BART Warm Springs Extension Project is in Final Stages

The BART Warm Springs Extension is clearing final hurdles of the project. Since the beginning of the project, BART’s project team has endeavored to balance the need to complete the work on time, on budget and to meet design specifications, function and quality, while maintaining project safety standards and minimizing construction impacts to the community.

Passenger safety, system reliability and full operational readiness are the top priorities as BART prepares the new line for service.

A Little History is in Order…

Phase 1 of the Project – the one-mile subway built beneath Fremont Central Park and the eastern lobe of Lake Elizabeth, began in 2009 and was completed on schedule and under budget, early in 2013.

Phase 2 of the Project – the final design and construction of the remaining line, track, station and systems, was originally scheduled to begin in 2010 and to be completed in 2014. However, due to funding delays, the start of Phase 2 was postponed to 2011 and its scheduled completion was pushed back to late 2015.

The Systems Work – this work is included in the Phase 2 “Design-Build” contract, and is a mix of specialized technical work ranging from: automatic train control, traction power,
communications, automatic fare collection and other technical elements. This component, which represents BART’s first fully digitized system to be fully integrated into BART’s 40-plus year old system, adds an extra dimension of complexity to this extension project.

Unique Factors Create Challenges to the Timeline – Earlier this year, project testing was repeatedly interrupted by unanticipated faulting within the aging high voltage, 34.5kv power supply cables, needed for providing a reliable power source for the extension. The 45-year-old cables were successfully decommissioned and replaced this summer by BART Maintenance and Engineering personnel – clearing the way for the project to continue with its rigorous testing program.

BART Warm Springs Extension Program Work Flow Diagram

Where Are We Now? BART has recently completed its supplemental verification testing program of the WSX automatic train control system. Following a brief period of "Pre-Revenue Operations" the extension should be ready to begin revenue service operations to the Warm Springs / South Fremont Station. Please stand by for more information.

We sincerely apologize for the delay and thank our customers for their continued patience.