



November 2025 Construction Update



West Portal Construction Activities Continue to Progress at Newhall Yard & Maintenance Facility

Construction activities are situated within VTA-owned property bound by Brokaw Road, Newhall Drive, Coleman Avenue, and the Railroad tracks.

October marks one of the Project's most impressive milestones yet: the first installation of Y-Panels, 300,000-pound steel structures that will form the walls of the future underground tunnel boring machine launch structure! Using a tripping frame and a Liebherr 11000 crane, crews worked with precision to rotate each panel from horizontal to vertical and lower it 133 feet below the surface. The process requires extraordinary coordination and safety.

Anticipated Work in November – What to Expect

In November, work activities at West Portal will occur **Monday through Saturday for 24 hours a day and Sundays as needed from 6 AM to 6 PM.**

Day Work Includes:

- **Construction of Caterpillar Shaft Guidewalls:** Building guidewalls to support equipment used for underground excavation of Caterpillar Shaft – the deepest and strongest part of the Tunnel Boring Machine launch structure, designed in a caterpillar-like shape for added strength. Expect noise from excavation machinery and backup alarms, increased truck activity, noise during concrete pours, and street sweeping to manage dirt track-out.
- **Excavation and Demolition of Guidewalls:** Demolishing of previously installed guidewalls to allow for the soil excavation to begin in areas where the underground support walls are completed. Expect excavation noise, truck activity, and street sweeping in the surrounding area.
- **Excavation and Bracing:** Progressing excavation and bracing strut supports in areas where the vertical elements of the support of excavation are completed. Steel waler and strut supports are installed and grouted to brace the walls as the excavation deepens. Expect intermittent clanging from steel handling, crane and lift activity.

Day and Night Work Includes:

- **Tripping of Y-Panel Rebar Cages:** The tripping frame is a custom-built steel frame that acts as a spine support for the rebar cage during the lift from horizontal to vertical position. Expect crane activity.
- **Excavation and Construction of Caterpillar Shaft Y-Panels:** Excavation and construction of the Y-Panels, which are reinforced concrete supports shaped like a “Y” that form the caterpillar shaft walls. Expect crane lifts, steady concrete truck activity, and equipment activity on site.
- **Concrete Pours and Structural Support:** Some work, such as concrete pours, may extend into nighttime. Expect downward-directed lighting on site, flashing safety lights on vehicles, and white-noise backup alarms.

Sunday Work (as needed) Includes:

- **On-site maintenance activities** with minimal potential impacts on the surroundings.





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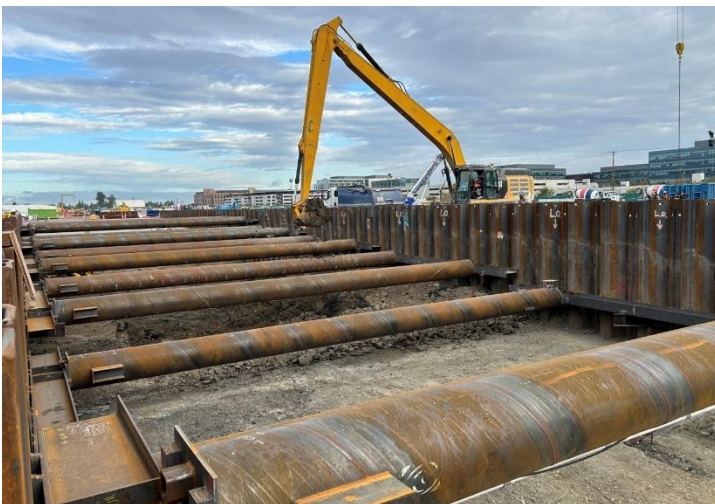
September - October 2025 Construction Progress



Crew members on an aerial lift inspect and guide the Y-panel rebar cage as it reaches vertical position.



Bracing strut supports in the sheet pile wall area progresses.



Excavation of the sheet pile area using the long stick excavator.



Safety is always the top priority. Crews meet regularly to plan each step of construction and keep the site safe for workers and the community.





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A hydromill excavates deep underground walls that will support the future tunnel and station below the surface.



The custom-built tripping frame and LR 11000 crane allow the massive Y-panel to rotate safely and steadily into an upright position.

