed more quickly than the heading and the benches are excavated to the full width of the cavern.

Third stage - invert

The final stage is the invert, which involves cutting the floor of the cavern. This requires trimming of the curved tunnel floor with a roadheader to the full width of the cavern. The invert will be completed in late 2024.



The first heading in the Hunter Street Station cavern has been excavated.

Six month construction lookahead

Activity (subject to change)	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Utility and geotechnical investigations	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Site surveys and installation of building and ground monitoring equipment	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●	●●●
Installing scaffold, building support and retention work	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●
Demolishing existing structures using heavy machinery	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●
Excavation of station cavern	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●
Excavation of turnback tunnels	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●	●●
Hunter Street East ● Hunter Street West ● Some out of hours works required ●						

Heritage highlights

The Hunter Street Station site footprint includes the former Skinners Family Hotel, which is heritage-listed. The building, located on the corner of George Street and Hunter Street, was built in 1845 and is one of the few Old Colonial Regency buildings remaining in the Sydney CBD. This was part of the network of corner hotels built in the 19th century which provided a social venue and budget accommodation in the city.

Thorough planning and delicate construction work will ensure this historic building is preserved and can be incorporated into the future over station development of Hunter Street Station.



The former Skinners Family Hotel building stopped functioning as a hotel in the late 1800s and was a travel goods shop at the time this photo was taken in 1962. (Source: City of Sydney Archives–George Street Sydney–15/08/1962).



The current view of the heritage building at the Hunter Street West site.



The current view of the Hunter Street West site, looking from the corner of Pitt Street and Hunter Street.

Our community team

JCG has a team committed to working with the community as it delivers the project. The team will play an active role in getting to know and understand the local community to ensure that impacts on residents and local businesses are minimised.

Please contact the JCG community team on **1800 612 173** if you have any questions or would like to provide feedback about the ETP works at Hunter Street. JCG will continue to keep you updated on the progress of work in your area. If you would prefer to receive updates by email, please send a request to **MetroTunnelsJCGJV@transport.nsw.gov.au** and you will be added to the distribution list.

Work hours

Tunnelling work is being undertaken 24 hours per day, seven days a week until late 2025. Some work activities are conducted outside of standard construction hours. JCG acknowledges that this work continues to have an impact on many local residents and businesses, and thanks you for your patience and cooperation as we work on this city shaping project.

The Eastern Tunnelling Package team wishes you a safe and happy holiday. Hunter Street construction sites will be closed between Friday 22 December 2023 and Tuesday 2 January 2024 for the holiday period.

Respite hours

Respite periods will be implemented during rock hammering and other high impact activities. JCG consults directly with any impacted members of the community to understand their preferred timings for respite breaks during this work.

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Weekly email updates

Weekly email updates provide the latest information about upcoming work including roadheader excavation progress. If you'd like to receive these email updates, please send a request to **MetroTunnelsJCGJV@transport.nsw.gov.au** and we will add you to the distribution list.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact our project team:

1800 612 173 Community infoline open 24 hours
sydneymetrowest@transport.nsw.gov.au

Sydney Metro West
PO Box K659, Haymarket NSW 1240



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