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PULSE

Your guide to Purple Line news,
information and events

MAY 2023



Matthew Pollack, PE, PMP

Message from Matt

It's an exciting time here at the Purple Line, as spring and summer bring even more construction -- and that means progress!

We've already begun station construction, and on the one-year anniversary of our new design/builder coming on board, Maryland Transit Solutions has 400 workers making progress at 60 construction sites from Bethesda to New Carrollton. The number of workers will more than double as we continue to increase activity.

This month, we will receive deliveries of canopies that will provide shade and shelter at most of our 21 stations as work progresses to build other components, including walls, utility service, platforms and track. Most of the canopies will be almost 60 feet long.

The first station to be structurally completed will be the Riverdale Park North-UMD Station. It will be a good example for the public to get an idea of what other stations will look like. You can already see the station coming together, as we have completed building the box that serves as the foundation and walls, as well as the columns to support the canopy. After that, you will see communications ducts, stormwater drainage and a water line added, before backfilling the walls, pouring concrete for the platform slab and hoisting the canopy into place.

Similar progress is being made on the Glenridge Station along Veterans Parkway at Annapolis Road (MD 450). In February, we moved huge

concrete girders into place for the future bridge over the light rail for customers to access the Glenridge Shopping Center, which is near our Operations and Maintenance Facility. Next, crews will pour the concrete deck on that bridge. Glenridge will be the second-to-last station before the Purple Line turns onto Ellin Road, where we have begun to install track, and heads east to the final stop at New Carrollton.

There are two stations to keep an eye on this month in Montgomery County -- the Silver Spring Library Station and the Connecticut Avenue Station. At the library, we hope you enjoy the new art installed around the work zone showing passersby what the station will look like and reminding them that Bonifant Street businesses remain open during construction. Inside the fencing, we are excavating and installing storm drains. In Chevy Chase, we are starting work on the Connecticut Avenue Station that in many ways will mimic what you see today in Riverdale. We are preparing to pour concrete for the deck of the 200,000-pound Capital Crescent Trail bridge that was hoisted into position in January over Connecticut Avenue.

[Renderings of the Purple Line stations are available on the project website.](#)

If you have a concern, contact our outreach team via email at outreach@purplelinemd.com, or you can call us at 443-451-3706 (Español: 443-451-3705). We will be happy to assist you.

Sign up to receive construction notifications at purplelinemd.com

Construction Photo/Update:



From left to right: Construction is progressing at Riverdale Park North-UMD station, where crews build support walls for the new station, and track is installed on Ellin Road where it intersects with Veterans Parkway (MD 410). A gantry crane, used to collect construction debris underground, was erected above the elevator shaft for the future Bethesda Metro South Entrance and the Purple Line lobby. Six elevators will take riders from street level to Metro's Red Line. A look behind the fence at the Silver Spring Library Station, where crews are installing storm drainpipe.

Business Spotlight: Lucy's Hair Salon

Lucy's Hair Salon on University Boulevard in Hyattsville is lovingly named after owner Reina Vasquez's niece.

Vasquez has been a hairstylist serving the community for more than 40 years. Lucy's, established in 2012, offers a family-oriented environment with personalized service and hospitality, Vasquez said.

The full-service beauty salon features five hairstylists. Services for women, men and children include color, blow-outs, deep conditioning, style refresh, perms, texturizing, manicures, pedicures, facials and waxing.

"The Purple Line will benefit the entire community, including businesses, and will bring more clientele who don't have access to reliable and affordable transportation," Vasquez said.

She enjoys working with all hair textures and believes every hairstyle is an individual work of art. She credits her hard work and dedication to sustaining her family and putting her kids through college.

The Hyattsville community is dear to Vasquez, who aims to make her clients feel like family.

Lucy's is a short walk from the future Riggs Road Purple Line Station, at 2407 University Boulevard East in Hyattsville. Call 301-404-4876 to schedule an appointment. The salon is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday. Walk-ins are welcome.



Left: Lucy's Hair Salon is on University Boulevard near Riggs Road in Hyattsville. Right: Purple Line Prince George's County Business Liaison Marlene Veras with owner Reina Vasquez.

Purple Line Fast Fact:



People Behind the Purple Line: Edward Davis

Edward Davis is an area construction manager responsible for the section of the alignment that runs from Bethesda to Long Branch. He brings more than 30 years of experience to the project, and is adept at coordinating construction and services.

Davis worked on large-scale projects in Virginia, Tennessee, Texas, Florida, Kentucky and Washington, D.C., where he was landside construction manager on the South Capitol Street Corridor Fredrick Douglass Memorial Bridge Project before joining the Purple Line.

"I'm proud to be a part of the Purple Line project," Davis said. "I think my record shows that I'm about bringing major construction projects to the finish line."

He also is very proud of his tenure as night project superintendent at the World Trade Center site in New York City, where he led part of the cleanup efforts following the 9/11 attacks.

Davis grew up in Pennsylvania. In his spare time, he golfs and is an avid motorcyclist. He likes hunting, fishing and basically "anything outdoors."



Edward Davis is an area construction manager.