

# Finch West LRT Newsletter

## Multi-purpose Tunnel Construction Underway

On the June 9 - June 12 weekend, Finch West LRT teams began constructing a multi-purpose tunnel at the Highway 400 and Finch Avenue West intersection.

It is located underneath the southwest onramp, providing pedestrians and cyclists a safe and easy route through the area without intersecting motor vehicle traffic.

While the tunnel itself is only 32 metres long, the entire portal length will be 155 metres, which includes access points to the tunnel from both directions.

Work started with the onramp's closure, followed by excavation and the placement of 18 precast concrete sections to create the tunnel. Each section weighs 39,525 kg, totalling 712 tonnes! The precast tunnel includes rigid foam insulation on the top, bottom and sides of the structure to provide thermal protection and act as a noise reduction barrier.

A vapour barrier is also installed under each concrete section, providing additional protection from groundwater and any possible leakage.



Photo: Placing the first precast piece of the tunnel.

The team is erecting a u-wall connection to the structure and will also install a drainage system to help mitigate any water buildup or flooding issues. It is equipped with local alarm capabilities, so if there is a buildup of water, maintenance crews will be notified immediately.

Construction is scheduled to be complete this year.



## More than 55% of OCS Poles Are Installed

Teams have installed 263 overhead catenary system (OCS) poles, equivalent to 55 per cent of the total, with 214 poles to go.

Recently, 11 poles went up between Sentinel Road and Romfield Lane and 23 poles were installed between Signet Drive and Norfinch Drive along Finch Avenue West.

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Please sign up at [metrolinx.com/finchwestlrt](https://metrolinx.com/finchwestlrt) to receive regular updates about the construction activities in your neighbourhood. **Thank you for your continued patience as we work to build this important project.**

## What's Inside?

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Multi-Purpose Tunnel Construction at Highway 400



# Building Up Finch West

## Take Out, Take Care, Be Safe

It matters where we shop, and supporting local businesses helps strengthen the Finch West community and grow the local economy. Many small and independently owned shops are in local malls or plazas, which provide goods and services to people in the neighbourhood. Check out these retailers in your area:



### Uptown Sports Bar

1325 Finch Avenue West | 416-729-1616

Uptown Sports Bar is a locally owned business, located in the heart of the community at the Finch Avenue West and Keele Street intersection, across from the subway station.

We serve amazing food and cold drinks, perfect for the summer season. Come down and join us for our happy hour, every day from 4 p.m. – 6 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you here!



### Dona Lucy and el Huaso Roly Bakery

45 Four Winds Drive | 416-627-4561

Locally owned and operated in the Finch West area, the Dona Lucy and el Huaso Roly Bakery was established in 2021 and quickly found its place in the community.

Everything is made fresh! The bakery offers authentic Argentinian empanadas and alfajores, as well as many delicious baked goods, including a variety of cheese and chocolate cakes, pasta flora (quince pie), torta Pasqualini (Swiss chard pie) and much more!

Customers can place pickup orders over the phone or online via Uber Eats and Skip the Dishes.



### Colt Paper

125 Norfinch Drive, Unit 4 | 416-535-7234

Founded in 1935, Colt Paper is one of the oldest custom box and packaging supplies companies in Canada!

Supporting medium/small businesses and the local Finch West community, we offer custom and stock corrugated boxes and various shipping supplies, including bubble wrap, poly bags, packing peanuts, poly foam, tape rolls, bubble mailers, pallet wrap and moving kits, all at reasonable prices.

We are the packaging people, so visit us today for all your packaging and moving needs and we will be happy to help!

# LRV Main Line Testing Ramps Up



Photo: Testing and Commissioning team members carefully observe the LRV making its journey along the burn-in track.

LRVs will follow normal traffic signals. When crossing a street with an LRV at a red light, make eye contact with the operator before crossing in front of it.

Please remember, entering the guideway is prohibited at all times, whether by foot, bicycle or motor vehicle. Stay alert and be safe around the new LRVs on Finch Avenue West!

### More than 4 km of Concrete Track Slab in Place

The Finch West LRT project surpassed 4 km of concrete track slab installation in May.

Teams working near the Highway 400 offramps, adjacent to the Signet Drive crossover, installed the new sections of track slab there, with plans to move between Islington Avenue and Kipling Avenue along Finch Avenue West next.

The track slab is being built in sections across the alignment. The largest continuous swath is located between Signet Drive and Romfield Lane, with a small section requiring final completion around Norfinch Drive.

Regular testing of light rail vehicles (LRV) on the Finch West LRT Project is now underway.

This marks a major step forward for the project and community, who will begin to see LRVs testing on Finch Avenue West every day.

LRVs will be running at speeds up to 60 km/h from the Maintenance and Storage Facility (MSF) at York Gate Boulevard all the way to Sentinel Road and back on a regular basis. The overhead catenary system (OCS), which provides electricity to the LRVs, is electrified in this section, so be cautious and obey safety signs.

Regular testing will continue until the end of 2023, as each LRV must be tested for 600 km. Testing will occur between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

While LRVs are being tested, their doors will be opening and closing, just as during regular operations. It is prohibited to board an LRV during testing.



Photo: Westward view of the track slab, from Norfinch Avenue to Highway 400.



### Finch West has so much to offer, it's no wonder we're building transit here!

If you are a local business owner and would like to be profiled or mentioned in our newsletter, send us an email at [TorontoWest@metrolinx.com](mailto:TorontoWest@metrolinx.com) and we'll be sure to connect with you.