

# New railway station car park to get underway as one of the 14 £31.5 million Rail Park and Ride projects

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A new, multi-storey car park to encourage rail use at Steeton and Silsden Railway Station is one of 14 projects within the West Yorkshire Combined Authority's £31.5 million Rail Park and Ride Programme.

Early April 2022 is the planned start date on a new, multi-storey car park at Steeton and Silsden Railway Station to increase parking provision, improve overall accessibility and encourage rail use. As part of improvements, an additional 102 car parking spaces will be created, taking the total available spaces to 245.

Parking will be free to rail users, who will also benefit from improved CCTV facilities and LED lighting, for their safety and comfort. A fully accessible lift will make access to and through the car park and station much easier. This, alongside nine Blue Badge bays will make the station a far better option for passengers requiring enhanced support. The car park will also benefit from improved drainage infrastructure, to improve the local environment and the safety of the locality.

Mayor of West Yorkshire, Tracy Brabin said: “As a passionate advocate of rail travel and a commuter myself, I understand the frustration commuters have felt due to the slow progress on the Steeton and Silsden Railway Station car park. I can appreciate however that improvements, like this one, can sometimes be met with significant obstacles and problems.

“I am however very pleased to be able to tell the people who use Steeton and Silsden Railway Station that we can now start the important improvements to parking at this station.

“In the Climate and Environment Plan for West Yorkshire, I launched last year, I committed to deliver a net zero carbon economy by 2038 at the latest. The work at Steeton and Silsden Railway Station will help reduce congestion and improve local air quality, which makes us one step closer to our economic ambition.

“It also goes without saying that improved ease of access to public transport enhances people’s employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities and of course their leisure activities. I welcome these improvements.”

Building the new car park will mean closing the existing main car park for the construction period, which is expected to be up to 12 months. A portion of the overflow car park will remain open to station visitors, with approximately 40 spaces available.

As there will be limited parking availability throughout the construction period, station users are being advised to consider alternative arrangements and, where possible, to walk or cycle to the station.

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