



Project Manager, Kia Arbabi (far right) and his team have worked hard to complete construction at Sydney Metro's Northern Dive site, Chatswood

Construction complete at Chatswood making way for new Metro services

Construction at the Northern Dive site at Chatswood is complete, in preparation for services on the city portion of the Sydney Metro City & Southwest Project to start.

Over the last five years, successive Sydney Metro contractors have excavated, laid tracks and completed fit-out of the twin metro tunnels between Chatswood and Marrickville. This enabled commencement of train testing which is now in its final stages.

At Chatswood, Systems Connect (a joint venture between CPB Contractors and UGL Limited) also shifted the existing Sydney Trains T1 North Shore Line over to the western side of the rail corridor. This created space in the middle of the corridor to lay the new metro tracks required to connect the Sydney Metro City & Southwest project to the existing Metro North West Line. Once services start on the city section of the Sydney Metro City & Southwest project,

passengers will be provided with a seamless journey between Tallawong and Sydenham.

Chatswood was a key tunnel access point for the supply of equipment and materials to complete the tracklaying and fit out of new metro tunnels. Systems Connect also constructed the Northern Dive Services Building for tunnel monitoring and operational control.

The Metro North West Line and city section of the Sydney Metro City & Southwest Project are now fully integrated, with train testing underway ahead of passenger services starting in mid-2024.

Where the first City & Southwest tracks were laid

Sydney Metro City & Southwest track construction started at the Northern Dive at Chatswood on 11 January 2021. 31 kilometres of track was laid in the twin metro tunnels between Chatswood and Marrickville. Construction of the tracks took 18 months and more than 500 workers to complete. More than 40,000 cubic metres of concrete—enough to fill more than 16 Olympic swimming pools—was used to embed about 45,000 sleepers which supported 62 kilometres of Australian steel rails with a combined weight of about 4,000 tonnes.



Tracklaying started at the tunnel entrance in the Northern Dive, Chatswood.

Did you know?

3,200 people have worked more than 1 million hours to complete the mechanical and electrical fitout of the new Metro tunnels, stations and more than 400 utility rooms. This involved:

- Drilling about 300,000 holes
- Fitting about 52,000 brackets for cables, pipes and walkways
- Installing 65 kilometres of pipes
- Installing more than 130kms of cable trays and hundreds of kilometres of cable
- Fitting 482,000 of noise dampening acoustic panels



Custom made equipment was used to safely and efficiently drill more than 300,000 holes in the tunnels as part of the City & Southwest tunnel fitout.



Two of a total of 72 large tunnel ventilation fans needed to operate the extended network are housed in the Northern Dive Services Building.



The Northern Dive Services Building will support the safe operation and maintenance of the expanded Sydney Metro. It is home to essential services equipment such as transformers and switch rooms, which are required to power the twin metro tunnels.

Finish line in sight for testing program

After more than a year of intensive testing and commissioning (T&C) of the new city section of Sydney Metro City & Southwest Project infrastructure—including the twin tunnels, trains, and stations—the end is in sight for the T&C program.

All 45 trains in the combined metro fleet have now completed journeys across the full Metro North West Line and new City section. The performance of each train has been closely monitored, while replicating the turn-up-and-go metro timetable of a train every four minutes during peak periods.

Since the rigorous testing and commissioning program started in late April 2023, more than 9,000 hours of a total of 11,000 hours of testing have been completed along the 51-kilometre line between Tallawong and Sydenham.

This has included noise and vibration testing inside the trains and new tunnels.

Testing continues at each of the City section stations, which include six brand new stations as well as new dedicated metro platforms at Central and Sydenham.



Testing of the metro train fleet is in its final stages.



The extended Frank Channon Walk, a shared cycling and pedestrian path delivered by Sydney Metro, provides improved active transport access, amenity, and safety for users between Artarmon and Chatswood.