



Construction Update: December 18 - 31, 2020

Web: swlrt.org

Twitter: [@SouthwestLRT](https://twitter.com/SouthwestLRT)

Construction Hotline: 612-373-3933

Holiday Work Schedule

Work will continue the week of December 21 at many sites along the project corridor. In observance of the holiday season, no major construction activities will be conducted between Friday, December 25 and Sunday, January 3. However, residents should expect to see crews on site performing ongoing maintenance and security checks. Winter worksites will get back into full swing on Monday, January 4. If you have any construction related issues, our 24-hour hotline is fully staffed through the break to take your questions.

Weekly Construction Photo: Cedar Lake Channel LRT Bridge in Minneapolis



Crews continue to advance sheeting at the north abutments of the Cedar Lake Channel LRT bridge. Sheeting is anticipated to be completed next week prior to the winter holiday break. Construction of the two bridge abutments will resume in spring 2021.

Eden Prairie Highlights

- The structure for the SouthWest Station and parking ramp is beginning to emerge. Activities to advance the station area, including piling, is anticipated to continue through the winter into next year.
- Finishing details, such as railings, are being added to the Prairie Center Drive LRT bridge. With the structure complete, LRT tracks will be pulled onto the bridge next spring.
- Town Center Place (formally Eden Road) has reopened to vehicle traffic. Construction continues at the Eden Prairie Town Center Station.
- West 70th Street at Flying Cloud Drive has reopened to vehicle traffic. Work in the roadway will resume next year.
- The westbound off-ramp from Highway 212 to Shady Oak Road will remain closed into 2021 to build bridge pier and then set bridge beams.
- Construction is underway in the City West Station area. The Shady Oak Road ramp to eastbound Highway 62 is now open.

[Visit our website for more details and visuals of construction activities in Eden Prairie.](#)

Minnetonka Highlights

- The Highway 62 closure over the weekend of December 12, successfully allowed crews to shift the highway lanes so that LRT tunnel construction can begin on the southside of the highway.
- Red and Yellow Circle Drives have been reconnected in the area near LRT tunnel construction. Eastbound traffic is now permitted along Yellow Circle. [See the current roadway network.](#)
- Work on the Smetana Road bridge over LRT continues. Smetana Road remains closed from Feltl Road to Nolan Drive into early summer 2021.
- Piling and construction of bridge piers for the Minnetonka – Hopkins LRT bridge will wrap up when the two piers that are under construction are complete, which is anticipated in the next week. One of the piers is next to the Hopkins landfill and the other is north of the railroad tracks. Bridge construction will resume in spring 2021. Construction for the access road will continue in the winter.

[Visit our website for more details and visuals of construction activities in Minnetonka.](#)

Hopkins Highlights

- Construction of the Downtown Hopkins Station is intermittent but ongoing.
- Crews continue to construct the cantilevered structure for the LRT bridge over Excelsior Boulevard over the next week. The eastbound right lanes are re-opening. A full closure of westbound Excelsior Boulevard is anticipated to be postponed until the spring.

[Visit our website for more details and visuals of construction activities in Hopkins.](#)

St. Louis Park Highlights

- The track shift for the weekend of December 19th has been postponed. Crews will shift the remaining freight tracks from Wooddale Avenue in St. Louis Park to Blake Road in Hopkins to newly constructed freight rail track, several feet north of the previous alignment in 2021.
- Pier work will continue for the Beltline Boulevard Regional Trail bridge structure into 2021. Construction crews will place the steel truss over the railroad tracks in this area in the months to come. Expect piling in the area.

[Visit our website for more details and visuals of construction activities in St. Louis Park.](#)

Minneapolis Highlights

- The Cedar Lake Regional Trail in the Lake Street area will be shifting to temporary facilities next to the corridor. **See trail details.**
- **Kenilworth tunnel sheeting:** one press-in-piler is finishing sheets near Lake Street, and the other press-in-piler is installing sheets north of Cedar Lake Parkway on the east side of the tunnel.
- **Kenilworth tunnel excavation:** excavation continues south of Cedar Lake Parkway. Equipment for deep excavation (called a tele-dipper) has been mobilized in the corridor as crews begin to reach the bottom of the excavation.
- **Kenilworth tunnel base concrete work:** the initial concrete pour to create a waterproof base slab is anticipated in mid- to late January. To pour the first concrete seal crews will need extended work hours until 9:00 PM as the work has to be completed in a single day.
- Construction activities to advance the LRT bridge at Glenwood Avenue will continue throughout the winter and into 2021, including pile driving.

[Visit our website for more details and visuals of construction activities in Minneapolis.](#)

Trail Detours: Minnesota River Bluffs, South Cedar Lake Parkway, Kenilworth, Cedar Lake Trail

Eden Prairie Sidewalk and Roadway Detours: Southwest Station

Minnetonka Roadway Detours: Opus area: Yellow Circle, Red Circle, Smetana Road

Minneapolis Roadway Detours: Glenwood Avenue, Royalston Avenue