

Tunnelling begins at the launch shaft site at Renforth Drive and Eglinton Avenue West



The Eglinton Crosstown West Extension (ECWE) is one of four new subway projects that will transform transit in our region; getting hundreds of thousands of people where they need to be better, faster, and easier than today.

TUNNELLING BEGINS

“Renny”, the first of the two tunnel boring machines (TBMs), will begin tunnelling in April, followed by “Rexy” who will start tunnelling a few weeks later. The machines will begin to construct the over six kilometre twin tunnels, starting at the launch shaft at Renforth Dr. and Eglinton Ave. West and slowly move east down Eglinton Ave. West towards the extraction shaft at Scarlett Rd. The machines move slowly, an average of 10-15 meters per day, and are scheduled to reach the extraction shaft at Scarlett Road in spring 2024.

HOURS OF WORK

The TBMs will be tunnelling day and night from 7:00 a.m. on Monday to 7:00 a.m. on Saturday. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated ahead of time.

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Eglinton Crosstown West Extension

WHAT TO EXPECT

Tunnelling will take place up to 20 metres below ground, so any surface level noise or vibrations will be transitional as the TBMs pass underneath.

TRAFFIC AND PEDESTRIAN IMPACTS

Tunnelling is not expected to impact work on the ground, however the extraction shaft at Scarlett Rd., headwalls at Martin Grove Rd., Kipling Ave., Islington Ave., and Royal York Rd., and the cross passage, and emergency exit construction along Eglinton Avenue West will continue as the TBMs progress towards Scarlett Road. We will keep the community informed of these construction activities and any impacts they may cause to traffic or pedestrian walkways.

WORK AT THE LAUNCH SHAFT CONTINUES

The launch shaft will remain an active work site throughout the next two years of tunnelling. The site serves as the location at which all tunnelling materials (equipment, soil, rocks) enters and exits.

This work in the launch shaft will be 24hrs/day from Monday to Friday, and crews will be doing general maintenance on site between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Other weekend work may be required on occasion.

Here's what residents in the Renforth Drive area can expect:

- Residents nearby may hear some noise caused by construction equipment and haulage trucks
- We're taking a number of steps to reduce dust impacts, including the use of water sprays and biodegradable dust suppressants.

Trucks will be entering and exiting the site to haul materials and soil coming out from the tunnel throughout the day and night shifts.

- There are no lane or road closures anticipated for this construction. If temporary road closures are required in the future, notification will be provided.
- Staff are trained to ensure the safe movement of vehicles, equipment and pedestrians in the area.
- Everyone has a role in safety to play. Please obey construction signage in the area and cross at designated crosswalks.

The information provided above is anticipated based on the current construction schedule and is subject to change due to schedule changes, weather or unforeseen circumstances.

If you have questions about what's happening near you and what to expect during construction, contact the Eglinton Crosstown West Extension Metrolinx community relations team for answers.

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