

Update - Ventilation shaft excavation at Osgoode north

Expected start date: July 27, 2026

Duration: February 2027

Hours of work: Monday to Saturday, 24 hours

What is happening?

Crews are preparing for the next phase of work at the future Osgoode north station, including excavation of a ventilation shaft.

To accommodate this work, the pedestrian route through the Osgoode Hall walkway has been adjusted, and pedestrians will now pass through a protected tunnel beside the construction area.

Excavation will occur overnight, between 6:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m., with supporting work taking place during the day from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Ventilation shafts are essential in subway systems, providing fresh air to tunnels and stations while releasing warm air. At street level, they typically appear as metal grates or structures integrated into the sidewalk or station area.

Supporting work inside the acoustic shelter, including soil hauling for the ventilation shaft excavation, is underway. Beginning in the first week of August, TTC connection work will also begin, resulting in changes to the northbound traffic, bike and pedestrian access and configuration on University Avenue. A separate construction notice with additional details will be provided.



What to expect

- Construction lighting may be visible from the work site.
- Trucks and construction equipment may generate dust during construction.
- Crews will take precautions to monitor and reduce dust.
- Increased presence of construction vehicles and equipment can be expected in the work area.
- Mud mats are installed to prevent debris from being tracked onto public roads. A street sweeper will be deployed to clean up area roads as required.
- As early as August 4 at 6:00 am, TTC connection works will commence in the northbound lanes of University Avenue at Queen Street West. Refer to upcoming notice.
- Work areas will be clearly marked or fenced off to ensure public safety.
- Please exercise caution around active construction sites.
- Trucks will stage inside the work site and will not stage outside of the site boundaries.
- Work may be delayed or rescheduled due to weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Traffic Changes

- Minor delays may be experienced near the work zone.
- Two-way directional traffic will be maintained during the work.
- All businesses in the area will remain open during the work. Please follow signage for access.

Pedestrian Access

- All pedestrian sidewalks will remain open throughout the work.
- Temporary sidewalk closures or pedestrian detours will be in place while the work is underway, with signs in place to direct pedestrians as needed.
- Clear and defined walking paths will be maintained during construction to ensure pedestrian safety.

Noise and Vibration

- Crews will take measures to minimize disruptions to the surrounding area wherever possible.
- Residences and businesses in the area can expect noise and vibration caused by construction equipment related to this work.
- To minimize noise impacts on the community, noise monitoring equipment will be installed prior to construction. These devices will help to detect exceedances early to proactively conduct corrective actions as needed while crews work.
- Trucks accessing the site will be equipped with broadband backup alarms, which emit a less disruptive sound compared to traditional beeping backup alarms.

Transit Services

- There is no anticipated impact to transit services.

About the Project

A new 15.6-km subway line with 15 stops and 40+ transit connections that delivers end-to-end trips in under 30 minutes while taking 28,000 cars off Toronto’s roads each day.

