

# Two new Yangtze River bridges take shape

By Han Wei & Wang Wenhan



Zhuankou Yangtze River bridge under construction Photo by Hu Jiusi

Two new Yangtze River bridges along Wuhan's Fourth Ring Road usher in key construction milestones this month.

The Zhuankou Yangtze River Bridge deck segments will be connected by the end of the month. The bridge is scheduled to open to traffic at the end of this year, and it will become the widest long-span bridge over the Yangtze River in China. In the meantime, the Qingshan Yangtze River Bridge is also taking shape, with the two main towers entering the construction stage.

The deck of the

Zhuankou Yangtze River Bridge has a width of 46 meters. With a height of 233.7 meters, two diamond-shaped main towers can now be seen soaring into the sky. The steel box girder and 240 stay cables of the main bridge are all painted blue while the main towers are off-white. This color scheme mirrors the blue sky and white clouds above.

The Zhuankou bridge is the 9th Yangtze River bridge in Wuhan, located between Junshan Yangtze River Bridge and Baishazhou Yangtze River Bridge. The main bridge is 1,510 meters long with a

main span of 760 meters.

The Qingshan Yangtze River Bridge will connect Wuhan Chemical Industry Park, Huangpi District, and the northern section of the Fourth Ring Road. The north approach span of the bridge has already started superstructure construction, which will lay a solid foundation for its main body to be complete at the year's end.

The Qingshan bridge is expected to open to traffic in 2019. At that time, a record will be set by the bridge due to its 47-meter-wide main bridge deck.

## Wuhan enters Plum Rain season

By Zhang Ge

On June 9, a significant rainfall hit Wuhan, accompanied by thunderstorms, strong winds, and a drop in temperature.

This rainfall marks the beginning of this year's Plum Rain season in Hubei Province.

During the season, the temperature in Wuhan will remain generally stable but the air will feel more humid than

before.

The Plum Rain season refers to the period of time when constant rain befalls the Yangtze River and Huaihe River regions, from the middle of June to early July. It coincides with the maturing period for plums in those regions, which is the origin of the name "plum rain." The season is marked by ceaseless drizzle and occasional

rainstorms.

Predictions call for constant rainfall with moderate intensity to hit Hubei throughout the middle of June this year. The Plum Rain season is often accompanied by more cases of bacterial food poisoning in hospitals. It is suggested that people eat more fresh vegetables and avoid eating too much raw, cold, or greasy food.

## Metro Line 12, the 1st loop line linking 7 urban districts

By Zhang Sheng

On June 7, the Hubei Environmental Protection Department (HEPD) released information of four new Wuhan Metro lines. Line 12, which has drawn great public attention, is among the four.

Line 12 will run through the three towns of Wuhan with 36 stations and a total length of approximately 60 kilometers.

According to information provided by Wuhan Metro Co., Ltd., Line 12 begins and ends at Wuchang Railway Station, running through all seven central urban districts of Wuchang, Hanyang, Qiaokou, Jiang'an, Jianghan, Qingshan, and Hongshan. This first loop line of the Wuhan metro system boasts the longest distance and the most stations in one plan in Wuhan metro history.

The other three lines assessed by the HEPD were Phase II of Line 6, the Gedian Section of Line 11, and Phase I of Line 16.

## Greener metro entries

By Yang Sheng



Green sight outside Tiejilu Station of Line 4 Photo by Hu Jiusi

Many commuters recently noticed that tree-lined lanes and green squares have beautified the front area of many metro entries.

Camphor trees are being planted in front of Hongshan Square Station near Hongshan Stadium. Before Entry E of Xunlimen Station, crowns of newly planted camphor trees and ginkgoes form a canopy. Some entries of the Jiyuqiao, Wangjiadun East, Yangchunhu, and Yuanlinlu stations have become small green squares, attracting local residents to walk and do other aerobic exercises there.

Many citizens complained that the metro station exteriors along Line 2 and Line 4 have long lacked roadside trees and characteristic sights. At this time, the greening project has benefited 33 stations and is a great improvement over what was there before.