

# Start of Ontario Line tunnelling

**Expected start date:** April 2026

**Expected duration:** Up to three years

**Work hours:** 24 hours a day, up to seven days a week

## What is happening?

**Crews are starting to dig the future Ontario Line tunnels, spanning from just east of Exhibition Station to the Don Yard (west of Don River). Two tunnel boring machines (TBMs) will excavate, six-kilometre tunnels that will reach a maximum depth of approximately 40 metres.**

Tunnelling will continue for roughly three years as the TBMs move gradually through the bedrock beneath the neighbourhoods in which we're building. More information on TBM assembly and other site works at Exhibition Station can be found in a previously [shared construction notice](#).

## What to expect

- Two TBMs will start digging roughly six kilometres of twin tunnels from the Exhibition portal, located on the east end of the site. The TBMs will start tunnelling at different times, with the second one starting approximately two months after the first.
- Each TBM is expected to work 24 hours a day, six days a week, with one day for maintenance.
- Planned maintenance periods are built into the schedule and typically occur during weekend (Saturday/Sunday) daytime hours.
- Excavated soil and rock will be removed by a system of conveyors from inside the tunnel boring machine and transported back to the surface at the Exhibition portal site, where it will be temporarily stored before being removed from the site.
- For more information on the tunnelling and tunnelling operations, visit [Metrolinx.com/tunnelling](https://www.metrolinx.com/tunnelling).



Ontario Line Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs)

## Noise and vibration

- Tunnelling can generate underground vibration that can travel through soil or building foundations.
- People can typically perceive vibration at levels far lower than those that could cause significant concern. Some vibration may also convert into low-frequency underground noise inside buildings. As a result, some occupants may feel and/or hear vibration as the TBM passes directly adjacent to their building. The levels are expected to range from the sound of rustling leaves outside to the sound of a heating/cooling system running. This is expected to be temporary and will subside once the TBM moves beyond the area.

## Modelling and monitoring

- Before tunnelling begins, detailed studies are completed to model potential noise and vibration levels.
- During tunnelling, specialized monitoring equipment placed at key locations in and around the work area tracks noise and vibration levels in real time. This information allows crews to confirm conditions and adjust operations if needed

## Staying informed

- Work may be postponed, rescheduled or extended due to unforeseen circumstances. Learn more about the measures we take to keep communities safe as we build more transit connections:  
**[metrolinx.com/KeepingCommunitiesSafe](https://www.metrolinx.com/KeepingCommunitiesSafe)**
- For more information about upcoming station work, please visit **[metrolinx.com/ontarioline](https://www.metrolinx.com/ontarioline)** or sign up for our e-newsletter.
- As construction moves forward, we want to ensure you have timely, reliable information about any activities that may affect your daily routine, visit **[metrolinx.com/GetUpdates](https://www.metrolinx.com/GetUpdates)** to join the mailing list or scan the QR code below.



## About the Ontario Line

- 15.6-kilometre subway line that will make it faster and easier to travel within Toronto and beyond.
- 15 stops and more than 40 connections to other transit, including GO train, subway, LRT, streetcar, and bus lines.
- Less than 30 minutes from one end of the line to the other.
- 28,000 fewer car trips on the road each day.

### Contact Us:

Call us 24/7 at: **416-202-5100**

Email us:

**[ontarioline@metrolinx.com](mailto:ontarioline@metrolinx.com)**

Find us on X, Facebook, and

Instagram: **[@ontarioline](https://www.instagram.com/ontarioline)**

Visit our website:

**[www.metrolinx.com/ontarioline](https://www.metrolinx.com/ontarioline)**

### Visit our Community Offices:

**Thornciffe Park:**

**East York Town Centre**

**45 Overlea Blvd, Unit 153**

**Across from the Rogers store**

General Hours:

Monday - Friday:

9:00 a. m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Pape/Danforth:**

**810 Danforth Ave**

**Between Woodycrest &**

**Langford**

General Hours:

Monday - Friday:

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Disponible en français sur demande. Si vous êtes intéressé, veuillez envoyer un courriel à [ontarioline@metrolinx.com](mailto:ontarioline@metrolinx.com)**