

## Background

The Camp Hill line station construction has faced significant delays, extending the expected opening to Autumn 2025 from its current opening date of December 24.

Originally the forecast for completion was December 2023, but due to access challenges to undertake the works, this was revised to December 2024 in June 2023.

While we are disappointed to report a further delay to these stations, we remain committed to fully delivering the three Camp Hill Line stations for the people of the West Midlands and will continue to work closely with our delivery partners to open the stations as quickly and efficiently as possible.

## Key Challenges

The change to the opening date has arisen due to risks to the supply chain, design, and site condition that have materialised into issues, which have had an impact on our ability to meet our programme. The key issues that have driven the change to the opening date are:

- We have made improvements to the design of the lifts at the stations to increase reliability in hot weather, a step to improve resilience to climate change. This change to design will improve the performance of the station, but has led to delays in design and construction.
- We needed to redesign the drainage system at Pineapple Road as a result of better understanding the existing infrastructure. We had planned to connect our forecourt drainage into the existing network, but we have had to change our design to connect into the railway drainage system. This type of change has an impact on design disciplines in addition to drainage which has also led to delays in construction.
- At Moseley Village, we needed to undertake a search for WWII unexploded

bombs before the 1500 soil nails needed for slope stabilisation were installed in the ground. This took longer than originally envisaged, but no bombs were found during the works.

- At Kings Heath, the foundations of the road bridge over the railway was not as we expected, and this has required further ground investigation and design work prior to works continuing.
- As you are aware, the stations are being constructed while trains continue to use the railway which limits how much work can be carried out without closing the line and this has continued to be a challenge to our construction works. We aim to minimise the impact our work has on the public and we need to carefully coordinate the construction work and operational railway requirements. [Heading](#)

## Mitigation Efforts

We are liaising with Network Rail to understand if we can agree additional closures of the railway to enable quicker delivery of key construction works and reduce the time needed to complete the stations.

We are working closely with our contractor for the project to look for more efficient ways to deliver the project and improve productivity on site.

## Next Steps

Stations are now expected to open in Autumn 2025 and we will continue to work closely with the rail industry and our contractor to improve on this date as much as possible.

Transport for West Midlands are organising a series of engagement events at all three sites over the summer to meet local residents and answer any queries. We will also attend any appropriate forums which local councillors would like us to, after WMCA Board on the 19th July.

While the delays are substantial, they are primarily due to unforeseen technical challenges, necessary design improvements, and coordination issues with ongoing railway

operations. WMCA is taking steps to mitigate future delays and ensure robust project management going forward. TfWM has made changes to the way transport capital programmes are developed and delivered. These organisational changes ensure TfWM has enhanced commercial, quantity surveying, technical and design skills to deliver infrastructure projects of this scale.